

Transitioning Students to Postsecondary

Promising Practices 35

Suggestions for Program Improvement for Ohio Aspire Practitioners

Partnerships

Program Puzzler

Your Aspire program has been invited onto a community college campus to help students who scored below the college's academic benchmarks to enter credit-bearing courses. To become college ready, the program has been asked to provide students with remediation. Students may or may not have a high school diploma/GED, and currently cannot pass the college's entrance exam-COMPASS for reading, writing and/or math. Your program will need to use the TABE to determine students' current level in academic areas; but may also need to address college readiness issues such as study skills, goal setting, learning style, etc.



Timely Tips

Contact your fellow Aspire practitioners for tips and advice. Many have established transition partnerships. Some that have shown promising practices include:

- Columbus State Community College with Columbus Public Schools; Godman Guild Association; Southwestern City Schools; Delaware Area Career Center, and Tolles CTC
- Sinclair Community College with Miami Valley CTC and Kettering City Schools Aspire;
- North Central State Community College and Mansfield City Schools Aspire
- Miami University at Hamilton and Hamilton City Schools Aspire

Create an online platform for your group to interact and work productively. One such platform is Wiggio (<http://wiggio.com>). Anyone can start a group using this free online software. It includes a newsfeed, calendar, shared files, and virtual meetings.

Peer Perspective

- 1.) Secure Support from College Administration.
- 2.) Ensure that every entity from the college who will need to play a role in the partnership's implementation is represented in the planning process with Aspire representatives.
- 3.) Establish and follow a firm and consistent student referral policy.
- 4.) Help referred students identify themselves as postsecondary students.
- 5.) Assign a staff member to help students transition back and forth between Aspire and college, as needed.
- 6.) Ensure that the Aspire program and the College agree on the content to be addressed in Aspire remediation.
- 7.) Experiment with the best way to deliver Aspire instruction for the cohort of students referred by the college.
- 8.) Establish a system of monitoring student progress and sharing information between systems.

Added Insights

- Working Together for Student Success: Lessons from Ohio's College-Aspire Partnership Project <http://go.osu.edu/Adult-Education>
- The Aspire CC Partnering pilot is an online group page for those participating in the Developmental Education Initiative (DEI) pilot. <http://ableccpartneringpilot.wiggio.com>

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