

**Ability to Benefit - Spring 2021 Meeting**

March 9, 2021

**College Share out**

LTC

* + - Has had 13 students enroll in the program.
    - 2 have stopped out, 6 have achieved Financial Aid eligibility (some have achieved ATB and some graduated with GED/HSED before earning ATB)
    - 4 have fully transitioned to college programming and have been retained into their full second term of their program.

CVTC

* + - Lessons learned in the last year as they have been doing ATB in the first two options (testing or 6 cr)
    - The staff and college navigators used ATB as a 5.07 credential/24 credits at the tech college level- this is a credit used to obtain college credential and post-secondary education. Once this was discovered, it opened a lot of doors.
    - ATB numbers have gone down recently but using 5.07/5.09 has been a great tool to use for parallel conversations. Students have been able to move on faster and this has also been a great recruitment tool!
      * LTC are heavy 5.09 users and believe that is why their students use the 6-credit course. We have found the same.

MSTC

* + - Working with program advisors and academic coaches. Coaches are also the tutor coordinators to help keep the students on their plans. Finding a lot of 5.06 students who only need a couple credits. Preparing for more intended case management with managers and faculty to discuss ATB students.

***WTCS question: For colleges who use a “navigator”, what roles have they played in the past or have they always been a navigator?***

* + LTC- have general advisors that serve as the navigator role, but their staff all wear multiple hats.
  + MKE- has case managers that provide similar roles as a navigator. The school has created positions with the title navigator, so that is why the name has not been changed.
  + Madison- navigators are called transition advisors that have been around for several years.

**Questions:**

1. Is “Next Gen Accuplacer” an approved test for Ability to Benefit under the testing option?

Answer: Yes

**State Process Clarification:** The ATB state process does not require a standardized test recognized by Dept of Ed. You can use GED ready tests, TABE, or other measures in lieu of over-testing students that have already been assessed in other ways.

1. A question that came up in a local ATB meeting regarding FAFSA. How should prospective ATB students answer the question on FAFSA about whether they have a high school diploma?

Answer: They would answer honestly at the moment – No. The Financial Aid staff will update the student’s file regarding their eligibility due to ATB.

Clarification: When there is a status change (GED/HSED, etc earned), a change is updated to the student’s file.

1. We learned in some internal meetings that some of our deans assumed a high school credential was required to enroll in their programs, but only about 9 programs out of 110 in our college require a high school diploma. Even in the college, much less in the community, it is assumed a high school credential must come first. Is this the case?

Answer: No. Consider also that we enroll thousands of high school aged dual enrollment students

Clarification: Some programs may require a high school credential or equivalency for accreditation.

1. What happens if a college doesn’t submit the required MOU for the state process?

Answer: The college will not be approved to utilize the state process for that academic year without an MOU on file

Clarification: If a specific pathway requires a high school credential, do not add that to the MOU as it cannot be part of the ATB plan.

1. Aren’t there special client reporting requirements for the state plan?

Answer: Yes, there are specific requirements in client reporting required for the ATB State Process only (other ATB options don’t require client reporting).

[Powerpoint: Fall 2021 ATB State Option Meeting](Spring%202021%20ATB%20State%20Option%20Meeting.pptx)