Special Programs and Initiatives

Academic Preparation Program (APP)

The Academic Preparation Program (APP) is a student success initiative involving collaboration among Enrollment Management, Academic Enhancement, and academic advising. The APP consists of supplementary academic workshops in writing, math, and reading to support student success. These workshops are mandated by the state’s Council on Post-Secondary Education (CPE) for students who do not meet “college readiness” standards in these subject areas. The workshops are also recommended for other students who would like to improve their level of academic success.

What do I need to know about the APP?

New freshmen in the mandatory APP are admitted to UK under these conditions:

1) Students must enroll in an APP-accepting college. For a current list of these colleges, please contact Undergraduate Studies at 257-3383.

2) Students with ACT or SAT scores indicating APP range are required to take an additional placement test in the subject area indicated (writing, math, or reading). UK offers COMPASS Writing, COMPASS Reading, and the ALEKS math placement exam for this purpose. See http://www.uky.edu/AE/prospective/placement_testing.html for more information on UK placement testing.

3) Students must register for the appropriate APP workshop(s) [UK 100 English/Writing, UK 090 Math, UK 100 Reading] and remain in these courses until they demonstrate readiness, or through the end of their first year at UK (whichever comes first).

4) Once readiness has been demonstrated (usually by successful completion of an APP workshop) the student is no longer in the mandatory APP program but is welcome to continue with the workshops on an optional basis.

5) Updated information on APP placement scores, policies, etc. is shared via the Advising Network listserv each semester.

International students and the APP

As of January 2014, new admission and testing policies are being drafted regarding international students and the Academic Preparation Program. Please consult the UK Bulletin for updated information.
APP Cohort

The official APP cohort for state (CPE) tracking purposes consists of all new, first-time, degree-seeking UK students. This translates into freshmen, international students, and transfer students who are new to UK. After each academic year, that cohort’s compliance and course completion rates for each APP subject area are compiled and shared with the Advising Network and the CPE.

Web links

APP: http://www.uky.edu/AE/prospective/app_main.html

Placement testing for APP: http://www.uky.edu/AE/prospective/placement_testing.html

Contacts

APP workshops: Academic Enhancement (257-1356)

Placement testing: Academic Enhancement (257-1356)

Academic advising: Undergraduate Studies (257-3383)

Student Alerts

The Student Alert referral system is an early intervention tool that allows faculty and designated university personnel to submit information regarding academic and behavioral issues (such as missing classes, scoring poorly on tests or quizzes, engaging in disruptive or otherwise troubling behavior) that usually present obstacles to student success. When an alert is submitted, one or more emails are generated to the appropriate parties.

Alerts of an academic nature (usually submitted by the student’s instructor) generate an email to both advisor and student. The student is encouraged to contact both the instructor and advisor to discuss his/her academic circumstances and formulate a plan for success. The advisor also contacts the student directly to offer assistance, and tracks whether the student responds to advisor contact.

Behavioral alerts are handled directly by the Community of Concern (see link below). Neither advisor nor student receives alerts of a behavioral nature.
What do I need to know about Student Alerts?

Receiving alerts

You will receive academic-type alert emails on your assigned students throughout the semester (and sometimes in the summer). It is important to contact the student involved promptly to offer assistance. Depending on the type of alert and the time in the semester it arrives (early, mid, or late) the student’s options will be different.

The academic-type alerts are:

- Missed Classes
- Habitually Late
- Homework Not Submitted
- Homework Quality Poor
- Poor Performance on Tests of Quizzes
- At Risk of Failing Course

The email your student receives looks like this:

Academic alert for your CS class!

hhempel@email.uky.edu

This message was sent with High importance.

Sent: Thu 7/26/2012 10:19 AM
To: [Email addresses]

Dear Florian,

Your CS instructor has expressed a concern about the following issue(s): Missed Classes. Students in your situation tend to receive lower final grades than students who successfully resolve such issues. Your instructor believes your situation needs to be addressed promptly.

Please contact your instructor and your academic advisor now to discuss your circumstances. They can help you design a plan of action to resolve this problem and improve your academic performance.
The email you receive looks like this:

**Student Alert**

[Image of email content]

One of your advisees has been identified as needing additional support for success.

To view alert 6175, click on the following link: [View Alert](http://www.uky.edu/uge/alert).

Please contact the student indicated in the alert and let us know if you receive a reply from the student. Your feedback has been requested by the alert submitter, and is essential in understanding how the Student Alert system is impacting our retention rates. After you attempt to contact the student and after you receive a response, please record this information on one spreadsheet from our website and submit this information at the end of the semester. You will find the spreadsheet at: [http://www.uky.edu/uge/alert](http://www.uky.edu/uge/alert)

Thank you!
The Student Alert Team

When you click on the View Alert link in the email, you will see complete information on the alert:

[Image of student alert viewer]

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After you contact the student, you will be asked to record information about that contact at a later date. You will find that information at the Student Alert home page listed below.

**Submitting alerts**

Whether acting as an instructor or as an advisor, you may have occasion to submit an alert for a student. Advisors are able to submit both academic and behavioral alerts on any enrolled student. Complete information on how to submit alerts is located at the Student Alert home page listed below.

**Web links**

Student Alert home page: [http://www.uky.edu/UGE/alert.html](http://www.uky.edu/UGE/alert.html)

Community of Concern home page (behavioral issues): [http://www.uky.edu/coc/](http://www.uky.edu/coc/)

**Contacts**

Student Alert system: Undergraduate Studies (257-3383)

Behavioral alerts: [http://www.uky.edu/coc/team/](http://www.uky.edu/coc/team/)

**Other Outreach Efforts**

At particular times in the semester, there are other coordinated outreach efforts in which advisors across campus participate. Prominent among these are:

**Low midterm grades**

Students with a “D” or “E” at midterm appear on a report for each college. Advisors contact these students to discuss options, then report back on the results of these contacts. Undergraduate Studies generates a report showing the effect of this outreach on student GPA, earned hours, and retention.

**Not registered students**

Currently enrolled students who fail to register for the upcoming semester appear on a report for each college. Advisors contact these students to help facilitate registration, then report back on the results of these contacts. Undergraduate Studies generates a report showing the tuition revenue this effort brings to the university.

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