

Student Support Services: ASPIRES (U.S. Department of Education: TRIO)

Project Director: Mary Faber

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Continuation Project: \$267,966 (*Year 1 of 5*)

Term: 09/01/05-08/31/06

ASPIRES, a Student Support Services project hosted by Iowa Lakes Community College, will assist 200 low income, first generation and/or disabled college students complete an associate degree within three years and/or transfer to a four-year college. *Six measurable objectives* provide the foundation for the proposed participant services:

- 70% of participants will *meet both low income and first generation criteria or be disabled*.
- 85% of each cohort will *remain in academic good standing*.
- 60% of each cohort will *establish and maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.70 (B-)*.
- 65% of each cohort will *persist at least 3 semesters or transfer* to a 4-year institution.
- 45% of each cohort will *graduate with an associate degree* within six semesters.
- 40% of each cohort will *transfer* to a four-year college.

Participants will receive a comprehensive program of academic and personal support by a nurturing staff, all of whom come from disadvantaged backgrounds similar to participants. SSS staff will formally interact with participants a *minimum of five times per semester*. *Core Services* will be provided to all participants: Needs Assessment; Retention Intervention Services; Intrusive Advising; Financial Aid Enhancement Services; Cultural Enrichment; Transfer Activities. Other services will be open to all participants, but strongly recommended for those needing additional support to achieve educational success: Academic (Success) Seminars; Peer Tutoring/Mentoring; Advocacy Services for Disabled Participants; Activities for Students of Limited English Proficiency; Supplemental Grant-In-Aid. Project staff will continue to serve on key college committees and coordinate services with other college programs to *continue enhancing a college culture that is supportive of success for low income, first generation and disabled students*.