

## When?

● TIP 2015 will begin at 2 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2015, and will run through 1:30 p.m. Friday, June 26, 2015.

● Program participants should plan to arrive at the University of Central Oklahoma residence hall between 8 a.m. and 12 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2015.

● Lunch will be served from

12 p.m. to 1 p.m. Arrangements can be made for this upon request.

● Participants will be expected to stay over the weekend (June 20 and June 21).

● Participants will be required to spend all other nights in the residence hall and reasonable curfews will be observed.

## What?

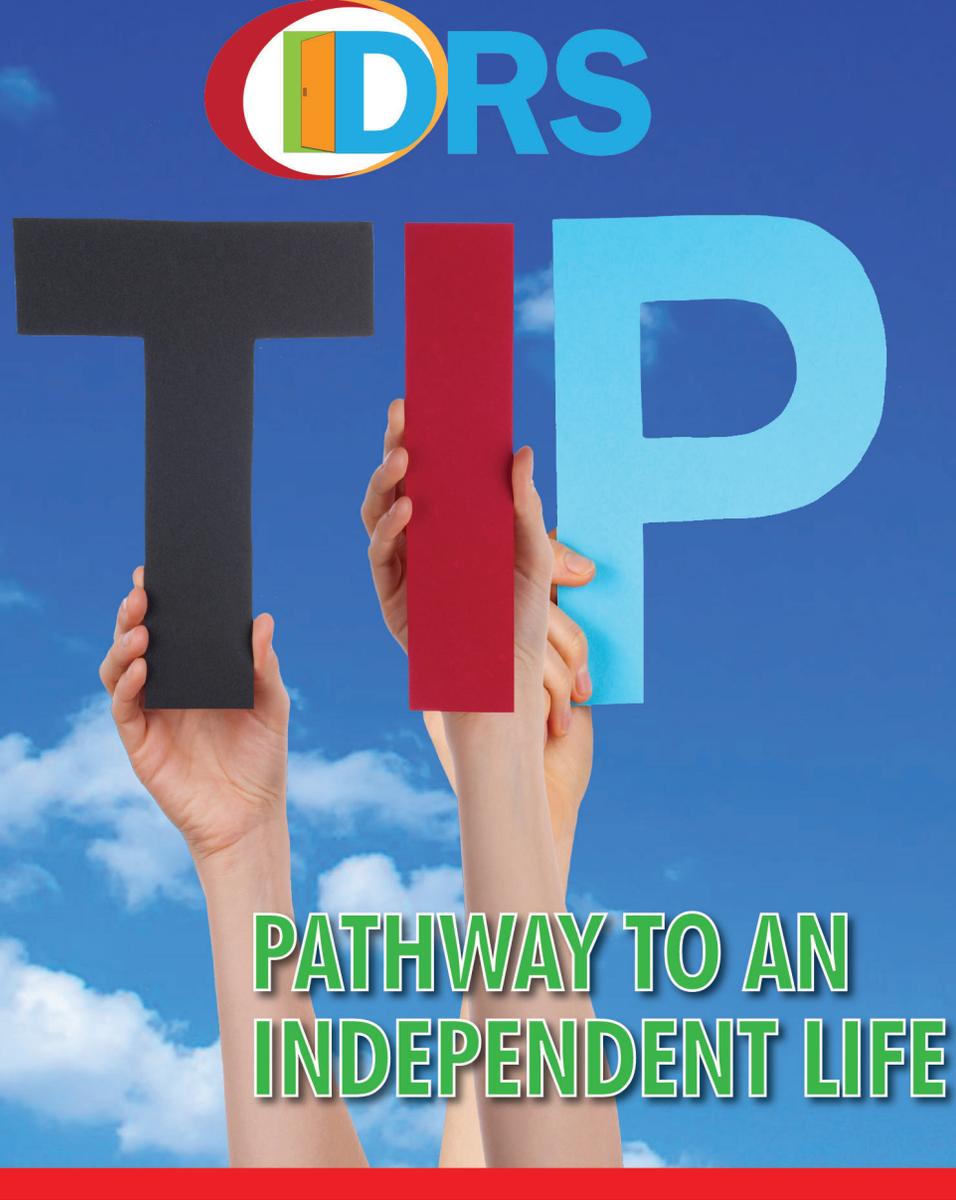
TIP offers a unique opportunity for young blind Oklahomans to gain knowledge of campus life and other experience in the competitive world while at the same time enhancing their skills of independent living.

Evenings and weekends will be spent in leisure activities which are designed by the students or DRS staff.

These activities may include shopping. It should be emphasized that TIP is not a summer camp. Program participants will be viewed and



treated as adults capable of making their own decisions and plans. Student participants will have access to the University of Central Oklahoma Wellness Center, which includes exercise and training equipment. A \$100 budget per participant will be provided for various planned activities.



## Why?

People who are in the transition age group of 16 to 21 years and are blind or are visually impaired face some daunting hurdles, perhaps the most fundamental of which is learning to be independent as adults.

## What is TIP?

TIP, or Transition Independence Program, is the product of much experience in helping persons who are blind or visually impaired equip themselves for a bright future. We seldom think of how our earnest desire to always help our family member or friend may not always lead them to an independent life. That same kind of desire to help figures strongly into the creation of TIP.

It has been our experience that most of the general public does not know a great deal about blindness and the ways in which blind people can participate in terms of equality. In addition, many blind people do not possess a great deal of confidence, particularly where employment is concerned. It is also true that employers don't seem to want to hire individuals who don't have the self-confidence possessed by those who have achieved a significant level of independence.

As individuals participate in TIP, they will learn that they can indeed live independently, shopping, managing their wardrobe, keeping their living space, cooking, managing a career, traveling their neighborhood, city, state and even to foreign countries. TIP, this summer, will be a challenging and fun experience for all participants, exposing them to a level of self-reliance that they may not have known.



This is an exciting program. Oklahoma is fortunate to have such a system in place. We are proud to be conducting TIP and we hope that you will join us in brightening the future of blind people in Oklahoma.

## How?

Applications for TIP are available upon request.  
**The 2015 application deadline is April 30, 2015.**

To obtain an application please contact:

Paul Adams, Projects Coordinator  
Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services  
Visual Services Division  
3535 NW 58th St, Suite 500  
Oklahoma City, OK 73112  
(405) 951-3460

Transition Independence Program – (TIP)  
Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services  
Visual Services Division  
3535 NW 58th St, Suite 500  
Oklahoma City, OK 73112  
(405) 951-3400



## Who?

In order to be eligible for the Transition Independence Program, an individual must be:

1. Between the ages of 16-21 years
2. A resident of the state of Oklahoma
3. Legally or functionally blind. An individual is considered to be legally blind if their best corrected vision in the better eye is no more than 20/200 or their field of vision in the better eye is limited to 20 degrees. Functional blindness can be defined as follows: Any individual who either utilizes a non-visual method or experiences difficulty in performing two or more of the normal functions of daily life. Functions of daily life may be reading, writing, traveling, cooking, etc.

