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| **Diploma** | **Details/ Descriptions** | **Options After High School** |
| **Traditional** High School Diploma | **Traditional diploma earned by High School Students****The student must:*** Successfully complete 28 credits specified by course subject
* Take ACT or SAT exams completed during the 11th grade
* Demonstrate satisfactory attendance and conduct
* Earn at least 70% in the overall course. All students are required to take the End of Course (EOC) examination.
 | This is the best option for employment - most recognized by employers **The Student can**Attend traditional post -secondary opportunities:* 4 year colleges or universities\*\*
* Community colleges
* Colleges of applied technology

\*\* Each school has its own admission requirements  |
| Special EducationDiploma  | **A pathway for students who will not be earning a regular education diploma****The student:*** Will not be able to meet the requirements of a regular high school diploma
* Has received special education services and supports and has made satisfactory progress on their IEP
* Exhibited satisfactory attendance and conduct
 | The student will not be eligible to attend a traditional 4-year college or university and these diplomas are not often recognized for employment**The Student can*** Continue to work towards a regular education diploma until age 22
* Attend certain progress at the college of applied technology or community college
* If the student has a diagnosis of an Intellectual disability (ID) they can also apply to college program for the student with ID called inclusive higher education program, which are sometimes referred to as Comprehensive Transition Program (CTPs).
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| Occupational Diploma **(Continued on the back)** | **Emphasizes vocational and career outcomes. It is for students who are on track to earn a special education diploma and will not earn a regular high school diploma. The student and IEP team can determine whether to pursue the occupational diploma at the end of the student’s 10th grade year or 2 years before expected gradation date** **The student:*** Has received special education services and supports and has made satisfactory progress on their IEP
* Has exhibited satisfactory attendance and conduct
* Exhibited satisfactory attendance and conduct
* Must complete at least 2 years of paid or non-paid work experience.
* The two years of work experience will look different from county to county. The IEP team can determine what level of work experience they require from the student.
* May participate in paid, unpaid, or a combination of work.
* Setting for work can be within the school, off-campus, or a combination of within school and off-campus opportunities as determined by the IEP team.
* Has completed the Skills, Knowledge, and Experience Mastery Assessment (SKEMA).
 | * The student will not be eligible to attend a traditional 4-year college or university

**The Student can*** Attend certain progress at the college of applied technology or community college
* If the student has a diagnosis of an Intellectual disability (ID) they can also apply to college program for th student with ID called inclusive higher education program, which are sometimes referred to as Comprehensive Transition Program (CTPs).
* Can continue to work towards a regular education diploma until age 22
* The student’s two years of required work experience will likely be attractive to future employers
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| **Diploma** | **Details/ Descriptions** | **Options After High School** |
| Alternative Academic Diploma (AAD) | **Option for students who are assessed on the state alternate assessments. It recognizes the academic learning and success of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities by counting towards the district graduation rate**.**The student must:*** Have participated in the high school alternate assessments.
* Earn the prescribed 22-credit minimum
* Has received special education services and supports and has made satisfactory progress on their IEP
* Exhibited satisfactory attendance and conduct
* Complete transition assessments that measure, at a minimum postsecondary education and training, employment, independent living, and community involvement.
 | Must be earned within the adjusted cohort time frame of four years plus one summer to be included in the graduation rate. The student will not be eligible to attend a traditional 4-year college or university**The Student can*** Continue working toward earning this diploma outside of that time frame
* If the student has a diagnosis of an Intellectual disability (ID) they can also apply to college program for student with ID called inclusive higher education program, which are sometimes referred to as Comprehensive Transition Program (CTPs).
* Indicate to potential programs and employers that they have a level of knowledge and skills for
* Earn both the alternate academic diploma and the occupational diploma. It is recommended that the alternate diploma is earned first by following the four-year and one summer trajectory required to get the AAD
* Also pursue the occupational diploma which would help them gain skills that would make them more employment-ready. After a student earns the AAD, they may continue to receive special education services through the end of the school year in which
* they turn 22 years old.
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**Financial Support for College:** [**https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/collegepays/financial-aid.html**](https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/collegepays/financial-aid.html)

**College Scholarships**

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| **Scholarship** | **Award** | **Webpage (for more Information)** |
| **Tennessee HOPE Scholarship** | The HOPE Scholarship is established and funded from the net proceeds of the state lottery and awarded to entering freshmen who are enrolled at an eligible postsecondary institution within sixteen (16) months after graduating from a TN eligible high school. | <https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/collegepays/money-for-college/tn-education-lottery-programs/tennessee-hope-scholarship.html> |
| **Tennessee Promise Scholarship** |  Tennessee resident/U.S. citizen/eligible non-citizen/students who graduate from an eligible high School, homeschool, or earn a GED/HISET (prior to 19th birthday) can receive an award at an eligible postsecondary institution toward tuition and mandatory fees after all other gift aid has been first applied. | <https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/collegepays/money-for-college/state-of-tennessee-programs/tennessee-promise-scholarship.html> |
| **Tennessee STEP UP Scholarship** | The Tennessee STEP UP Scholarship is a program designed to assist students with intellectual disabilities who have completed high school and enroll in an individualized program of study of up to four (4) years at an eligible postsecondary institution. | <https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/collegepays/money-for-college/state-of-tennessee-programs/tennessee-step-up-scholarship.html> |
| **Tennessee HOPE Foster Child Tuition Grant** | The Foster Child Tuition Grant is established and funded from the net proceeds of the state lottery and awarded to students who were in custody of the Dept. of Children Services for at least one (1) year after reaching age fourteen (14).  | <https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/collegepays/money-for-college/grant-programs/tn-hope-foster-child-tuition-grant.html> |

**Comprehensive Transition Program**

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| David Lipscomb University (Nashville)  | IDEAL Program | <https://www.lipscomb.edu/academics/undergraduate-studies/ideal-program> |
| Union University (Jackson)  | EDGE Program | **www.uu.edu/programs/education/edge/**  |
| University of Memphis (Memphis) | Tiger Life | <https://www.memphis.edu/tigerlife/> |
| University of Tennessee (Knoxville)  | FUTURE Program | <https://futureut.utk.edu/> |
| Vanderbilt University (Nashville) | Next Steps Program | <https://peabody.vanderbilt.edu/departments/nextsteps/> |

**College Programs of Support**

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| Austin Peay State University (Clarksville)  | Full Spectrum Learning | <https://www.apsu.edu/full-spectrum-learning/> |
| University of Tennessee (Chattanooga)  | MoSAIC Program | <https://www.utc.edu/disability-resource-center/mosaic/> |