UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA / HERBERT WERTHEIM COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
OFFICE OF STUDENT TRANSITION AND RETENTION (STAR)

SUMMER-BRIDGE PROGRAMS
SUMMER-BRIDGE PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

SECTION TOPICS:

- PROGRAM OVERVIEW
- RECRUITMENT PROCESS
- ORIENTATION PROCESS
- PROGRAM COMPONENTS
SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION AND ENHANCED PREPARATION FOR UNDERGRADUATES PROGRAM (STEPUp)

OVERVIEW

• 1993 - The Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering (HWCOE) began implementing first-year student summer-bridge programming in 1993 as a means of addressing concerns related to poor retention rates for underrepresented student populations within the College.

• 1994 – HWCOE founded a Minority Retention Success program in 1994 using funding from the National Science Foundation’s SUCCEED program.

• 1994 – A residential component was added to the program in efforts to increase student attendance to program activities, intensify mentoring efforts, build cohort rapport and improve student tracking efforts.

• 1995 – Present- The initiative officially adopted the name “STEPUp” combining the a summer residential component with a fall/spring non-residential component as a means of providing guidance to first-year engineering students throughout the entire freshman year.

• 2006 – Present - Approximately 25-30% of STEPUp participants successfully attain experiential learning opportunities in the form of internships, externships, research, study abroad, etc., within the first two years of completing the program.
SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAM ADMIT PROCESS

How it works:

1. APPLICATION PROCESS:
   - Jan 8 thru June 1, 2018 – Online Application Opens/closes

2. ADMISSION PROCESS:
   - Jan 8 thru June 1, 2018 – Review applications/ Begin admit process, notifications, receive application fees, etc.
   - Only complete application packets reviewed for admission. Applications reviewed/selected on-going between Jan 8 thru June 1, 2018 until all seats in program filled.
   - Targeted Recruitment Goal – STEPUP - 40 participants.

3. ORIENTATION PROCESS:
   - June 29, 2018 – Residence hall Check-in
   - June 30, 2018 – Program Orientation, 8am – 6pm
   - July 2, 2018 – Classes Start
   - July 4, 2018 – Holiday – No Classes
   - August 3, 2018 – Summer program ends
   - Non-Residential Component – August 21, 2018 thru April 24, 2019
SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION AND ENHANCED PREPARATION FOR UNDERGRADUATES PROGRAM (STEPUp)

PROGRAM ORIENTATION

• DAY 1 – Students admitted into the program begin the residence hall (EAST) Check-in process assisted by program mentors and volunteers.

• DAY 2 – Program orientation begins (Students & Parents included). Components of the orientation process include, a welcome breakfast, breakout sessions for parents and students, Calculus/Chemistry Pre-Tests, and small groups sessions conducted by program mentors to discuss program rules, expectations, requirements, course schedules, etc.

• DAY 3 – Housing Orientation Process (Students Only) conducted by UF Housing Office staff. Session serves to orient summer-bridge staff and participants with UF Housing office staff, as well as, provide an overview of rules, policies, expectations governing the use of UF residential facilities.

• Day 4 – Week one of the program begins of the six-week program. Students begin attending classes, meetings with instructors, advisors, and other campus resources.
SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION AND ENHANCED PREPARATION FOR UNDERGRADUATES PROGRAM (STEPUp)

TYPICAL RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM STRUCTURE:

CRITICAL TRACKING COURSES:

- Calculus, Chemistry, Physics, (**Physics course not offered every summer)

EXPOSURE TO RESEARCH:

- Introduction to Research Course, Machine Learning course, Lab tours and research assignments.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING:

- Corporate Tours, Corporate Speaker series, professional development workshops.

STUDENT SUCCESS:

- Academic advising sessions, academic workshops, study halls, instructor office hours,

- Team building activities, Health & Fitness, Business Entrepreneurship.
SUMMER-BRIDGE PROGRAM BUDGET: 2019 AND BEYOND

SECTION TOPICS:

Summer-Bridge Goals & Objectives  
PROJECTED BUDGETARY NEEDS  
STAR PROJECTED NEEDS/WISHLIST
The primary goals and objectives of STAR bridge programs include:

1. Increasing student success in transitioning into the University of Florida and HWCOE.

2. Encouraging program participants to approach academic, personal and professional development from a “flexible” Growth Mindset perspective.

3. Increasing first-year student participation in experiential learning opportunities (Internships, Externships, Research, Study Abroad, etc.) via STEPOUT Program.

4. Retaining students within the major throughout their first academic year until graduation. A particular focus will be placed on Underrepresented Student populations (African American, Hispanic-Latino, Native American, Women, etc.).
The diverse components of STAR bridge programs are predicated on the concept of Growth Mindset theory. In sum, Growth Mindset theory promotes:

1. Individuals typically view intelligence as a limited, fixed quality that a person has or does not, or that intelligence is malleable and can be cultivated through effort.

2. Based on the individuals meaning system (Fixed vs. Flexible), motivation to complete is likely to be based the goal of mastery (Ex. Learning) or Performance (Ex. Grade evaluation).

3. Research suggests a relationship between an individual’s growth mindset, their academic performance and motivation for competence.

4. Research suggests a relationship between an individuals growth mindset and coping skills related to dealing with difficult tasks, sustained self-esteem & confidence and personal motivation. This relationship may also serve to behaviors that confirm the students initial mindset as it relates to a personal quality.

NOTE: Individuals may hold different mindsets about different personal qualities.
Abbreviated Bibliography:


**NOTE:** Individuals may hold different mindsets about different personal qualities.

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**GROWTH MINDSET THEORY:**

- Fixed: Intelligence is a fixed trait. Or
- Flexible: intellectual ability can be cultivated.

**MEANING SYSTEMS**

- Mastery Oriented vs.
- Grade Performance Oriented.

**COMPETENCE**

- Competence Validation vs.
- Competence Acquisition

**COPING SKILLS**

- Ability to overcome challenges
  - Emotional Intelligence
  - Self-Esteem, Confidence & Motivation
  - Reinforcement of Belief Systems

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**GROWTH MINDSET:**

- Competence Validation vs.
- Competence Acquisition
SUMMER-BRIDGE PROGRAM COSTS

SECTION TOPICS:

PROGRAM FEES
CLASSES, BOOKS, ETC.
PROGRAM ACTIVITIES
## BRIDGE PROGRAM COSTS - SUMMER

### 1. PROGRAM FEES
- **Application Fee** – $850.00 (Submitted "After" official admittance into the program)
- **Summer UF Housing costs** for program participants covered by HWCOE through the support of corporate sponsorships. (Please visit the UF Housing website for suggested items to bring).
- **Summer Meal plan costs** for program participants covered by HWCOE through the support of corporate sponsorships.
- **All Fall/Spring UF Housing and meal plan costs** covered by student.

### 2. CLASSES, BOOKS, ETC.
- **Summer tuition and fees** for program participants covered by HWCOE through the support of corporate sponsorships.
- **Books** – (Summer) Chemistry book, Other classes – Free online resources.
- **All Fall/Spring tuition, fees, books, etc., covered by student.**

### 3. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES
- **Corporate Tour(s) costs** for program participants covered by HWCOE through the support of corporate sponsorships.
- **Lunch during corporate tour events covered by student.**
- **Summer/Fall/Spring miscellaneous activities** such as shopping, student planned social gatherings, (trip to the movies, etc.) covered by student.
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