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New Campus-wide “Advising Information” Folder

Many of the Advising Center’s advising handouts, instruction sheets, placement information, etc. are now located in the campus-wide (V: ) drive for your convenience.

Go here for quick access to:

- Instruction sheets (Schedule Planner, DegreeWorks, student email, etc.)
- Financial Aid PLAN form (blank)
- Graduation Packet (blank)
- Pre-Nursing FAQs
- Summer and Fall Timeline comparison diagram
- University-specific transfer information
  ...And much more!
Evening Services Relocated to the Advising Center

In order to better serve students who cannot come to campus during normal business hours, the Advising Center in Ramer 174 will now also serve as the Evening Services Office from 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM Monday through Thursday. An advisor will see students on a walk-in basis, so no appointment is needed. The Advising Center will also handle the following tasks which were done before in the Evening Services Office:

- Collect forms (i.e. change of major, drop/add, etc.)
- Accept payments for items appearing on students’ accounts
- Issue parking decals
- Print student ID cards (this service is coming soon)

The Advising Center will have normal business hours on Fridays from 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM.

The Office of the Vice President for Student Services in Wood 217 will now be open from 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM Monday through Friday.

Priority Registration

The schedule of classes for summer and fall 2017 is now available!

Summer and fall 2017 registration periods begin on the following dates:

April 3 – First day for currently enrolled sophomores (summer and fall)
April 4 – First day for currently freshmen (summer and fall)
April 10 – First day for new/readmit students (summer only)
May 9 – First day for new/readmit students (fall)

REMINDERS:

- **There is no more Non-Credit level for English and Reading!** Students with ACT ENGL scores of below 18 and READ scores of below 19 may enroll in ENGL 0810/1010 and READ 0810/VSCC 1000. Refer to the 2016-17 “Placement Information Grid” (on the V: drive and emailed to you from Terry Bubb) for placement test score ranges.
- **Refresh your memory on DegreeWorks and Schedule Planner** if you still feel a little shaky on them. Instruction sheets are on the (V:) drive. Contact your division’s Completion Advisor or the Advising Center if you have questions.
- **To see a quick list in DegreeWorks of what a student has left to graduate,** click on ”Student View” in the Format box and click “Registration Checklist.” Then click View.
- **Please do not register your students for classes!** We’ve all had students who say they don’t know how to register because someone else did it for them in the past. Let’s empower them!

Contact your advisees now!

If you want to easily email all of your advisees at once, do the following:

- Log into MyVolState using FIREFOX (not IE or Chrome).
- Then go to Faculty tab> Student Information Menu> Advisee Listing > Select Term.
- Scroll to the bottom of your list and RIGHT-CLICK on “Email Advisees.”
- Then select Email your advisees
- Then paste all the addresses into the BCC line of a new email message. Put your address in the TO line. (If you paste all of your advisees’ addresses into the TO line, your email will likely get flagged as SPAM.)
Learning Support Math Reminders

Students at the Learning Support level for math (below ACT 19 or equivalent), who have not already satisfied their Learning Support requirements can now take MATH 0105 with MATH 1010 or with MATH 1530 if needed for their degree.

This means that if students’ degree programs require MATH 1010 and/or 1530 and any course that requires MATH 1005 as a prerequisite, they can take MATH 0105 along with MATH 1010 or 1530. They will not have to take MATH 0101 or 0153.

Summary:
- If MATH 1010 satisfies the only MATH requirement: Take MATH 0101 with MATH 1010.
- If MATH 1530 satisfies the only MATH requirement: Take MATH 0153 with MATH 1530.
- If the program requires both MATH 1130, 1410, 1420, 1710 (or higher, or a course that requires MATH 1005) and MATH 1010 or 1530: Take MATH 0105 with MATH 1010 or MATH 1530.

Examples of majors to which this would apply:
- AST K-6 or Pre K-3
- Psychology TTP
- Special Edu TTP
- Any Business/Tech Division TTP (except for Computer Science)

Questions?
Contact Pete Melvin, math department chair, or Terry Bubb, Director of Advising & Testing.

