

OVAE 2013 Community College Webinar Series

“The Central Role of Community Colleges in Career Pathways Systems”

Audience Questions

General Questions:

1. Do all of your programs have at least one certificate that leads to an Associate degree at your institution?

South Texas College: Although we have many certificate programs that lead to an Associate degree, not all certificates lead to one.

Gateway Technical College: Yes, for our Boot Camp programs. The CNC Boot Camp is a certificate program that covers the first semester of our one-year CNC Production Technician diploma program. The Welding/Fabrication Boot Camp is a certificate program that covers the first semester of our one-year Welding diploma program. The Machine Repair Boot Camp is a certificate program that covers the first semester of our two-year Industrial Maintenance Technician Associate degree program.

Kentucky Community and Technical College System: No, not all programs begin with a certificate that leads to an Associate degree. Programs that do not have certificates are: Apprenticeship Studies, Architectural Technology, Biotechnology, Dental Hygiene, Funeral Service, Industrial Chemical Technology, Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging Technology, Nursing – Registered (although the nurse aide certificate or equivalent is a pre-requisite to admission), Occupational Therapy Assistant, Physical Therapist Assistant, Radiography (certificate is post AAS), AFA in Theatre, AFA in Visual Art.

2. What are these programs doing for participants that are struggling readers? Is there a particular curriculum/program being used?

South Texas College: The instruction that is being provided at the school district (TAKS tutorial courses/credit recovery) is addressing this through the school district’s teaching strategies. For those students that complete their high school graduation requirements and continue with STC, the institution provides the college entrance exam needed. If

the students do not meet the standard college readiness requirements, students are placed in developmental courses in those areas where the student is deficient.

Gateway Technical College: For the Boot Camps, applicants are assessed using the ACT WorkKeys exam and must score at a bronze level for the National Career Readiness Certificate. Those who do not score at that level are directed to ABE courses to help them get ready for the next Boot Camp.

Kentucky Community and Technical College System: Our colleges are relying on the developmental/transition resources available at their particular college for struggling learners. Some of our colleges have grants that provide assistance to the nursing and/or allied health programs – Owensboro Community & Technical College has a “Success Coach” who provides assistance to those that are identified early as having difficulty; Jefferson Community and Technical College and Ashland Community and Technical College are part of a Department of Labor TAACCCT grant with seven other colleges called Health Professions Pathway (H2P)--an initiative for underemployed, unemployed, low-skilled, and low-income workers that provides adult basic skills resources for individuals pursuing a degree in the health fields.

All of our colleges to some extent use our CMS 185: College Reading course as supplemental instruction. There have also been several colleges that included reading across the curriculum/contextualized reading as part of their Quality Enhancement Program (QEP). But to my knowledge, there is not a specific or single program used for the purpose outlined in the question.

3. As an administrator for Workforce Development in the Eastern part of Southern California we have worked closely with our K-12, community college system's community and technical education division. Establishing the AA piece has been more difficult. Any ideas?

Gateway Technical College: If you are referring to an Associate of Arts degree, I can't speak to that specifically, as we are a technical college and all of our degrees are Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees. With the emphasis on pathways and helping individuals find multiple on-ramps and off-ramps for education and employment, schools should be more receptive than ever to this model. When we started Boot Camps in 2005, the national rhetoric was not as focused on pathways as it is at this time.

Kentucky Community and Technical College System: I assume this question is referring to developing pathways within Associate of Arts (AA) degree programs. That is work

with which we are currently engaged in Kentucky. In addition, the baccalaureate transfer frameworks we have with the state's universities were built with AA/AS pathways both being developed. We look at them in the same way for transfer pathways. On the other hand, the technical programs are developed from a curriculum pathway perspective (courses listed by semester in a schedule to reach completion).

Questions about South Texas College's Dual Enrollment and High School Recovery Programs:

4. Can you explain the Ladder Up Bridge Career Pathway credential at South Texas?

A: Students entering the Ladder Up Bridge Career Pathway program start with a Certificate of Completion, which ladders up to an Associate of Applied Science.

5. How does South Texas College fund Daycare Service for program participants?

A: Day Care Services are provided by the school districts through their funding programs and not directly through STC. When we talk to students about the program, we make sure that we mention these services to the students that are available through their school district.

6. Does South Texas College collect data disaggregated by gender and ethnicity for its high school programs? If so, are there any important differences among sub-groups of students in participation and success?

A: STC collects all types of data including gender and ethnicity. Although we do not see a significant difference in ethnicity, we do see some difference in participation and success in some our programs when it comes to gender. We have programs that are very male dominant, especially our CTE programs and other very female dominant-like our medical transcriptionist and some nursing program.

Questions about Gateway Technical College's Adult Boot Camps:

7. What is the bridge between adult education and the Boot Camp at Gateway Technical College?

A: The bridge program is contextualized ABE and ELL within our CNC program. We offer 4 credits in CNC (blueprint reading, shop safety, introduction to CNC), along with a Math support skills class. Both the manufacturing and Math teacher are in the classroom at once. It is similar to the I-BEST model if you are familiar with that.

8. How does Gateway Technical College complete follow-up with participants to determine employment and wages? We have found this challenging.

A: We have great relationships with the employers that hire our Boot Camp completers and they are open to sharing employment and wage information.

9. What mechanism does Gateway Technical College use to track these folks? WDC registration system or something else?

A: WDC mechanism as they do the tracking and follow-up.

10. How many boot camps does Gateway Technical College run in 1 years' time? Does it follow the traditional academic semesters? How did you find the faculty involvement regarding times of programs

A: Gateway has three 15-week semesters and we run one CNC Boot Camp each semester, we offer 2 Welding/Fabricator Boot Camps per year and one Machine Repair Boot Camp per year. We have some faculty that work year round.

11. Will Gateway be doing more to engage more women in its Boot Camp programs?

A: Yes, we typically have one woman in each Boot Camp and are always trying to recruit additional women. They do quite well in our program.

12. What percentage of students are "fired" from the Boot Camp program?

A: Typically one from each Boot Camp, but we had a recent Boot Camp where we started and ended with 20 students.

Questions about career pathways efforts in Kentucky:

13. What types of courses are offered in Learn on Demand?

A: For a full overview of Learn on Demand, please click on the following link:

http://learnondemand.kctcs.edu/quick_start/learn_on_demand?gclid=CLCS2_njn7cC_FbFAMgodiEMAlw