

Department of Services  
for the Blind



# Bridge College Preparatory Program

Helping students bridge  
the gap between high  
school and college



Washington State Department Services for the Blind (DSB) offers Bridge – a five-week summer program to assist blind or visually impaired students in their transition from high school to post-secondary education. We work closely with DSB’s Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program and the Washington State School for the Blind (WSSB) to offer a “Bridge” between the gap from high school to college.

# About Bridge

Bridge is held at Eastern Washington University (EWU) in Cheney, Washington – near Spokane – from mid-July to mid-August each year. A residential program, students live in a dorm and learn about campus life in preparation for entering college in the fall.

The non-college credit Bridge course runs during the week prior to the start of EWU course work. Each session is specifically designed to address the unique needs of blind students. Bridge classes consist of lectures and assignments focusing on college life, study and social skills, and independence taught by DSB and EWU Disability Support

Services staff. Students also work on campus and community Orientation and





Mobility, including tours of the library, book-store, cafeteria, and computer lab. There is also time for field trips and recreational activities.

At the conclusion of the first week, Bridge students are enrolled in a five-credit university course of their choosing from the EWU summer session catalog. This academic course presents a traditional ten-week curriculum in a compressed, four-week class.

Throughout the five weeks of the Bridge program, students receive academic, social, and independence support – including mentorship – from DSB and EWU staff.

# Eligibility

To be eligible for Bridge, students must:

- Be a high school graduate this year.
- Be a participant of DSB's Vocational Rehabilitation Services.
- Have acceptance to an institution of higher learning beginning in the fall.
- Have acceptable levels of Orientation and Mobility and Daily Living skills.
- Be proficient with alternate reading formats.

Students planning to attend college – either this year or in years to come – can start building their Bridge to collegiate success by contacting a DSB Transition Counselor for details.

# Contact Info

For more information on the Bridge Program, or to request an application, contact the Department of Services for the Blind at [www.dsb.wa.gov](http://www.dsb.wa.gov) or contact a Bridge Transition Counselor.



**Washington State Department  
of Services for the Blind**

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