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## Connecting Pokes at 7220

### Inclusive Post-Secondary Education

Wyoming has officially become the 50<sup>th</sup> state to establish an inclusive post-secondary education (IPSE) program, marking a significant milestone in expanding educational opportunities for students with intellectual disability. This new pilot program, housed at the Wyoming Institute for Disabilities and launched in Spring 2025, will provide students with the skills, education, and career training needed to achieve greater independence and employment success.

IPSE programs are designed for students with intellectual and developmental disability to access college experiences that support academic, social, and career development along with peer mentors. These programs exist at more than 350 colleges and universities across the U.S. and have been shown to improve employment outcomes and quality of life for participants.

Over 300 U.S. colleges and universities offer programs for students with intellectual disability. Students with intellectual disability are achieving their college goals when provided with access and high expectations. College provides the opportunity for students to explore new things, become more independent, and prepare for a bright future. The “Think Higher. Think College.” public awareness campaign, developed by Think College’s Inclusive Higher Education Network, is designed to build awareness and expand access to college for students with intellectual disability. The goal is to increase knowledge of inclusive college options, share information about the benefits and outcomes of students with intellectual disability attending college, and offer people ways to spread the message: “Think Higher. Think College.”

For more information on Inclusive Post-Secondary in general, visit the Think College website or contact Stephanie Wodahal at [swodahl1@uwyo.edu](mailto:swodahl1@uwyo.edu) for information about Connecting Pokes at 7220.

Source: <https://www.uwyo.edu/wind/ipse/index.html>, <https://thinkhighered.net/>

## Lyft Transportation Network is Recruiting Drivers

Wyoming 211 received a grant to offer transportation through the **Lyft Ride United Transportation Access** program across the state. Lyft provides on-demand ride-sharing services through a mobile app. The goal is to provide 750 rides throughout the year. Unfortunately, communities without Lyft drivers will not be able to access this service, so Wyoming 211 is helping to spread the word about driver recruitment. Drivers must be at least 25 years old. Wyoming 211 includes a 15% tip for the drivers, which is included in the payment for the client. This is a great way to help meet the transportation needs of our residents. Submit information requests and questions to [manager@wyoming211.org](mailto:manager@wyoming211.org).

Launched in 2018 in partnership with Lyft, United Way Worldwide created Ride United, a transportation access initiative that leverages the strength of United Way, the 211 Network, and other partners to address the unmet transportation needs of individuals and families across the country. Transportation access reduces travel barriers to essential jobs, services, and more. 211 callers can request transportation to an essential location and receive a ride for free or discounted rate, while the driver is still paid at a normal rate. Rides are provided for approved cases, such as those needing to connect with health or human services, and the rider must have a phone that can receive texts.

In Wyoming, 211 can help with free rideshare rides around Laramie and Natrona Counties.

### 1. Dial 2-1-1

An individual calls 211 to request transportation assistance to access food, employment, education and veteran, housing, financial, or medical services.

### 2. Select Option 9

The 211 specialist vets all available resources; if local transportation services are unavailable or do not exist, the 211 specialist schedules/dispatches a ride for the client.

### 3. 211 Specialist Helps Schedule Ride

The individual receives a text message when the ride is on the way. Lyft drivers are paid at a normal rate and riders arrive safe to their essential appointment.



Looking For a Way...

To Get Involved In Your  
Community?

Look No Further!

Wyoming 211 is hoping to partner with individuals from every county in Wyoming to help raise awareness about the health and human services connections 211 provides to individuals and families.

The addition of **211 Ambassadors** will offer an increased presence in each community. You can lend your support in the form of time and attendance at events and meetings.

Wyoming 211's mission is to be a trusted and responsive provider of information, referrals, and support regarding health and social services in partnership with communities. 211 is looking for individuals who believe in the work Wyoming 211 is doing and who align with the 211 mission.

A 211 Ambassador will help Wyoming 211 to have a greater reach, grow a support base, nurture relationships around the state, and add personalization and experience to the mission and vision. To learn about current Ambassadors or to become an Ambassador, visit <https://wyoming211.org/ambassador-program/>.

Source: <https://wyoming211.org/ambassador-program/>



**Connect to Help  
When You Need It**

**Call** — Dial 211 or 1-888-425-7138

**Text** — your zip code to 898211

**Search** — the new online search engine

**App** — Wyoming 211 App is now available in all app stores!

**Newsletter** — Subscribe to the Wyoming 211 Newsletter at <https://wyoming211.org/>.

## Wyoming Free Legal Answers

American Bar Association (ABA) Free Legal Answers is a project of the ABA's Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service for Civil, Non-Criminal Legal Questions.

