Financial Assistance for the Academic Success Program

Students from Pennsylvania who demonstrate economic and educational need may qualify for financial assistance under the Act 101 legislation. Students who wish to be considered for the Academic Success Program should file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1. Shippensburg University's Financial Aid Office is available to assist students with filing the necessary forms. The Summer Bridge Program is offered free of charge to students who qualify under the Pennsylvania Department of Education's (Act 101) guidelines.

Academic Success Program

306 Wright Hall
717-477-1134
E-mail: asp@ship.edu
http://webspace.ship.edu/asp

The Summer Bridge Program provides a realistic orientation to the roles and expectations of a Shippensburg student.

Students selected to participate in this program can expect to receive the following benefits:
- An extended orientation to college life.
- A connection to the ASP faculty and staff.
- Guidance in utilizing the electronic resources required by the university, such as: e-mail, Blackboard, and the Student Information System.
- An introduction to the general education curriculum and the journey to major selection.
- Awareness of the university's academic policies and procedures.
- Increase student's awareness of institutional resources.
- An understanding of the ASP resources available throughout their college career.

Your Program for Success

The goal of the Academic Success Program (ASP) is to promote academic success and to build self-confidence with guided supportive services throughout the student’s college experience. ASP has two major components: (1) the Summer Bridge Program, and (2) Academic Year Support Programs.
Financial Aid Counseling
The Financial Aid office prepares financial aid packages based upon financial needs as determined by the students’ Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The ASP faculty and staff will conduct workshops in conjunction with the Financial Aid office to ensure students’ understanding of their financial commitments.

First Year Experience Course
All ASP students enroll in a three-credit First-Year Experience course taught by faculty from the School of Academic Programs and Services. This course counts toward students’ grade point average, financial aid progress, and credit count. It provides a structured introduction to higher education and Shippensburg University, applied learning strategies, and career and major exploration. The curriculum exposes students to proven strategies that will result in greater, academic, professional, and personal success.

Ongoing Counseling
ASP faculty and staff are available to discuss any concerns the student might be having adjusting to college, professors, roommates, homesickness, etc. Problems beyond the scope of the ASP faculty and staff will be referred to the Counseling Center. The University Counseling Center (UCC) provides individual, couples, and group counseling, crisis intervention, and psychiatric services for undergraduate and graduate students. The UCC is located on the first floor of Wright Hall.

Peer Leader Program
The ASP Peer Leader Program matches incoming students with academically successful ASP upperclassmen who will mentor and guide freshmen through their academic and social adjustment to college. The upperclassmen serve as role models, as people with answers to questions about the campus, the community, career, job opportunities, financial aid concerns, and academic scheduling. In general, Peer Leaders are students who care about helping freshmen to get through the first year.

Social/Cultural Activities
Throughout the summer and academic year, ASP provides social and cultural activities organized by ASP students. Past events have included: Novemberfest, Mardi Gras Celebration, Game Night, bowling, a trip to Washington D.C. and much more.

Study Hall/Study Groups
College students are expected to study two hours for every one hour they are in class. With this in mind, ASP offers organized study halls and study groups where students have the opportunity to study in an environment where they can work independently or in groups to review, process what they have been taught, prepare for exams, and where they can easily get assistance from the ASP faculty and staff.

Tutoring Referrals
The ASP faculty and staff works very closely with the Learning Center staff in providing content-based tutoring on a walk-in and appointment basis, learning strategies workshops, and learning specialist services. The Learning Center is located in the library.

Chi Alpha Epsilon (XAE)
Students have an opportunity to join a distinguished academic honor society while attending Shippensburg University. Chi Alpha Epsilon was formed to recognize the academic achievements of students admitted to colleges and universities through non-traditional criteria. Its purpose is to promote continued high academic standards, foster increased communication among its members, and honor academic excellence for those students admitted to college via developmental programs.

Admission to the Academic Success/Act 101 Program
Students who have not met regular admission criteria may be considered for admission to the Academic Success/Act 101 Program through the Summer Bridge Program. Upon request from the Office of Admissions, prospective students must submit two recommendations forms and a copy of the student and guardian’s completed tax returns. Other financial information may be required. All information is reviewed by the Director of the Academic Success Program and the Dean of Enrollment Services to determine eligibility for the program. Students are then notified by mail of the admission decision.

Leadership