

Bin Success Story



Bin Hartigan has worked at Eastern Connecticut State University for 30 years. Bin found the job at Eastern with the help of Horizons Supported Employment & Options (SEO) program. Bin has held a number of jobs such as cleaning tables in the café, scanning IDs at Hurley Dining Hall, working as a data entry specialist in the Student Center administration office and making student ID badges in the IT office. His favorite job was data entry, but because of technology they automated the job. Before Bin worked at ECSU he worked at the Willimantic DDS office making labels on the computer.

Currently, Bin's job at ECSU is a Campus Mail Delivery assistant. Bin delivers mail to about 20 different departments. Using a cart with mail bags, he drops off new mail and picks up outgoing mail at different academic departments plus the

Athletic Center, the bookstore and the Student Center. Bin works for 4 hours 4 days a week, totaling 16 hours a week. Bin does real work for real pay.



Bin dropping off a mail bag at an office.

Bin uses Assisted Technology at his job as a Campus Mail Delivery assistant, such as his superfast wheelchair to get around campus, handicapped accessible push button doors and elevators. His Job Coach helps by pushing the cart with the mail in it and helping find the correct mail bag. Then, Bin replaces the old bag with a new one independently.



Bin working with his job coach and using accessible doors.

Bin's job is a little nontraditional. He doesn't have to clock in or out. Bin gets compensated for bad weather and when he is out sick. Bin knows everyone and everyone knows and loves Bin.



Bin pictured with two of his favorite secretaries.

Bin's advice for individuals in a wheelchair who are scared to work and scared they might not find a job is, "Get help from an agency (like Horizons) for training and making connections. Be confident in who you are and keep trying! Try something you're not 100% sure about - you may end up loving it."

In Bin's spare time he enjoys Special Olympics, especially spring track & field. Bin enjoys Best Buddies ECSU and hanging out with his buddy, Abby. He enjoys cooking and watching cooking shows on TV. He also enjoys traveling when he can. Bin has been on two cruises! Finally, he enjoys spending time with his family and friends. Bin is also a spokesman for Easter Seals.