# A Step Above the Rest: Preparing High School Students for the Nursing Program at AACC

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## Background

The Gap: Some High School and pre-nursing students are not well prepared for the rigor of the nursing program, or have not satisfied the appropriate prerequisite courses.

## Objectives

1. Identify elements to prepare the H.S & pre-nursing student for a rigorous nursing program.
2. To meet with H.S. and pre-nursing students one-on-one to tailor a pathway of college courses and provide coaching.

## Development

We believe that engaging H.S. and pre-nursing students early and individually will help assure their readiness to complete a nursing program successfully.

## Methods

Qualitative: collecting data on number of students advised/coached by the Nurse Progression Navigator (NPN) and tracking their progress from admission to the nursing program through graduation.

## Figures

1. Baseline - approx. 76% of AACC Nursing students successfully complete the Nursing program.
2. NPN presented at 13 events at 9 High Schools
3. NPN advised 15 H.S. students 1:1 Fall 2019/Spring 2020
4. NPN advised 32 pre-nursing students Fall 2019/Spring 2020

## Results

1. 104 students admitted to Fall 2020 Nursing Program, those that have met with the NPN and have a combined GPA of 3.5.
2. Despite Covid-19, H. S. students and counselors continue to reach out to NPN
3. A number of pre-nursing students are prepared to apply for Spring 2021 admission.

## Conclusions

While still early in development, we anticipate that the increased focus on High School and pre-nursing students will produce a higher graduation percentage.

## Bibliography

Rogers, T.L. (2009). *Preadmission academic achievement criteria as predictors of nursing program completion and NCLEX-RN success*

Peruski, D (2019). *Relevance of Program Readiness on Nursing School Completion and success on the NCLEX*

## Notes

- High School students are encouraged to take prerequisites through ECAP (Jumpstart)
- Students benefit from individual coaching to select courses for AA prerequisites and also to prepare for the BSN program(s).