What do you envision your college experience canvas to display?

- Making friends
- Cooking opportunities
- Having fun
- Attending classes
- On the job training
- Becoming Independent
Taft College is located 45 miles west of Bakersfield, CA.

T.I.L.-Transition to Independent Living Program
Located in Taft, CA - 45 minutes west of Bakersfield.

TIL Program Mission
The Transition to Independent Living Program endeavors to provide an environment with:
- Enriching collegiate experiences
- Interactive and inclusive environments
- Learning outcomes transferable to lifelong productivity
- Career education resulting in gainful employment
- Self-determination and knowledge of individual strengths
- Empowerment through education
Entry requirements

- be over 18 years of age
- meet Regional Center criteria
- be able to function without attendant care
- have completed a high school or learning resource program
- be exempt from current or chronic history of inflicting physical harm to him/herself or others, chronic history of arrest or probation
- be free of any medical condition that is communicable by casual contact

- have an income equivalent to SSI’s minimum rate for independent living
- give written consent to inform and include parents with issues posing a threat to independent living
- agree to attend and participate in the Taft College Career Education program and required classes
- possess self-help skills and be able to safely function in his/her own dormitory without direct supervision during non-program hours
- express desire to participate in the program. He/she must be motivated to live independently, agree to the time frame of the program hours, agree to honor the TIL rules and to participate in training and instruction during those hours
- recognize that upon acceptance all students are on a probationary status until successful completion of one semester

What occupies student’s time?

- Classes: Advocacy, Conflict Resolution, Personal Health, Personal Safety, Personal Finance, Career Education, and Community Transition
- Student’s work on functional aspects of the program in the afternoons learning how to clean, cook, organize, and prioritize
- And work 6 hours per week
- Club participation and weekend activities
On-the-job training
Students work 6 hours per week

Employment Information
- 331 students have graduated from the TIL Program
- 82% are employed
- 7% volunteer
- The hourly wages range from minimum wage up to $15.00 per hour
- 28% receive job benefits that include sick leave, vacation and medical insurance
- 75% have worked at their jobs for 1 month-5 years
- 72% report they are very happy with their job

Employer Video
Utilizing Public Transportation

- Students utilize public transportation to and from work daily.
- Also, students utilize Amtrak to facilitate their independent travel to their home communities during winter and spring break.

Holiday parties

Snowman making contest

Medieval Times Trip

OUR NEW FACILITY

Transition to Independent Living
All the world is a laboratory
to
the inquiring mind.

~ Martin H. Fischer