



This case study is part of an eight-part series under APLU's Guided Pathways for 4-Year Institutions model.

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4-Year Guided Pathways Case Study: Advising Partnerships between 2- and 4-Year Institutions

Introduction

Transferring between 2- and 4-year institutions can be very difficult and confusing and many students who have made academic progress at a community college may be discouraged if that progress is not honored at their new institution. As soon as a student gets an idea of which college or university that they would like to transfer to, they should meet with an advisor from that college to discuss the transferability of their credits. It is very important that the student work closely with their transfer university as the student selects and completes their coursework. The transfer institution will ultimately determine which credits will be accepted for transfer and how those credits will be applied towards a bachelor's or master's degree. This process can be streamlined and improved by developing an Advising Partnership to connect 2- and 4-year institutions.

Description of Strategy

To enroll in a partnership program, students need to apply for admission to the main campus of the partner university. The ideal approach for admission to a bachelor's degree program is to complete the first two years of college courses (or an associate degree) from Lorain County Community College (LCCC). Successful completion of the correct courses greatly simplifies admission to an undergraduate program. The University Partnership recommends that the student meet with an advisor from the partner institution you wish to attend during your first two years at LCCC. LCCC Academic advisors will assist you in transferring your coursework to the partner institution. Once the application has been accepted, the student will become a University Partnership student as well as a student of that university.

Intervention

An extension to Lorain County Community College's University Partnership with Cleveland State University (CSU) now allows students to maintain dual admission to both schools beginning day one of admittance. This new extension involves joint advising amongst the institutions as well as the ability to be enrolled in classes at the 2-year and 4-year concurrently. Some of the other benefits through the initiative include a joint identification card that allows students to attend special events and facilities at both schools. Additionally, students in the program will take a first-year experience course at LCCC taught by a CSU graduate and will be able to take up to three classes at CSU while attending LCCC.

Intervention (cont.)

- **LCCC Number:** Transfer Students 2017-2018 (Undergraduate)- Among 11,042 enrolled in undergraduate programs, 551 are transfer-in students. The percentage of transfer-in students is 4.99%. Approximately 168 students have transferred in as full-time status and 383 students transferred in as part-time status.
- **CSU Numbers:** Transfer Students 2017-2018 (Undergraduate)- Among 12,078 enrolled in undergraduate programs, 1,358 are transfer-in students. The percentage of transfer-in students is 11.24%. Approximately 1,002 students have transferred in as full-time status and 356 students transferred in as part-time status.

Relation to the Model

The Advising Partnership Program covers two areas of the Guided Pathways Model through early progress and advanced progress. In relation to early progress, the University Partnership Program implements proactive advising while through advanced progress, the program implements degree mapping, 2-year partnerships and receiving and articulating transfer credits.