



The Business and Education Research and Training Organization

COL 101: Introduction to College Preparation

Purpose:

Increase college bound graduates by providing high school juniors and seniors with the decision-making tools for evaluating postsecondary education institution options.

Background:

Retention

High schools students receive limited information concerning postsecondary education institutions. The information is received from numerous sources, such as educational institutions, High school guidance counselors, parents, family and friends. Often this information is incorrect or misleading. Inconsistent information can be frustrating for the student as they determine their educational goals. Students that are not prepared for postsecondary education enter this industry with an unrealistic expectation of their path through the educational maze. This unrealistic expectation can cause the student to withdraw from the postsecondary education institutions without completing their studies, which causes retention at postsecondary education institutions to decrease. This can give the perception that high schools do not adequately prepare **ALL** students for postsecondary education.

Enrollment

High school students, commonly referred to as traditional students, are a significant part of enrollment for postsecondary education institutions. Postsecondary education institutions market heavily to the high school Population, focusing primarily on the honor students. Often, the response is low for average/below average learners because of the misconception about higher education instilled in the student by society and the student's family and friends. High school guidance counselors, may also focus on honor students while the students with lower GPAs do not receive the same encouragement to continue their education. Therefore, the educational option for these students is restricted based on the belief that they are not "college material". College enrollment and graduation levels at many Michigan postsecondary education institutions are suffering tremendously because of the competition for and shortage of potential high school students.

Targeted group:

All High school juniors and seniors.

Objectives:

- \* Enhance the role of guidance counselors at high schools.
- \* Provide students with tools to evaluate educational programs.
- \* Provide intensive understanding of financial aid and its impact on continuing education for high school juniors and seniors.
- \* Assist students in differentiating between proprietary schools, community colleges, and 4-yr. Universities.
- \* Improve number of student entering postsecondary education institutions.
- \* Improve research skills of students.
- \* Promote decision-making skills of students.

Mode of Delivery:

Facilitative learning that is interactive and technology based offered to a high school junior or senior as a required or elective course.

Length of Program:

One school quarter as an afterschool program.

Program Description

Topics -

Class distinctions (freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior)

Educational Institutions (Proprietary school, community college, and 4-yr. University)

Financial Aid

Sororities/Fraternities

Campus life/expectations

First Generation College Student

Budgeting

Educational barriers

Study habits

Course evaluation and registration

Admissions process

Program Goal:

COL 101 has the potential to increase student enrollment and retention in the postsecondary education industry by providing the student, during secondary education, with the knowledge base to make conscientious decisions concerning their educational goals, which will enable the student to complete their education plan at a postsecondary education institution.