

ABSTRACT

The 6+1 Ready for College EIR Early Phase grant is being submitted under Absolute Priority 1, supporting high-need students; and Absolute Priority 4, increasing postsecondary preparedness.

Description: The proposed project redefines when postsecondary readiness begins by introducing students to career and college planning in 7th grade and helping them progress through high school and their first year of college.

Activities: (1) digital career exploration and development of digital portfolios with 6+1 career plans; (2) high-school course placements based on ACT Aspire assessments and career interests; (3) expanded access for dual enrollment; (4) CTE workplace experiences; and (5) help to achieve college and career readiness benchmarks. These five activities create a ladder of postsecondary readiness support that draws from best practices across education.

Objectives: (1) increase the number of students with 6+1 career plans enhanced with workplace learning; (2) increase relevance of high-school programs through career-based curriculum; (3) increase focus and availability of early postsecondary opportunities through dual enrollment; (4) enhance multi-source data system for student placement to include assessment results and career interest surveys to better prepare students for postsecondary opportunities.

Outcomes: (1) the percentage high-need students scoring at the college and career readiness benchmark demonstrates readiness for a varied range of postsecondary options. (2) by beginning postsecondary readiness in middle school, students have the time to master skills required for success in college and careers, and to begin college pathways while in high school.

Special: Outstanding community support for wrap around services including educational, emotional and financial resources.

Target: Middle and high school students across Sevier County.

Partners: Sevier County School System, Partners in Progress, area IHE's.