



College of
Education
CrossingPoints

Supporting CrossingPoints Students to Engage and Succeed in Residential Life on the University of Alabama Campus

A presentation to the
Think College Campus Life Affinity
Group



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Speaking Points

1. Briefly describe your residential programming.
2. How do students with ID connect with university residential activities and programming?
3. Are there additional residential activities or training specifically for students with ID? If so, explain.
4. What natural supports do students utilize for inclusion in residential programming?
5. Explain any barriers toward engaging students with ID in inclusive residential life? How do you work with those barriers?
6. Share how you balance values of dignity of risk and safety in your inclusive residential programming.
7. What has surprised you about supporting students with ID to engage and succeed in residential life at your university?
8. Share any tips or lessons learned.



CrossingPoints Program Overview

CrossingPoints Tier 1 serves students with ID ages 18-21 years who are still receiving IDEA services and are enrolled in Tuscaloosa City Schools and Tuscaloosa County school systems.

CrossingPoints Tier 2, also known as the **Summer Bridge Program**, is a postsecondary pipeline program for college-age students with intellectual disabilities ages 19+ years from anywhere in the State of Alabama and beyond.

Tier 3 is The CrossingPoints Certificate in Occupational Studies (CCOS) is a 3-year non-degree certificate program for college students with ID enrolled at The University of Alabama.





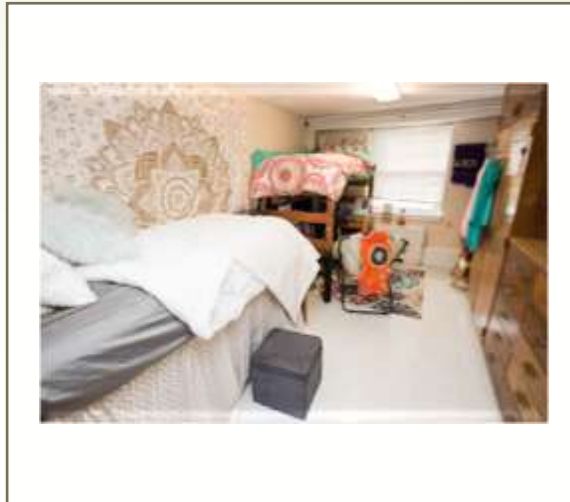
Inaugural Cohort of CCOS



WHERE LEGENDS ARE MADE

UA Options for Housing and Residential Communities

Traditional Residence Halls



Suite-Style Residence Halls



On-Campus Apartments



CPP Tier 1 Apartment



On-Campus Apartment for Tier 1

- A fully-furnished apartment that provides:
 - A Two-bedroom apartment
 - 1 Bathroom
 - Living Room
 - Full Kitchen/Dinning area
 - Laundry room
 - Opportunity to participate in Residence Hall activities with other UA students
 - Apartment utilized for instruction in skills for inclusive independent livin
 - Apartment utilized as a venue for individualized events of Tier 1 students and their UA mentors





Crimson Choice Program for Off-Campus Housing

- ▶ UA's Crimson Choice Program helps parents and students choose the best off-campus housing option.
- ▶ The list of Crimson Choice properties is updated annually and includes those properties that have met certain criteria and security standards.
- ▶ The University also provides yearly off-campus housing fairs that provide parents and students with the opportunity of getting to meet with several properties in the same building and all in one afternoon.



Connecting CCOS Students With UA's Residential Activities and Programming


- ▶ Events and Programs sponsored by Housing and Residential Communities (HRC)
- ▶ Planned and hosted by HRC RA's, e.g.,
 - ▶ Ice cream parties
 - ▶ Cornhole in the courtyard
 - ▶ Going to the games together
 - ▶ International night
 - ▶ International music night
 - ▶ Sexual Health Night
- ▶ University Programs (UP) events, e.g.,
 - ▶ Halloween night
 - ▶ Football watch parties
 - ▶ Movie nights
- ▶ Planned and hosted by:
 - ▶ SGA sponsored activities and events
 - ▶ DEI events
 - ▶ Clubs, e.g., UADM
 - ▶ Affinity groups
 - ▶ Multi-cultural student organizations
 - ▶ Fraternities and sororities



