

Exploring the Evidence: Reporting Research on Peer Education Programs An Online Archive of Campus-Based Research Reports

Maintained by the National Resource Center for The First-Year Experience & Students in
Transition
University of South Carolina

We invite you to help us expand the available resources on peer educators by including a description of your initiative in this online collection. If your institution has an assessed peer educator program that has a history of two years or more, we encourage you to submit a description of your program for consideration. Because we are interested in identifying a wide range of uses for peer educators, programs may include those connected to enrollment, orientation, advising, residence life, academic support, health and wellness, service-learning or community service, first-year seminars or other undergraduate courses, minority student support services, or campus activities. This list is not exhaustive, and we welcome descriptions of assessed peer educator programs that fall outside those areas listed above. We are interested in the objectives and structure of the program, how it was assessed, what was learned, and how the assessment results were used to improve the service provided to new students.

Submissions are accepted twice each year: December 1 and June 1. Submissions received by December 1 will be posted to the web by April 15, and those received by June 1 will be posted to the web by October 15. Guidelines follow for those who would like to submit an initiative for publication.

Submissions Guidelines

Submissions should briefly describe the program and the peers' role within it; the institutional setting in which it is offered; and the assessment strategies, outcomes, and a discussion of how the outcomes were used to improve the program.

I. Describe the institution and its students (not to exceed 150 words)

In this section, please include:

- Full name of institution and city/state where it is located
- Institution type (two-year/four-year)
- Institutional control (e.g., public, private, or proprietary)
- Commuter or residential
- Number of FTE (full-time equivalent) undergraduate students
- Undergraduate student demographic information including gender balance, percentage of students over age 25, racial/ethnic makeup (please provide details about percentage of each race/ethnicity)

II. Describe the program (not to exceed 500 words)

In this section, please include:

- Title of the program
- Length of time offered at the institution
- Description of the program, including primary goals, population served, the number of peers involved, and the role that peers play in the program
- Information about the criteria for and the process for selecting peers, specific duties of peers, details about training and performance review for the peers
- Information about who supervises the peers and who completes the performance review

III. Assessment methods/ design (not to exceed 250 words)

We encourage submissions of qualitative, quantitative, and mixed method assessment. In this section, please include a concise description of the

- Assessment objective(s)/question(s) (e.g., Which of the program goals was assessed?)
- Assessment/research design (e.g., sample selection, data collection method(s), type(s) of analysis)

IV. Assessment-Supported Program Outcomes for the peers and for the new students they serve (not to exceed 500 words)

In this section, please include:

- Assessment findings. Areas of inquiry may include, but are not limited to: retention; peer and student learning; academic skills; engagement; social integration; satisfaction with the institution, program, and/or peer service; leadership development; training and development of peers.
- Statistical data with significant findings, if assessment is quantitative
- Tables, charts, and references if appropriate (do not apply to maximum word count for this section) All tables, figures, and references should adhere to APA format. Please refer to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th edition) for more information.

V. Implications (250 words)

In this section, please include:

- Proposed or actual changes made in the program as a result of the assessment/research done
- Recommendations to other institutions who may want to implement a similar program

VI. Contributor's name and contact information (you may list more than one contributor)

In this section, please include:

- Name
- Professional title
- Mailing address (include city, state, and zip code)
- Phone number, fax number, and e-mail address
- If more than one person is listed as a contributor, please indicate which person will serve as the main contact for the Editor.

Only complete submissions, adhering to the above guidelines, will be considered for inclusion in the online collection.

The National Resource Center reserves the right to edit all submissions for the purpose of maintaining consistency throughout the collection. Contributors will have the opportunity to read and approve final copy before posting and will be appropriately credited on the contribution.

Completed submissions should be sent as an e-mail attachment (MS Word or rich-text format) to:

Toni Vakos

Editor

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