CATS Program Locations

East Los Angeles College
1301 Avenida Cesar Chavez
Monterey Park, CA 91754
323-265-8749

Los Angeles Harbor College
1111 Figueroa Place
Wilmington, CA 90744
310-233-4213

Los Angeles Mission College
13356 Eldridge Ave.
Sylmar, CA 91324
818-364-7626

Los Angeles Pierce College
6201 Winnetka Ave.
Woodland Hills, CA 91371
818-710-2569

Los Angeles Trade Technical College
400 W. Washington Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90015
213-247-9011

West Los Angeles College
9000 Overland Ave.
Culver City, CA 90230
310-287-4319

Los Angeles Unified School District
Division of Special Education
333 S. Beaudry Ave., 17th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Program Overview
The Center for Advanced Transition Skills (CATS) is a partnership between the Los Angeles Unified School District and the Los Angeles Community College District. This program serves students with moderate to severe disabilities and provides these students with a comprehensive transition program to help them develop skills in the areas of work, employment and independent living. LAUSD personnel provide participating students assessment-driven lessons in personal and career development instruction and work-based learning opportunities to prepare them for their futures. Opportunities are both on campus and in the community, and students may also participate in community college classes as appropriate. The CATS program makes it possible for students to develop focused career goals as they move towards further independence in an age appropriate environment.

Who is Eligible to Participate?
The CATS program recommends that students:
- Have a current Individualized Education Plan (IEP)
- Be at least 19 years of age by September of the enrollment year
- Make a two year commitment to participate in the program
- Have begun developing a support network
- Have completed 4 years of high school
- Be on the alternate curriculum and non-diploma track
- Speak to their high school DOTS teacher who will contact the local Career & Transition Center
- Have a record of regular attendance
- Have had a previous participation in work experience
- Travel independently in the community

What skills do students need?
- Ability to work independently and stay on task
- Flexibility in daily routine
- Good personal grooming/hygiene
- Appropriate work-related behaviors
- Safety awareness
- Positive peer/adult relationships
- Ability to work independently

How are enrollment decisions made?
Students are assessed using a criteria rubric, personal and family-based interviews, and through a review of records from high school. Final decisions are made by a committee of educational professionals, based on the appropriateness of placement and services for the student.