

Fostering Autistic College Student Success through Relationships with Others



We recently conducted a national survey among 425 autistic undergraduate college students to learn how these students explain the factors that contribute to their success.



Relationships with various people were key facilitators of success.

Friends:

Friends were the second-most positive individual item on the survey's 7-point Likert scale ($x = 6.02$) and most popular code mentioned in students' narratives ($n = 115$ excerpts)

Family:

In their narrative responses, students frequently highlighted their parents as key contributors to their success ($n = 45$ excerpts).

Faculty:

Faculty support also played an important role in student success in both the survey ($x = 5.29$) and students' narratives ($n = 113$ excerpts)

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COX, B. E. & NACHMAN, B. R. (2025). SUPPORTING AUTISTIC COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS THROUGH THE I.P.A.C.E. FRAMEWORK. PEACES [POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION: AUTISTIC COLLEGIANS' EXPERIENCES OF SUCCESS] WAVE 1, FALL 2022 (FAST FACT #22). COLLEGE AUTISM NETWORK.