The Advancing Students Toward Education and Employment Program (ASTEP) changes hearts and minds about the idea that everyone can go to college and work no matter how significant the disability.

WHO WE ARE

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minotstateu.edu/astep.shtml
Find us: 

ASTEP is an inclusive college program for students with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD). Located at Minot State University, ASTEP partners with MSU and Dakota College at Bottineau to provide the only program in North Dakota to support young adults with I/DD to attend college. ASTEP students attend college courses with students who don’t have disabilities, earn credentials, gain employment and learn independent living and social skills. Our goal is to make the dream of college a reality for students with I/DD and create quality futures for these individuals to live and work in their communities.

OUR REQUEST

Your donation will:
- Help pay for up to 20 students’ program fees for the school year
- Allow up to 20 students to live and take classes in an inclusive college environment
- Have peer mentors to support up to 20 students
- Provide experienced staff who coordinate students’ academic, employment, independent living and social activities

Your contribution to help make college a reality for students with I/DD is greatly appreciated.

Please contribute to making someone’s dream to attend college come true.

“Support for our son was phenomenal. The Person-Centered Planning process was key... I was never concerned he was alone or couldn’t get help. His social skills have just expanded and developed in leaps and bounds.”
- Paula & Gary, Parents of Wes, ASTEP Graduate

“ASTEP has had such a positive impact on our daughter. It gave her a chance when so many others said she couldn’t go to college. Now she is finishing her dream.”
- Gail and Harold, Parents of Hannah, ASTEP Student

“My favorite part of ASTEP was being enrolled in classes and going to events with my friends, but best of all was meeting new people. And...I can’t wait to make my own money!”
- Michael, ASTEP Graduate

ASTEP has been funded for 10 years by grant dollars from the U.S. Department of Education and the ND Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. While some alternative funding sources have been secured, students will have to pay a program fee in addition to tuition and room and board. These program fees make the cost of college through ASTEP impossible for some families. Without your contribution, ASTEP families pay a combined total of $160,000 each year in program fees.

“CHANGING ATTITUDES AND CREATING FUTURES”

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“I was taking classes for audit but now I am taking classes for credit. I am managing four classes per semester and two jobs as well.”

- Elizabeth, ASTEP Student

“ASTEP has been a Godsend for Angus and the family.”

- Erik and Mary, Parents of Angus, ASTEP Student

“I am learning a lot that I didn’t learn in high school.”

- Keaton, ASTEP Student

“The ASTEP program has allowed our sons to practice their independence in a safe environment.”

- Tracy & Nichole, Parents of Keaton and Braden

“I like college. I like to go to the events. ASTEP helps me learn.”

- Braden, ASTEP Student

“One of my greatest achievements of college has been seeing the growth of the ASTEP students that I work with. Spending time with these students has been very rewarding and has taught me so much.”

- ASTEP Peer Mentor

“We are proud to be partnering with the ASTEP program! The students are great members of the community and we are so lucky to have them on our team!”

- Minot Community Employer

Please accept my gift designated to the ASTEP Program, through a contribution of:

☐ $1,000  ☐ $500  ☐ $250  ☐ $100  ☐ $50  ☐ other _______

☐ A check is enclosed. Please make payable to the MSU Foundation.

☐ Please charge my credit card:

☐ VISA  ☐ MC  ☐ Discover  ☐ Am.Ex.

Card No. ____________________________
Expiration Date _____________________
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Credit card contributions may also be made by calling the MSU Development Foundation Office at 701-855-4158 or 1-800-777-0750, ext. 4158.

☐ Give online at www.minotstateu.edu/give.

☐ My company will match this gift. The matching gift form is enclosed.

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Contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law.