Adult Learners and Veteran Students

TENNESSEE BOARD OF REGENTS
6TH BIENNIAL DIVERSITY CONFERENCE
September 29, 2016
Experiential Learning Credit (ELC)
Opportunity for students to earn credit from learning experiences outside the classroom

Tracy Robinson
Director, Innovative Academic Initiatives
What is ELC?

→ Opportunity for students to develop a portfolio of their learning experiences

→ Part of Credit for Prior Learning
  → *College level learning* and skills learned outside the classroom through work/life experience and through formal and informal education activities
How is it evaluated?

Then

- Students given handbook to develop portfolio
- Academic advisor answered questions
- Portfolio = notebooks/scrapbook
- Portfolio delivered to faculty member for evaluation

Now

→ Students complete online portfolio development course
→ ELC Coordinator guides the process and development
→ Portfolio = Electronic document
→ Faculty member is given standardized rubric to evaluate
How is portfolio developed?

- Letter of Intent
- Detailed Resume
- Target Statements
- Critical Learning Event Narratives
- Timeline of Key Learning Events
- Supportive Documentation Experiences
- Reflective Essay
Results

Average credit hour award: 15 credit hours

Savings of $4,875

Reduced time to degree by 1 full time semester or 2 ½ part time semesters
Meet Jane

- Returned after twenty year absence
- Earned 30 credit hours from ELC portfolio
- Completed 4 CLEP exams
- Total savings of $14,150
- Reduced time to degree by 7 semesters
- Received promotion less than 1 month after graduation
- Completed Master of Professional Studies in August (earned 9 hours of graduate level ELC)
Pellissippi Achieves for Adult Learners (PAL)
A mentoring program for first-time freshmen adult learners -- 2013-14

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Director of Access and Diversity
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Goals
• Enhance student engagement
• Increase retention rates

Components
• Mentors
• Academic plan
• Study smart workshops
• Student engagement
• Programming for adult learners
• Scholarships
From the Access and Diversity website: www.pstcc.edu/diversity/pass.php

Pellissippi Achieves for Adult Learners (PAL) is a mentoring program for first-time freshmen. Students are assigned to a faculty or staff mentor who will guide them through their first year in college. To participate in the PAL program, complete the online application.

**Pellissippi Achieves for Adult Learners Application**
ACADEMIC PLAN

NAME: Student Name  P#: P10000001  DATE: 7-3-14
MAJOR: Pre-Nursing (transfer for BSN)  DEGREE: AS

ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE AND/OR SUPPORT RESOURCES
[] Academic or Career Counseling  [] Programming for Adult Student Support  [] Personal Counseling
[] How to study  [] Study Smart workshops  [] TRiO
[] Tutoring (subjects):

CAREER AND/OR EDUCATIONAL GOAL
Complete AS degree and transfer for BSN.

RECOMMENDED COURSES FOR GRADUATION

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Student’s signature: _____________________________  Date: ______________
OUTCOMES

• Students – 54
• Mentors – 5
• GPA – 2.3
• Graduation – 29 (54%) within 3.5 years
  • 15F – 1 Certificate
  • 16S/U – 8
  • 16F – 4
  • 17S – 7
  • 17F – 9
KEEP Program

Keys to Entrance
Exam Preparation

Austin Peay
State University

Charli Beth Hill,
KEEP Program Coordinator
Development of KEEP

- Not designed as a traditional classroom
  - Designated lab times with coordinator – multiple sessions offered per week
  - Students can access the program remotely
  - Coordinator can monitor progress of each participant
- Program is offered free of charge to all participants
- Started in March 2011 at Ft. Campbell Campus
Requirements changed over time to ensure accountability of participants

- Enrollment form developed
- Participants must now attend at least 1 lab session per week
- Participants must complete 3 hours of study per week on My Foundations Lab
- Program activity monitored
  - If no activity for a week – warning issued
  - No activity for two weeks – individual is dropped from the program
- Syllabus developed for each term

Labs expanded to downtown campus in July 2014
Keys to Entrance Exam Preparation (KEEP) Moving Forward
Austin Peay State University
Thirteenth Session: May 27th – July 5th

Program Name: KEEP Moving Forward
Location: Army Education Center (Building 202), Room 1109
Open Lab Times: Tuesdays/Thursdays (1:00-9:00) and Fridays (10:00-4:00)
Coordinator: Christi Beth Fennell
E-mail: fennellc@apsu.edu

Program Description
The KEEP Moving Forward program is designed to support participants as they prepare to take the COMPASS college entrance exam. KEEP does this by providing individual access to a course designed by KEEP and delivered online through SkillsTutor. The course covers the three areas of the COMPASS exam required for entrance to Austin Peay State University: reading, writing, and math. KEEP also supports participants by providing open lab times during which participants have access to a computer lab reserved for their use and to an instructor who provides individual instruction as needed.

KEEP requires a commitment to be present for lab at least once each week and complete three hours of work a week using the website provided.

SkillsTutor Information
Website: http://www.myskillsitutor.com
Username: ______________________
Password: ______________________
Site: ______________________

Additional Resources
COMPASS Sample Test Questions
http://www.act.org/compass/sample/

COMPASS Calculator Guidelines
http://www.act.org/compass/students/calculator.html

APSU’s COMPASS Test Schedule (Ft. Campbell and Downtown Campus)
http://www.apsu.edu/testing/schedule or call (931) 221-5289 to schedule an appointment
Keys to Entrance Exam Preparation (KEEP)

Name: ________________________________

Email Address: ________________________

Start Date: __________

Demographics

Please select one of the following that applies to you:

_____ active duty        _____ retired
_____ family member       _____ other/non-military

Year of high school graduation/GED completion: __________

COMPASS before KEEP        _____ YES        _____ NO

Reading _____  Writing _____  Math _____

Date of COMPASS ____________

Was English your first language?  _____ YES  _____ NO

List your first language ________________
My Foundations Lab (Lessons)
703 participants since program inception in March 2011

- 58% were active duty
- 88% were active duty military, family members or retired military (since March 2012)
- 100% achieved scores that meet Austin Peay admissions standards
Questions