



# Eligibility Requirements

Criteria	Description	Guidance
Primary Disability	Students must have an <b>Intellectual</b> and/or <b>developmental disability</b> (I/DD) that significantly interferes with academic performance, social development, independent living skills and/or adaptive living skills.	<a href="#">Federal Definition of Intellectual Disability</a>  <a href="#">Federal Definition of Developmental Disability</a>
Age	Students must be between 18 and 26 years old when applying for ASTEP.	
IDEA Eligible	Students must be <i>currently</i> or <i>formerly</i> eligible for <b>special education</b> under <b>IDEA</b> .  Students may have an unsigned diploma ( <b>social graduate</b> ) or have a signed diploma ( <b>high school graduate</b> ) to attend ASTEP.	<a href="#">Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)</a>  If a student attends ASTEP and is still enrolled in high school or dually enrolled, ASTEP will coordinate with the student's IEP team to develop and implement the student's person-centered plan.
ACT or SAT Testing Recommended	Taking the <b>ACT or SAT test</b> is <i>recommended</i> but <i>not required</i> . No minimum score is required. Students interested in taking college courses for credit will need to have completed the ACT or SAT test regardless of score, prior to enrollment in ASTEP.	Contact your high school in the fall of the student's junior year, if possible, to discuss taking the ACT or SAT test and consider possible <a href="#">testing accommodations</a> that may be available.  <a href="#">Register for the ACT</a> <a href="#">Register for the SAT</a>
Adaptive Skills	Students must be able to do the following activities independently or with minimal support from an outside agency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Manage health-related</b> issues</li> <li>• Take required <b>medications</b></li> <li>• Manage specialized <b>dietary</b> or <b>allergy</b> needs</li> <li>• Manage <b>personal care needs</b> and maintain healthy <b>hygiene</b></li> <li>• Demonstrate <b>safety skills</b> in unsupervised settings</li> </ul>	Students may qualify for Developmental Disability (DD) Services to assist with these criteria. ASTEP does not provide 24/7 supervision or supports.
University Policies	Students must follow the university <b>Student Policies</b> as well as the <b>Residence Life Policies</b> if living in campus housing.	<a href="#">MSU Student Handbook</a>  <a href="#">MSU Residence Life Handbook</a>

Literacy Skills	Students must have the ability to <b>read and write at a basic level</b> with or without adaptations.	
Outside Services	Prior to enrollment, students will be referred to North Dakota <b>Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)</b> services if they are not current VR clients.	<a href="#">ND Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Regional Offices</a>
ASTEP Expectations	Students must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be <b>accepting of supports</b> from program staff, mentors, faculty and other university professionals,</li> <li>• <b>Agree to participate</b> in all courses, sessions, internships and employment training; and</li> <li>• Demonstrate the <b>desire to attend</b> college and be enrolled in the ASTEP program at Minot State University.</li> </ul>	

**Please note:**

- At this time it is *not* required that ASTEP students be eligible for [Developmental Disabilities \(DD\) services](#); however, prior to determining a student’s program eligibility, verification of eligibility for DD services may be requested if additional supports are determined necessary. This information will be considered when deciding if a student can be supported appropriately while enrolled in the ASTEP program.

**How is program eligibility determined?**

- Review of the student’s most recent IEP and relevant assessments,
- Face to face interview with the student and parent(s)/guardian,
- Review of three letters of recommendations for the student from non-family members; and
- Consultation with the student’s IEP team, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, Developmental Disabilities Program Manager or other service agencies.

**For more information please contact ASTEP at:**

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