



Introducing Our New Expand Postsecondary Education in Prison Team

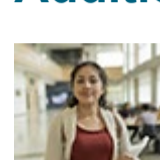
Ahead of a vital period for postsecondary education in prison, Ascendium has added veteran leadership to support its Expand Postsecondary Education in Prison portfolio. Molly Lasagna joins as senior program officer, and Maryann Rainey is transitioning from our Streamline Key Learner Transitions focus area. The pair will oversee a portfolio that includes Ready for Pell, our two-year initiative designed to support and strengthen postsecondary education in prison programs in advance of the restoration of Pell Grant eligibility for incarcerated adults, coming in the 2023-24 academic year.

[Read more...](#)

Help Us Evolve Our Communications

We make it our mission to bring you the latest news and resources from Ascendium's philanthropy and around the field. To help us evolve our communications in the future, we invite you to participate in our survey. Please take a few moments to share your thoughts. The survey will be open until Friday, July 1, 2022. [Take the survey.](#)

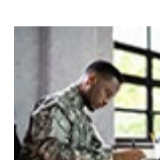
Additional Ascendium News



[Informed Self-Placement Engages Students in the College Placement Process, With Encouraging Results](#)



[Diverse Group Works to Strengthen Pathways at Michigan Community Colleges](#)



[New Guide Supports Efforts to Better Recognize and Map Military Training to Civilian Credentials](#)

New Resources

Our grant partners regularly create information resources that benefit organizations focused on student success. New resources are published to our Resource Library often. Click each link to access the new resources grant partners have shared over the past month.

- [College Completion Strategy Guide](#) (MDRC)
- [COVID-19 Transfer, Mobility and Progress Report: Spring 2022 Report](#) (National Student Clearinghouse Research Center)
- [Engaging Employers to Benefit Rural Students \(Part IV\)](#) (Rural Matters)
- [Evaluating the Student Experience at Community College Baccalaureate Programs](#) (New America)
- [Lighting the Path to Remove Systemic Barriers in Higher Education and Award Earned Postsecondary Credentials](#) (Institute for Higher Education Policy)
- [Research Evidence on Ask-Connect-Inspire-Plan Onboarding Practices](#) (Community College Research Center)
- [Rural America's Tech Employment Landscape: How to Increase Tech Talent and Tech Employment](#) (Center on Rural Innovation)
- [The Importance of Digital Skills and Leadership in Rural Postsecondary Education \(Part V\)](#) (Rural Matters)

Recent Grants

Remove Structural Barriers to Success

No Holding Back: Using Data to Review and Revise Administrative Hold Policies among Public Postsecondary Institutions in the Western Region
Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education | \$405,000 | 05/2022 - 10/2023

This grant supports the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, in partnership with the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, in developing tools for institutions to use in evaluating the impact of their administrative hold policies and practices on equitable student success.

Modern Math Pathways for All Students
University of Texas at Austin | \$1,100,000 | 05/2022 - 04/2025

This grant supports the Charles A. Dana Center at the University of Texas at Austin in building capacity for large-scale mathematics reform in states that have not yet undertaken significant transformation.

Streamline Key Learner Transitions

Advancing Outcomes Research on Postsecondary Competency-Based Education Pathways
American Institutes for Research in the Behavioral Sciences | \$237,200 | 06/2022 - 05/2023

This grant supports American Institutes for Research in developing a typology of competency-based education program design features. They will also develop an evaluation plan using the typology to research the impact of key design features and outcomes for learners from low-income backgrounds.

Pathways to Success for Adults with Some College but No Degree
Tennessee Board of Regents-The College System of Tennessee | \$1,900,200 | 06/2022 - 05/2022

This grant supports the Tennessee Board of Regents in using insights from prior Ascendium-funded research to redesign the experience of adults with some college, but no degree who reconnect with college. The project will evaluate how the redesign of the reconnecting semester for adults returning to community college impacts persistence, completion and time to degree.

Support Rural Postsecondary Education and Workforce Training

Rural Research Support Partner
American Institutes for Research in the Behavioral Sciences | \$391,117 | 04/2022 - 02/2025

This grant supports American Institutes for Research in managing Ascendium's multi-year initiative within the rural portfolio to support action-oriented research. This research is aimed at addressing critical gaps in the evidence available to inform scaled and sustained improvements in the postsecondary and workforce outcomes of low-income learners in rural geographies.

On the Go: Find Ascendium Staff in the Field

Ascendium is committed to the safety of our staff and will continue to monitor and follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's guidance regarding travel. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming virtual and in-person events.

22nd Allied Media Conference

Detroit, MI/Virtual

June 30-July 3, 2022

American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers: Virtual AACRAO Technology & Transfer Summit

July 12-14, 2022

The Vera Institute of Justice: 5th Annual Convening of Second Chance Pell Sites & Partners

Washington, DC

July 19-20, 2022

Correctional Education Association: 76th CEA International Conference & Training Event

Tampa, FL

Aug. 28-31, 2022

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