Strategies

- Become informed!
 - 558 clubs and associations on UA campus,(sororities and fraternities included)
- Develop partnerships with critical links to information source
 - MOU with Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life
 - Director of student life provides Bama Bound Orientation session
 - HRC personnel as a program admissions committee
- Develop a reliable method for keeping students informed
 - Weekly QR codes for listing of UP activities
- Develop a reliable method of getting information about activities and events going on in residence halls
 - CrossingPoints RA as linkage to HRC programming
- Information about activities going on around campus
- Develop strategies for connecting students with key leaders, e.g., of club presidents
- Develop strategies for tracking the extent of student involvement (see chart***)



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- ▶ Get the word out about your program and your students
 - ▶ Meeting with HRC resident directors
 - ▶ Inform campus housing/community about your program
 - ▶ UA news features on CrossingPoints students, staff, or program
 - ▶ Get the critical/right people involved with your program as de facto program sponsors or program advocates
 - ▶ Our program RA:

XXXX

Elementary & Special Education

[The University of Alabama](#) | Honors College

Residential Advisor | CrossingPoints Program

Aramark Marketing Intern | Bama Dining

Brand Ambassador | University Programs

Ignite Facilitator | Teach for America

Orientation Leader | Parent & Family Programs

Desk Assistant | Housing & Residential Communities

Secretary | College of Education Ambassadors, Teacher Cadets, & Alpha Lambda Delta

Director of Alumni Relations | Student Alumni Ambassadors

Freshman Forum Intern, Peer Leader, & Camp 1831 A-Team | First Year Experience

Vice President | Phi Sigma Theta

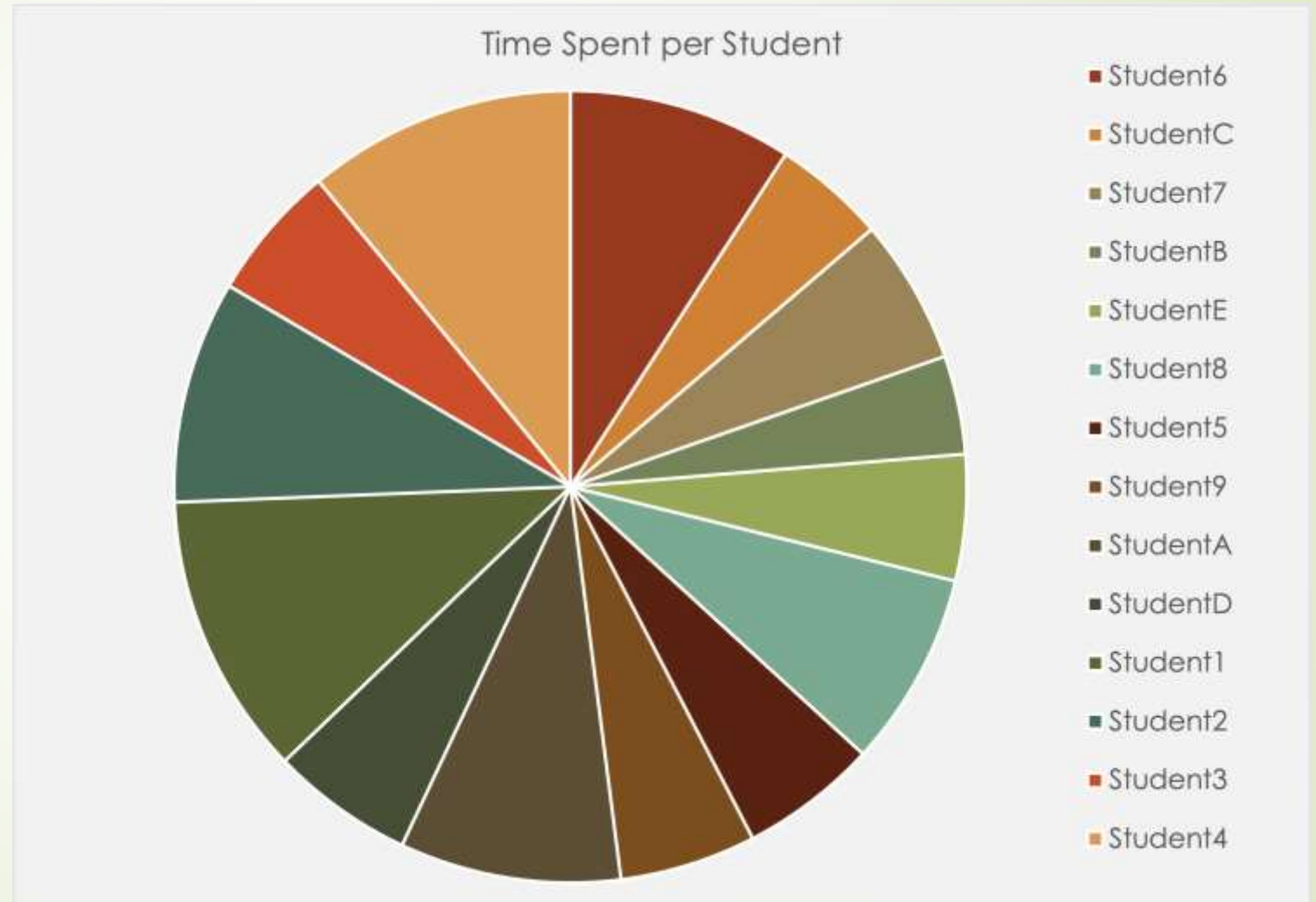
Professional Development Chair | National Society of Collegiate Scholars

