

## **ABSTRACT**

**DISSERTATION:** Service Provider Perceptions of Key Factors Related to Postsecondary Success of Students with Learning Disabilities in Institutions of Higher Education

**STUDENT:** Nathan L. Herring

**DEGREE:** Doctor of Education

**COLLEGE:** Teacher's College

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Students with learning disabilities have been attending postsecondary education in increasing numbers since the early 1990's. Improvements in secondary education services, legal rights to reasonable accommodations, and college services for these students have been credited with this increase (Browning, 1997; Flexer, Simmons, Luft, & Baer, 2005; Hallahan & Kauffman, 2006; PL 93-12, Wilkinson & Rund, 2000). Legal mandates have stressed that secondary service providers must create services that prepare these students for adult life and postsecondary education options (Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act, 2004). This study examined the perspective of secondary teachers/administrators and postsecondary service providers in Indiana to determine their awareness and perception of key skills related to postsecondary success for students with learning disabilities in institutions of higher education. Factors examined were related to academic, social, self-determination/advocacy, and emotional readiness.