



— APRIL IS —
AUTISM
ACCEPTANCE MONTH

Cal State East Bay is proud of our College Link Program which supports 30 students with Autism. When asked about their experiences, here are a few of their responses they wanted to share with the Cal State East Bay community . . .

What is the College Link Program?

"A program for those under the Autism spectrum. Helps foster a diverse and inclusive environment for those on the spectrum."

"It is a program run for neurodivergent students to assist them through their college journey."

"A program which helps differently abled college students in their journey in college."

How has the College Link Program supported you during your time here at Cal State East Bay?

"At my time at East Bay, CLP has helped me with my focus issues and helped me with my conversation skills. Because of CLP, I was able to make many friends and be more academically successful."

"Helped me reach out and connect with others like me."

"CLP has supported me through college so far by providing shadowing in my classes. As well as coaching academically. I also know that I can talk to the [staff] about any problems related to college or life."

What does having Autism mean to you?

"A mental condition where you are differently abled. I am a person with unique abilities!"

"I sometimes have sensory differences than the neurotypical person, such as being overly sensitive to loud sounds, smell, lights, and more. It is hard sometimes to live in a world that was made for neurotypical people."

"My brain is wired different and although my way of thinking is different, I seek to integrate with others who are also different."

"Just means I'm a little different."

What are some ways the Cal State East Bay community can make you feel more accepted?

"More activities for differently abled people."

"... they can respect personal boundaries, and give me more space when needed. As well as providing more education around autism and how others can support individuals with it."

"... I feel like I need to have more fun there instead of working most of the time which is not good for me."

What do you appreciate about Cal State East Bay?

"People, programs, clubs, and long term friendships to keep."

"... the supports and resources. I also love my friends because they are super supportive of each other."

"The friends I've made."

"The overall inclusive and friendly attitude it has towards all students."

"I appreciate that it is a very accepting campus of people with many backgrounds and everyone here is really friendly."