

THE UNION EDGE PROGRAM

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Program Leadership

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Program Description

The Union EDGE is a comprehensive program for highly motivated young adults who have a documented intellectual and/or developmental disability (IDD). This is a two-year certificate program for students ages 18-26 who have completed high school. The Union EDGE—Employment training, Daily living skills, Godly focus, Educational enrichment—is a residential or non-residential program designed to aid in career development and employment skills. Students will audit college courses, participate in life skills classes, work in on-campus and off-campus internships, and experience the full range of college life. Exiting students will receive certificates of completion.

Program Purpose

The Union EDGE provides a holistic, post-secondary education for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities, encouraging increased independent skills that lead to a better quality of life and aligning with Union’s mission of providing “Christ-centered education that promotes excellence and character development in service to Church and society.”

Program Admission

Applications for Fall enrollment must be received by May 1 each year. To be considered complete, an application must

Financial Information

Tuition for Union's EDGE Program per year
(fall and spring semesters) 2015-2016. . . \$15,000
Room and Board see page 38 of the catalogue
Application Fee. \$50
General Student Service Fee (12 hrs. or more) \$505

Financial Assistance

Union EDGE students may seek the STEP UP scholarship provided by lottery funds (equivalent to the Hope Scholarship). Once Union University becomes a Comprehensive Transition Program through the federal government, students may qualify for federal grants. The Union EDGE Program has begun this process.

Course Offerings in EDGE (LFS)

101. Life Skills I: First Steps to College Living (3) F
Co-requisite: LFS 105

In this first year course, Union EDGE students will learn about the culture surrounding a college campus, including academic study skills. Additionally, students will complete a framework for decision making. Students will also move to weekly agenda for assignments and discuss strategies for time management. Basic social skills will be emphasized including the understanding of the importance of "personal space."

105. Life Skills II: First Steps to Employment Training (3) F
Co-requisite: LFS 101

In this first year course, Union EDGE students will learn about the workplace environment and strategies for navigating it successfully. Specifically, students will demonstrate the ability to: request personal needs and/or ask for help as needed, articulate rules for safety at the job site, follow multi-step instructions to complete a task, and exhibit proper grooming and attire for the work site.

110. Life Skills III: Advanced Steps to Healthy Living (3) S
Pre-requisites: LFS 101 and 105
Co-requisite: LFS 115

In this first year course, Union EDGE students will learn the basic elements of a healthy lifestyle. Specific topics include: cooking and nutritional needs, identifying emotions in self and others and making healthy choices that match physical and emotional needs.

116. Life Skills IV: Introduction to Daily Technology and Finance (3) F
Pre-requisites: LFS 101 and 105
Co-requisite: LFS 110

In this first year course, Union EDGE students will begin to understand the importance of using standards for appropriate use of technology, including personal computers and cell phones. Students will utilize computers to create, save, and print written documents. Students will be given the opportunity to open personal checking accounts and manage accounts using online banking services.

121. Life Skills V: Advanced Steps to Independent Living Skills (3) S
Pre-requisites: LFS 101, 105, 110, and 116
Co-requisite: LFS 125

In this second year course, Union EDGE students will further develop their understanding of a healthy lifestyle. Specifics topics include: culinary and kitchen hygiene and a more independent approach to completing assignments in academic classrooms and internship sites.

125. Life Skills VI: Utilizing Technology and Community Resources (3) F
Pre-requisites: LFS 110 and 115
Co-requisite: LFS 120

In this second year course, Union EDGE students will understand theoretical foundations of social media and relevant strategies to communicate with their broader communities. Additionally, students will understand and apply best practices when using the internet.

130. Life Skills VII: Introduction to Professional Writing and Communications (3) S
Pre-requisites: LFS 120 and 125
Co-requisite: LFS 201

In this second year course, Union EDGE students will use accepted principles of grammar and rhetoric to communicate professionally. Specifically, students will apply proofreading skills to a variety of professional documents and will begin to use multimedia tools to prepare presentations. Additionally, students will create a resume' for employment.

201. Life Skills VIII: Advanced Technology Skills and Finance (3) S
Pre-requisites: LFS 120 and 125
Co-requisite: LFS 130

In this second year course, Union EDGE students will continue their understanding of the importance of using appropriate standards for use of technology. Specifically, students will use Microsoft Excel to create a basic spreadsheet, enter data, and track a weekly budget. This course includes the culminating activity, an electronic portfolio, demonstrating the knowledge and skills learned in the Union EDGE program.