

Transforming to Serve Today's Students: Interactive professional learning series to enrich holistic student supports in advising

Frequently Asked Questions

How will this program benefit my college?

Advisors are key stakeholders in the retention of students on campuses. An asset-based, holistic approach to advising supports students both in and out of the classroom and helps colleges embed an equitable approach into their student success work. This program will help your advisors leverage evidence-based strategies to support students holistically.

Can I register as an individual or must my college send a team?

This program seeks to advance broad institutional change by helping advisors adopt and implement a holistically supportive advising practice for their students. To this end, the program is designed to support collaborative team efforts. Colleges can include up to 20 participants on their team.

Who should we include on our team?

This series is designed for advising professionals and team members representing diverse campus perspectives, such as faculty leaders, student affairs educators, and professional development leaders. We also encourage other staff that regularly meet with and guide students to attend.

What's the time commitment for participating team members?

Beginning late September 2023, this program will include eight virtual meetings (two hours each) involving actionable steps to implement on your campus. Participants also have access to eight one-hour implementation sessions with a dedicated holistic student supports coach. Team leaders who ensure participants are aware of this active commitment to learning and contributing to the planning process will find it easier to reach team goals.

What's the role of the team leader?

In addition to taking part in all program activities, team leaders should be prepared to coordinate their team's work, invite campus teams to scheduled sessions and ensure they are registered, schedule and facilitate team meetings (virtual or face to face), coordinate with holistic student supports coaches, and ensure campus leadership is aware of the team's progress. The team leader should have a role in the campus' professional learning efforts.

What will individual members of the team get out of this experience?

Team members will have the opportunity to develop new skills and knowledge that advance their advising practice, including evidence-based, holistic advising practices for more equitable



communications with students. They will have the opportunity to collaborate with other practitioners in a structured virtual setting and help advance vital change in the structure and culture of their campus.

What deliverable will come out of this experience for my team?

Participants will leave the series with a portfolio of resources and action items to inform team meetings and the college's transformation process. These resources are designed to support ongoing conversations on your campus about equitable communication, strategies to build a collaborative advising model, and the development of metrics to assess advising models.

Is there a fee to participate in Transforming to Serve Today's Students?

Yes, for pricing details, please email the holistic student supports team at <u>HSS@achievingthedream.org</u>.