Civil Legal issues include Divorce/Custody, Housing/Property, Eviction, Consumer Rights, Debts, Bankruptcy, Work/Employment, Expungement, Health Care, Disability, Benefits, Education, and Civil Rights.

Wyoming Free Legal Answers (WFLA) is an online tool where qualifying individuals can submit civil legal questions to volunteer attorneys for free. If you live in a rural area, if you cannot afford an attorney, if you are unable to attend an in-person event, WFLA is an option to get civil legal help!

**1. Go to:**

Wyoming.freelegalanswers.org.

**2. See if you qualify:**

Answer a few questions to see if you qualify to use this service.

**3. Ask a question:**

Ask volunteer attorneys a specific question about your civil legal issue.

**4. Check you email:**

You'll receive an email telling you when your question receives a response.

**5. Log back in:**

See the response to your question; ask more questions.

***For Immigration and Veteran Matters***

Visit: <https://wyoming.freelegalanswers.org/>

Source: <https://wyoming.freelegalanswers.org/>

## Wyoming Judicial Branch Court Navigator Pilot Program

The goal of the Court Navigator Pilot Project is to provide increased access to justice for self-represented litigants. The role of the court navigator is to provide guidance for self-represented litigants to help navigate the court system.

Court navigators will provide assistance both in-person and remotely. Initially, the court navigator will provide assistance in three case categories: protection orders, domestic relations (including divorce, custody, and child support), and evictions actions (forcible entry and detainer).

### **Court Navigators Assist with:**

- pro se forms
- providing procedural information
- offering legal/community referrals
- guiding litigants through court processes and etiquette

Court navigators are available during scheduled times, either in person at the courthouse or remotely via Microsoft Teams. Court navigators are currently available remotely in Natrona and Uinta counties, and in-person in Natrona County. Visit <https://www.wyocourts.gov/court-navigator-services/> to schedule an appointment.

Source: <https://www.wyocourts.gov/court-navigator-services/>

**A Free Program for Individuals Without Legal Representation**



## Oklahoma School for the Deaf American Sign Language Classes

Every year in the Fall and Spring semester, Oklahoma School for the Deaf (OSD) offers American Sign Language (ASL) classes to the public. **American Sign Language 1** and **American Sign Language 2** are available this Fall from September 29, 2025, until December 31, 2025.

Each class consists of eight video-based lessons that are pre-recorded with a deaf instructor demonstrating signs, often accompanied by text captions and modules for additional support. Classes are self-paced, thus allowing students to learn at their own speed and revisit lessons as needed.

These courses are taught by OSD's ASL Specialist. Both courses are introductory programs designed to teach basic to intermediate ASL skills for conversational ASL including vocabulary, fingerspelling, and sentence practice.

These courses are non-credit and do not fulfill requirements for either professional development hours or continuing education units (CEUs). They are intended for your personal enrichment and foundational ASL learning but are not designed to meet professional licensing or certification standards.

Anyone can attend these courses as they are designed for all ages. It is recommended that an adult take the course with children under the age of 13 to help guide them through and keep their attention. The courses are free but do require a computer and reliable internet connection.

Registration is open now at <https://courses.osd.k12.ok.us/>.

Source: <https://courses.osd.k12.ok.us/>



## MISSION STATEMENT

To establish,  
expand, protect,  
and enforce the  
human and civil  
rights of persons  
with disabilities  
through administrative,  
legal, and other  
appropriate remedies.



## Seizure and First Aid Training

The Epilepsy Foundation of Colorado and Wyoming offers programs and events to support people with epilepsy and their families and is proud to partner with the Wyoming Institute for Disabilities to serve and support families affected by epilepsy throughout Wyoming. Information and training related to epilepsy for children, adults, family members, professionals, and communities from the Colorado and Wyoming Epilepsy Foundation is now available throughout Wyoming.

Visit <https://www.uwyo.edu/wind/epilepsy/index.html>  
to access these on-demand trainings:

- ◆ Seizure First Aid Ready Course
- ◆ Seizure First Aid Training & Certification
- ◆ Seizure Training for School Nurses: Caring for Students
- ◆ Training for Other School Personnel
- ◆ Seizure Training for School Nurses: Caring for Students with Psychogenic Seizures
- ◆ Seizure Training for School Nurses: Using Rescue Therapies in Epilepsy Care

## CONTACT US

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