

Student Requirements

- Must be between the ages of 18-25
- Must have a minimum 2.5 grade reading level
- Must have an overall 3rd grade level on TABE placement test
- Must be able to function independently in a classroom setting
- Must be able to follow College Code of Student Conduct

Admissions & Enrollment Process

VAST ACADEMY HAS A FORMALIZED ADMISSIONS PROCESS

1. Apply for Admissions to HCC at hccs.edu.
2. Complete VAST Academy Admissions packet available at each VAST Campus location. Can contact Program Directors at each campus to receive packet.
3. Schedule an intake interview with VAST Admissions Counselor or Program Director at location you plan on attending, see contacts on back panel.
4. Bring completed application and documentation required to intake interview.
5. Take TABE placement test, VAST staff will arrange the appointment.
6. When all forms and documentation have been received and reviewed for acceptance, student will be notified to schedule an appointment to develop a vocational plan and courses.
7. Attend a mandatory orientation prior to class start date.

Contact Us

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SPRING BRANCH CAMPUS
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For more information, visit:

hccs.edu/vast

HCC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender identity and gender expression, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, or Veteran status. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: David Cross, Director, EEO, 504, & Title IX Coordinator, 3100 Main Street, Houston, TX 77002, 713.718.8271 or Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu

"All that I can, I will."



For more information visit:

hccs.edu/vast

VAST
ACADEMY

HCC

Mission

VAST Academy provides post-secondary transition programs and comprehensive support services, which lead to meaningful credentials, employment and independence for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Opportunities include vocational certificates, pre-college and freshman success bridge courses, career readiness credentials, internships and employment assistance offered through an inclusive, relevant and affordable avenue.



Credentials Offered

Occupational Skills/Career Readiness Certificate

The Occupational Skills Certificate Program is a career readiness/workforce, continuing education credential including a 200 hour internship with a local employer. Required courses offered enhance communications, human relations, functional reading, math and writing skills for the workplace. Students develop basic computer, financial literacy and job readiness skills. Through a person-centered planning approach, students are advised and guided to careers and employment based on their individual skills and interests. The program takes two-three years or five-six terms to complete, depending on the ability level of the student. Many of VAST Alumni are successfully employed in the following areas: retail, childcare, teacher assistants, dining/food services, culinary arts, healthcare-patient escort, and room service.

Retail Training

This two-term course prepares students for a job in the retail field. Students learn a range of technical, practical and organizational skills valued in the workplace and society. Classroom instruction is offered through an online component and a supervised hands-on workplace experience with a local employer.

WorkKeys Career Readiness Credential

This instructor lead course and online training module prepares students to receive the American College Testing (ACT) WorkKeys Career Readiness credential. This job skills assessment system helps employers select, hire, train, develop, and retain a high performing workforce. More than 2.3 million people in the United States earn this credential.

Support Services

VAST Academy students receive assistance with identifying realistic career goals by developing a vocational degree plan and participating in an internship following the completion of coursework. The program's successful supportive strategies include:

- Person-centered planning
- Peer mentoring and tutoring
- Career counseling and advising
- Independent living training
- Self-Advocacy training
- Transition and employment services
- Internships based on students' interests and skills

Student Life and Recognition

Students are encouraged to become active on campus by participating in athletics and joining various student organizations, such as the VAST Academy Eagles Club and student government.

The VAST Academy Eagles Club remains one of the most active organizations on campus, hosting numerous campus-wide events and community service projects. Student leaders are recognized each year at annual college award ceremonies.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF VAST ACADEMY

