

## **Sample TASS Proposal**

**Category:** Bridging the Gap Between High School and College, Students with Disabilities

**Title:** Shared Students, Struggles, and Solutions

### **Summary:**

A newly designed joint effort to guide at-risk student through common transitioning issues experienced success through its first year. This presentation shares pragmatics and results of the program.

### **Description**

Achieving academic success often requires students to overcome obstacles, yet underprepared students and students with disabilities face additional hindrances (International Journal of Process Education, 2015; US Department of Education, 2017). To counter barriers, a newly redesigned program reaches out to at-risk students in local high schools to deliver information and practical tips. The purpose of this session is to share the following: best practices in presenting the information to high schools, pragmatics useful to begin a similar program, and data gained after the first year of this program. The presentation begins by detailing the common problems at-risk students demonstrated while transitioning to college. For example, many students expect similar accommodations upon entering college and are confused at the jargon and processes in higher education. Our outreach proactively shows the students some of the common issues they can expect to encounter while offering them alternative solutions (American Institutes for Research Study, 2013). We will briefly highlight talking points used in the high school outreach including the differences between high school and college service-delivery models for students with disabilities; open conversation with the attendees regarding their institutional policies and student expectations is encouraged. Audience feedback is gathered then compared to the feedback gathered over the past year from high school students and their instructors. The presentation concludes by sharing data with the audience proving the effectiveness of this outreach and various support systems within the college, including the neighborhood approach of a student success center. TASS attendees will leave with a best practice model of structured student support and many easy-to-apply strategies to help students transitioning to college.