

Community-Based Instruction

What is Community-Based Instruction?

Community-Based Instruction (CBI) is a teaching strategy that uses the community as a classroom. CBI helps students learn real-world skills in environments where they will ultimately be used. This promotes independence and better quality of life as students become adults.



Who is Community-Based Instruction for?



CBI can be used for students with disabilities of any age as long as the activities that are chosen are age-appropriate and connected to their IEP goals. CBI is used most often for students between the ages of 14-21, but research supports the use of CBI across all grade levels.



What does Community-Based Instruction teach students?

CBI teaches students about community living, recreation and leisure, and career opportunities.

Community living focuses on helping students learn how to access what they need in their community. This includes shopping, managing finances, making healthy choices, and getting around their community.

Recreation and leisure focus on exploring interests and building lasting relationships with peers, neighbors, and other community members that last beyond a student's time in school.

Career exploration and awareness focuses on learning about work through hands-on and observational opportunities. This includes discovering different careers and practicing the skills they need to succeed in the workplace. Students 16 and older can explore career interests, try out jobs in their community to see what they like, and gain work experience that will support employment in adult life.



Want more information?

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<https://boggscenter.rwjms.rutgers.edu/training-and-consultation/community-based-instruction>

