

Program Overview

The USF Eileen Hoffman Hafer UMatter program located at the University of South Florida is an inclusive postsecondary education (IPSE) program designed to provide young adults with an intellectual disability the opportunity to participate in higher education and campus life. Upon successful completion, students will obtain an employment readiness certificate from UMatter and with the goal of competitive integrated employment. Interested students should express a strong interest in continuing their education in an inclusive postsecondary setting, explore careers, engage in work-based learning experiences, and live independently. Currently, UMatter is based on the St. Petersburg campus and expanding to Tampa for fall of 2025.



For more information, please contact: u-matter@usf.edu





ORIDA

Vision & Mission

Vision – Developing self-determined adults by optimizing adult life educational experiences in a university setting.

Mission – Dedicated to providing an accessible and inclusive university experience leading to competitive integrated employment and self-sufficiency.



Program Goals and Benefits

The program aims to help students increase their skills in:

- 1 Self-sufficiency
- 2 Academic Advancement
- 3 Social Involvement
- 4 Employment Readiness





Admissions Criteria

Applicants who meet the criteria below will be considered for the UMatter Program:

- A documented intellectual disability that impacts progression in a standard curriculum in pursuit of a postsecondary degree or certificate
- Exited the K-12 system
- · At least 18 years old
- · Has a desire to audit college courses
- Personal goals of competitive employment and community participation
- Capable of mobility on adult campuses, including transportation to and from campus
- Displays a level of social maturity conducive to an adult environment (i.e. employment and educational settings)
- Independently maintains self-care and personal hygiene
- Collaborative partnership between the UMatter program and parental/guardian/family

- Has a reliable means of communication (i.e. smart phone with texting and navigation capability)
- Clear discipline/incident history
- Strong attendance record
- Willingness to follow university and program's code of conduct
- Willingness to work with an academic mentor/tutor and peer mentor(s)
- Willingness to participate in volunteer opportunities in the community

For detailed admissions criteria, please visit the UMatter website at www.usf.edu/umatter.

