Why is there a need for a **Summer Transition Program** for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)?

Only 17% of young adults with ASD attend a four-year university.

Young adults with ASD have the second lowest employment rates among young adults disability groups.

Young adults with ASD have impairments in social interaction, communication, organization, and independent-living skills, which act as barriers in acquiring a job or attending a university.

Autism Center of Excellence

Western Michigan University
To make a successful college transition, young adults need:

⇒ Mentors to provide clear instruction and model skills
⇒ Opportunities for practice and feedback
⇒ Practice in college and work settings

**Summer Transition Program** students will:

- Enroll in a **3-credit WMU course** of the student's choosing
- Work in **paid on-campus employment** for 10 hours a week
- **Learn life skills**, such as pre-employment, social, study, academic, and transition skills
- Live in a **residence hall** for 7.5 weeks
- Receive **mentoring** from a similar-aged peer
- Engage in a variety of **social opportunities**
- Build **confidence**

We need your help to make this happen! Michigan Rehabilitation Services will fund the majority of the costs for students, but we must match some of their funds. This is where you come in! Please help us create a valuable program for these students by:

- **Sponsoring a student** - $1,000 cash donation
- **Making a donation of any amount** to support the overall program

As a thank you, your support will be recognized publicly (your logo on t-shirts and all promotional materials, including our website) so that others know you support individuals with ASD achieving success. We are eager to supply you with additional information you may need to make your decision. Please direct all questions to our Autism Services Center coordinator, Dr. Kourtney Bakalyar, at (269) 387-4349 or kourtney.k.bakalyar@wmich.edu

Visit our website to view newsletters from last year's program and to learn more: [wmich.edu/autism/asc](http://wmich.edu/autism/asc)