

STUDENT SUCCESS BEST PRACTICE: VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE



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STUDENT SUCCESS CATEGORY --

- ACADEMIC PROGRAM
- STUDENT SERVICES
- WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
- COLLEGE BUSINESS PRACTICE
- TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION
- OTHER:

TITLE: "IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR STUDENT SUCCESS"

PROCESS

The nursing program national board exam (NCLEX-RN)results declined below the required score for the Virginia Board of Nursing. The Nursing Dean and faculty members reviewed progressive testing trends in relation to the NCLEX-RN exam results and identified those that were predictive of risk for student failure on the exam. While progressive testing had been utilized throughout the program, students were only recommended to remediate after receiving a low score on one of the predictive tests. It was determined that students who did not achieve an acceptable score on an exam while enrolled in the program would be required to remediate and retest.

STRATEGY & IMPLEMENTATION

The strategy to improve student success involved an extensive review of best practices. In conjunction with a number of student success initiatives, the Nursing Dean and faculty members implemented progressive testing throughout the program with required remediation. The program also implemented a policy for class attendance that rewarded class attendance and participation. The team developed a plan that required students who did not achieve a minimum score to remediate and retest.

ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION

The dean and faculty members collected data from progressive testing results and compared the program's group score with the NCLEX-RN first-time pass rate and program completion for over 750 students over a five year period. The first-time pass rate on the NCLEX-RN increased from 79% to 93%. The completion rate in the program increased from 60% to 73%.

PLAN FOR SCALE & SUSTAINABILITY

Based on the outstanding improvement in measurable student success, the college is exploring the use of required test review and remediation in high risk courses. In addition, the college is placing a greater emphasis on class attendance. This is reflected in the WOLF Plan (see attachment).

COLLEGE DESCRIPTION

Virginia Highlands Community College was established on November 30, 1967 by action of the State Board for Community Colleges, and assigned a service region of Washington County, the western portion of Smyth County, and the city of Bristol, Virginia. More than 3,500 students were served this past year by 122 full-time and 205 part-time faculty and staff members. The rolling hills of the campus have been developed to include six modern buildings that provide a variety of programs to meet the needs of the community.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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