ACCUPLACER® Replaces COMPASS® As New Placement Exam

Because the ACT Company discontinued the COMPASS Test, TBR officially switched to the ACCUPLACER placement exam.

In Banner, you might see any of the following test scores:
- ACT / SAT
- ACCUPLACER
- ASSET (was used during the interim period before the ACCUPLACER was implemented)
- COMPASS

Students who will need to take the ACCUPLACER:
- New freshmen (below age 21) who have never taken the ACT or SAT (if there is not another testing date prior to their first semester at VSCC)
- New freshmen (over age 21) who have never taken the ACT, SAT, COMPASS, or ASSET, and who do not have prior college coursework that can be used for placement
- Students whose placement scores have expired. Placement scores from all placement exams are now valid for 5 years instead of 3.

Challenge Testing

Students may have valid placement scores in Banner, but they believe their skills have improved since their last test date. They may speak to an advisor to ask about the possibility of being approved to take the “Challenge Test” for a small fee:
- 1 test: $10
- 2 or 3 tests: $20

Students need to contact an Advisor/Counselor or Completion Advisor if they would like to do a challenge test.
Questions?
Contact Lisa Borre, Assistant Director of Advising and Testing.

Tennessee Promise Updates

Continuing Tennessee Promise Students
All TNP (TN Promise) students must maintain a 2.0, attend full time, submit 8 hours of community service each semester, and submit the FAFSA by the deadlines published on the TN Achieves website.

HS Class of 2015
Depending on whether or not these students completed 12 hours in summer 2016, their 5th and final semester of eligibility will be spring 2017 or summer 2017.

If they do not anticipate graduating on time, they should talk to Financial Aid immediately.

If summer 2017 will be their last semester of eligibility and they plan to use TNP promise, they must submit 8 hours of community service by April 1.

HS Class of 2016
TN Achieves does not check GPA or number of completed hours until after the spring semester ends. So as long as students have earned 24 credit hours and a minimum 2.0 GPA by the end of spring 2017, they will stay TNP eligible.

If a student chooses to retake a course, the second grade will replace the first grade in the GPA.

If a student does not meet the TNP requirements by the end of the spring, they can take summer courses to catch up on hours and pull up their GPA. However, they must take 12 hours in the summer in order to use TNP funds. Otherwise, they will have to use other funding for summer. Summer students must submit 8 hours of community service by April 1.

If a student expects to lose TNP, they should talk to Financial Aid immediately to see if they qualify for other aid.

HS Class of 2017
Second meetings have begun. If you are a mentor and your meeting has not yet happened, please remind your mentees about the meeting. The meeting dates are listed on the TN Achieves website.

If your second meeting has already happened, remember to contact your mentees once every two weeks.

Students should apply for admission to Vol State now if they have not already.

Students must attend a Campus Connect session. After admission to Vol State, they will receive an email to their Vol State account with a link to sign up for one of the dates.

Encourage students to attend the Summer Bridge Program if they have low ACT scores.

Community Service (8 hours) Submission Deadline for fall: July 1

Financial Aid Verification Deadline: August 1
Changes to TNP Requirements for Students with Disabilities
By Kathy Sowell (now retired from Vol State)

TN Promise (TNP) students who are registered with the Office of Disability Services (ODS) may be eligible to take a reduced course load (fewer than 12 hours) and have an extension of the number of semesters for which they will remain eligible for TNP funding.

For students to be considered for a reduced load, they must meet with an ODS professional staff member for a discussion and review of their individual disability and circumstances.

If approved, an appropriate plan will be developed. Students will need to make an appointment to do this.

Please note that if students are approved for a reduced-hours course load, they are NOT exempt from other TNP requirements including meeting service hours and FAFSA filing deadlines.

Also, reducing hours may impact other sources of aid they may be receiving and students should visit the Financial Aid office to discuss any such implications.

Please contact the Office of Disability Services if you have any questions. The ODS is located in Wood 108 and the telephone number is: 615 230-3472.