CCHS Representative | Phi Eta Sigma

The Blackburn Institute | Student Recruitment Team | University Steward | Lambda Sigma | Camp Kesem | Circle K International

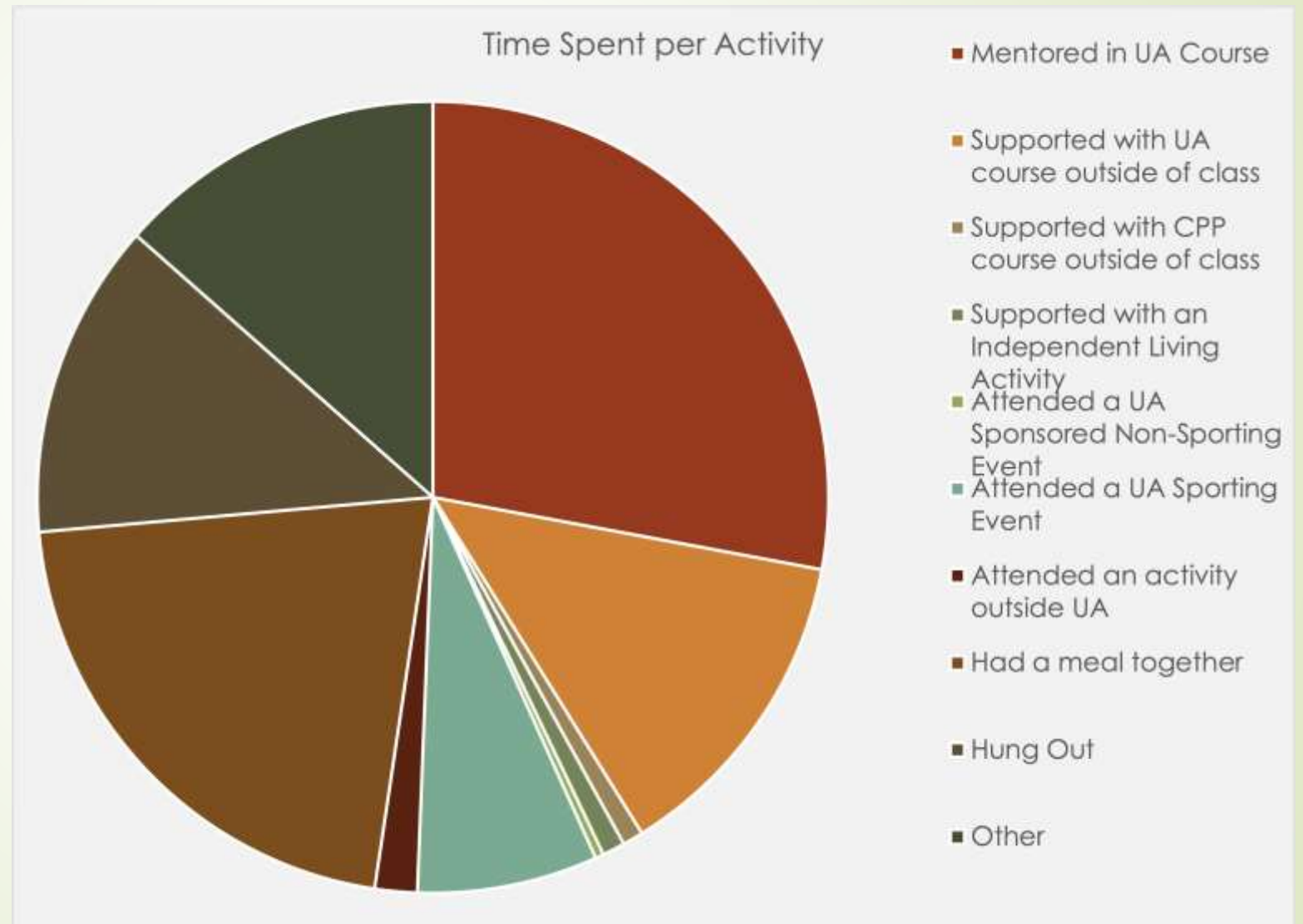
**Develop strategies for tracking the types of activities students are involved in (Mentor report Week of Nov 6-Dec 10, 2022)


