**Transforming to Serve Today’s Students**

Interactive professional learning series to enrich holistic student supports in advising

**Application**

2023–24

**Final applications are due Friday, July 21, 2023**

**Questions can be directed to:** HSS@achievingthedream.org

# Introduction

Today's students need colleges to understand their needs and know how to best serve them, but many college systems were not designed for 21st-century students and the challenges they face. We must transform structures, policies, and practices — many of which have been in place for decades — to ensure all students succeed in college.

Achieving the Dream is pleased to support our network colleges in this work of transformation through Transforming to Serve Today's Students, a professional learning series to enrich holistic student supports in advising.

**Transforming to Serve Today’s Students** is a collection of interactive virtual sessions that support advising professionals as they explore essential techniques to help their students achieve college success and career readiness. Developed by experienced holistic supports professionals, this eight-part virtual learning series introduces equity-informed strategies to help college teams rethink their student support model. Participating colleges are paired with an ATD HSS coach to support their work to adopt equity-minded and practice-informed methods to enrich their students' college journeys.

# Program Goals

* Understand how ATD defines holistic student supports and apply those concepts to their institutional structures.
* Examine existing policies at institutions and in advising practices.
* Identify opportunities for transformation toward more holistic structures.
* Develop strategies to create core implementation teams, engage college stakeholders, and enhance cross-collaboration between departments.
* Leverage existing data and incorporate student voice to understand who students are and how they experience their college journeys.
* Explore career advising strategies to implement in existing processes.
* Learn how other colleges have successfully implemented, assessed, and evaluated their practices.

# Program Components

This advising professional learning series integrates multiple components to help teams plan, learn, and collaborate to effectively address campus and program goals:

* ATD staff, coaches, and subject matter experts will facilitate eight virtual synchronous seminar meetings from September 2023 to April 2024, where teams will consider new philosophies, share plans and ideas, and help each other address goals and challenges.
* College teams will meet regularly outside of the series to consider ways to apply these strategies to strengthen equity-focused professional learning practice and institutional support structures on their campus.
* College teams will meet with their ATD HSS Professional Learning Series coaches between series workshops to further facilitate conversations and begin to action plan around what they learned. Each team will receive eight hours of campus-specific virtual coaching designed to help them generate effective and actionable plans for change.
* Teams will use ATD’s Canvas platform to share their work and learn across campuses.

Participating colleges should refer to the following timeline to ensure their teams have capacity to engage with the scheduled services. ATD will accommodate as many interested colleges as possible.

The application materials consist of the attached form and a signed agreement of participation from the college president and chief student affairs officer.

Additional information can be found in the FAQs on the event page. If you have any questions, please contact us at [HSS@achievingthedream.org](mailto:HSS@achievingthedream.org).

# Cost

Please contact [HSS@achievingthedream.org](mailto:HSS@achievingthedream.org) for pricing details .

# Timeline

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Activity** |
| June 27, 2023 | Advising Professional Learning Series interest webinar recording available on [website](https://achievingthedream.org/areas-of-expertise/holistic-student-supports/transforming-to-serve-todays-students/). |
| July 21, 2023 | Application deadline |
| August 25, 2023 | ATD shares selection status with colleges |
| September 8, 2023 | ATD team leaders’ orientation |
| Late September 2023 –  Late April 2024 | Eight virtual meetings, two hours each on Tuesday afternoons, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ET |

Application

# Submission Guidelines

Send completed application materials to [HSS@achievingthedream.org](mailto:HSS@achievingthedream.org).

Submitted materials should include:

* The completed application
* A letter of commitment to participate from the president

**Final applications are due Friday, July 21, by 5:00 p.m.**

# Application Questions

Your responses will help us understand your campus, goals, and plan for engaging in this program. *Please limit your answers to 200 words.*

1. **Goals for Participation.** Why does your campus want to enroll a team to participate in the Transforming to Serve Today’s Students series? What do you hope to take away from this process? How will participation support your strategic campus goals for equity and change?

|  |
| --- |
| [Enter Text Here] |

1. **Holistic Student Supports and Equitable Student Outcomes.** Please list your major campus initiatives (no more than five) focusing on addressing equity and/or supporting students both in and out of the classroom (e.g., holistic advising practices, mental health supports, parenting student initiatives, support for food and housing insecurities, emergency funding, one-stop centralized student support structures).

|  |
| --- |
| [Enter Text Here] |

1. **Professional Learning Programs.** Please provide a concise overview of the current status of professional learning programs on your campus by answering the following questions.
   1. Who leads and coordinates professional learning on your campus? How many full- and part-time staff members are involved as leaders?

|  |
| --- |
| [Enter Text Here] |

* 1. What structures (e.g., workshops, all-campus convocations, summer institutes, sustained Faculty Learning Communities) are most significant? What would you say is your signature professional learning program?

|  |
| --- |
| [Enter Text Here] |

* 1. What topics do your most active programs focus on? Do your major initiatives (listed in question #2) involve professional learning? If so, how?

|  |
| --- |
| [Enter Text Here] |

1. **Professional Learning Programs (Goals for Change and Improvement).** What changes might strengthen your professional learning practice? What gaps or opportunities for improvement might your team address? Thinking in terms of benefits for educators, students, and the college, how could your programs strengthen their effectiveness?

|  |
| --- |
| [Enter Text Here] |

1. **From Planning to Action.** Each service is designed to provide colleges with resources to inform action items they will implement on their campuses. Briefly describe how you would want your campus to act on this Plan. These action items should be strategic, measurable, realistic/relevant, and time-bound goals.

|  |
| --- |
| [Enter Text Here] |

1. **Campus Learning Team.** Teams can consist of up to 20 participants and should integrate diverse campus perspectives, such as faculty leaders, professional development leaders, coordinators of success initiatives, department chairs, and an upper level (Dean or above) academic administrator. If you wish to address professional learning for staff, faculty, advisors, and other student-facing staff, you may want to include representatives from different departments. Participants who bring knowledge about professional learning and who are positioned to leverage change will strengthen the team. Participants should be available for and committed to participation in all components of the program, including individual reading and preparation, in-seminar conversation, and local team meetings .
   1. Who will lead the team? Please identify one or two team leaders (name and title) and briefly describe why they are positioned to be effective leaders.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Job Title** | **Brief Description** |
| [Enter name] | [Enter title] | [Enter note] |
| [Enter name] | [Enter title] | [Enter note] |

* 1. Please provide a tentative list of other members of the team (names and titles).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Job Title** |
| [Enter name] | [Enter title] |
| [Enter name] | [Enter title] |
| [Enter name] | [Enter title] |
| [Enter name] | [Enter title] |
| [Enter name] | [Enter title] |
| [Enter name] | [Enter title] |
| [Enter name] | [Enter title] |
| [Enter name] | [Enter title] |