First-Generation College Students

Course Description

This Academic Advisor Training in reference to First-Generation College students is designed to provide new advisors to Purdue Calumet with the appropriate knowledge to work with our campus community, which is primarily first-generation college students.

Course Goal

To provide new advisors with a base knowledge of working with first-generation college students on the Calumet campus of Purdue University.

Course Objectives

After completion of this training, the advisor will be able to:

- Specify the definition of a first-generation college student.
- Identify some of the pre-conceived perceptions of a first-generation college student.
- Verbalize the importance of time management to a first-generation college student.
- State specific factors about financial literacy and its importance to first-generation college students.
- Emphasize the importance of communication within academic advising.
- Introduce the concept of self-advocacy to first-generation college students.
- Effectively refer a student to campus resources.
- Assist a first-generation student in networking with the campus and their peers.
- Prepare a generalized list of campus resources for students and advisors.
- Explain how they will have a difficult conversation with a student on academic performance.
- Reflect on how they can be an effective coach or mentor for first-generation students.

Course Modules

This training is divided into three modules, with the following topics:

Part One

- Who are first-generation college students?
- Preconceived perceptions
- Time management
- Financial literacy

Part Two

- Being a Self-Advocate
- Student referrals
- Campus Network and Resources for Students

Part Three

- Having difficult conversations
- Being a coach/mentor
- Advisor Resources & Wrap Up

Training Materials

The facilitator will need the following materials to teach this training:

- Flipchart Easel and Pad (x2)
- PowerPoint Slide Presentation*
- Computer and Projector for viewing Slide Presentation
- Flipchart Markers (x4)
- A training room for no more than 15 participants and the tables in a classroom-style or U-style arrangement.

*It is advised for the facilitator to print out the PowerPoint slides with notes for facilitation. In addition, print the PowerPoint presentation with note pages (three slides per page) for each participant.

Training Time

Each training module (part) will be one hour in length. It will be up to the facilitator to determine the times for training, based on the facilities available and current needs at the training time.

Recommendations

- Single day training in a four-hour block (Example)
  - Set up and sign-in: 15 minutes (Start 12:00 p.m.)
  - Part One: 1 hour (Begin 12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.)
  - Break: 15 minutes
  - Part Two: 1 hour (Begin 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.)
  - Break: 15 minutes
  - Part Three: 1 hour (Begin 2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.)
  - Closing remarks: 15 minutes (End 4:00 p.m.)
- Three day training with each part/module in a 1 ½ hour block (Example)
  - Set up and sign-in: 15 minutes (Start 12:00 p.m.)
  - Training: 1 hour (Begin 12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.)
  - Closing remarks: 15 minutes (End 1:30 p.m.)