Time Spent in involvement activities per Student	
Student6	146.03
StudentC	73.5
Student7	94.75
StudentB	64.25
StudentE	82.25
Student8	127.25
Student5	89.58
Student9	89
StudentA	144.25
StudentD	93.16
Student1	184.75
Student2	145.33
Student3	89
Student4	175.25



**Develop strategies for tracking the extent of student involvement (Based on mentor report Week of Nov 6-Dec 10, 2022)

Time Spent per Activity	
Mentored in UA Course	165.53
Supported with UA course outside of class	78.33
Supported with CPP course outside of class	5
Supported with an Independent Living Activity	5.5
Attended a UA Sponsored Non-Sporting Event	2
Attended a UA Sporting Event	43.75
Attended an activity outside UA	10.25
Had a meal together	125.9
Hung Out	76.5
Other	80





Specifically-Designed/Additional Residential Activities/Training for CCOS Students

- ▶ RA who is specifically for CCOS students
 - ▶ Do not supplant existing support systems (e.g., HRC Ras)
- ▶ Independent living skills training
 - ▶ Shopping, cooking, cleaning own room, etc.
 - ▶ Weekly roommate meetings with RA
 - ▶ Conflict resolution/roommate disagreements
 - ▶ Roommate Agreement co-creation, review, and revision if needed
 - ▶ Weekly dorm check with Independent Living Coordinator
- ▶ Support students in critical skills for self-directed living independently
 - ▶ Support students to learn and master emergency procedures
 - ▶ Learn bus routes
 - ▶ Using laundry, etc.





Natural Supports Utilized for Inclusion in Residential Programming

- ▶ Roommates (other non-CCOS students)
- ▶ HRC RAs
- ▶ Campus Bus drivers
- ▶ UAPD
- ▶ Students with shared/common interests with CCOS students, e.g., weightlifting, basketball, swimming, faith, gospel choir, million-dollar band, etc.



Balancing Values of Dignity of Risk and Safety in Inclusive Residential Programming

- ▶ Students can select roommates using Roommate portal but prefer HRC-suggested roommate assignment
- ▶ CCOS students can move off campus after in their second/and or final year
- ▶ Program is well-known across campus thus lots of natural supports for students for student safety from UAPD to campus bus drivers to Joyride
- ▶ Students are responsible for their free time and on weekends
 - ▶ Contingency: an administrator-on-call over the weekends to give RA reprieve
 - ▶ Collect data on how students use their free time to determine support needs





Surprises About Supporting CrossingPoints Students to Engage and Succeed in Residential Life on UA Campus

- ▶ You can NEVER anticipate every support need!
- ▶ So: train students in important skills such as self advocacy, self-determination
- ▶ Students are students are students
- ▶ Flirtatiousness with the idea of independence (I have learned that to most, independence is a bounded construct)

