



# Academic Pathways to Excellence

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December 4, 2015

# Bridge and pipeline programs

Center for Latino/a  
and Latin American  
Studies

BUILD Program

Institute for  
Maximizing  
Student  
Development  
(IMSD)

MedSTART

Rising Scholars  
Math Program  
(RSP)

Comerica Scholars  
Program

TRIO / Upward  
Bound

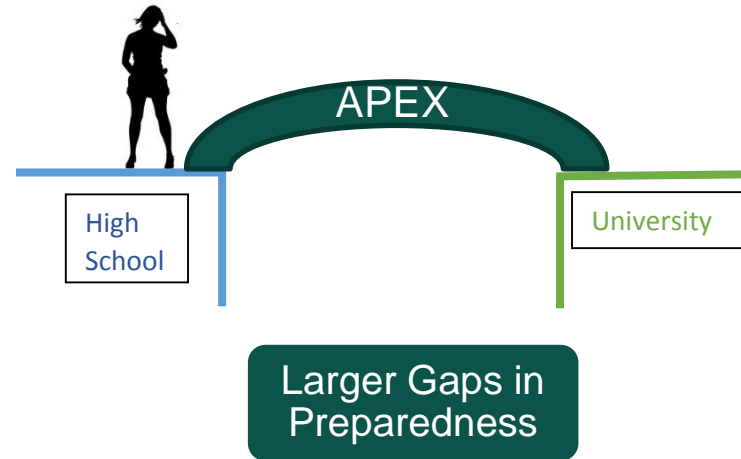
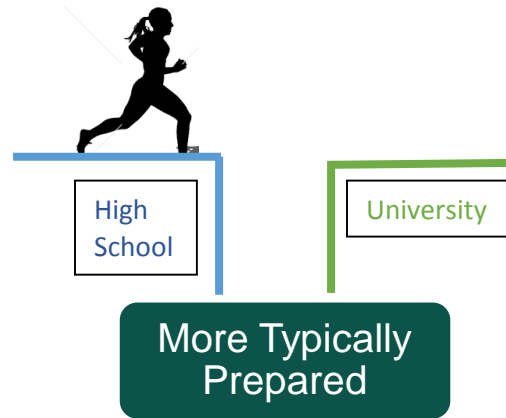
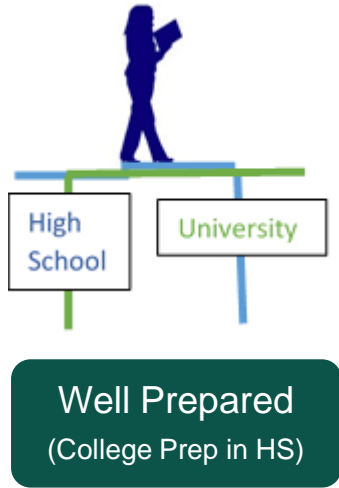
GEAR UP

GO GIRL

## APEX Mission

The APEX Scholars Program provides alternative admission to select freshmen that is designed to support their transition and successful progression through their first thirty-six credit hours (3 semesters) at Wayne State University.

Gaps in Preparedness for University Life



## Areas in Need of Development



## Academic Readiness

- Reading Skills
- Writing Skills
- Math Skills
- Study Skills
- Critical Thinking



## Personal Readiness

- Academic Courage
- Perseverance
- Confidence
- Resistance to Distraction
- Accurate Sense of Ability
- Personal Responsibility / Awareness
- Financial Responsibility Awareness & Strategy
- Career Awareness / Reality Check

# Admissions Information

	2014 Summer Bridge		2015 Summer Bridge	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
<b>Referred to APEX</b>	1844		1283	
<b>Completed Interview Process</b>	283	15%	321	25%
<b>Admitted</b>	173	61%	122	38%
<b>Started Bridge</b>	123	71%	104	85%
<b>Completed</b>	119	97%	99	95%
<b>Joined WSU in Fall</b>	118	99%	98	99%

	2014 Summer Bridge		2015 Summer Bridge	
	Entering	Successfully Completing	Entering	Successfully Completing
<b>Number of Students</b>	123	118	104	99
<b>Entering Academics</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Range</b>
<b>ACT</b>	17	15-20	17	15-20
<b>H.S. GPA</b>	2.50	2.0-3.6	2.48	2.0-3.8
<b>Race / Ethnicity</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>White</b>	20	16%	11	11%
<b>African-American</b>	76	62%	78	75%
<b>Other</b>	27	22%	15	14%
<b>Gender</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>Male</b>	55	45%	35	34%
<b>Female</b>	68	55%	69	66%
<b>Location</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>Detroit</b>	43	35%	41	39%
<b>Wayne, not Detroit</b>	37	30%	.25	24%
<b>Oakland</b>	24	20%	12	12%
<b>Macomb</b>	12	10%	15	14%
<b>Other</b>	7	5%	11	11%

# APEX Scholars 2.0

Beginning with Summer and Fall 2015 Cohort

## Earlier Registration for Fall Term

- Orientation with rest of WSU Freshmen (helps reduce stigma)
- Push to 1<sup>st</sup> WSU Orientation Sessions (much better course selection, allows for schedule blocks)

## Blocked-courses vs designated sections

- APEX students in class with other WSU students (helps reduce stigma, but facilitates study groups)
- Blocked study time for organized study groups

## Enhanced Collaboration with Faculty Instructors

- Informs Faculty of presence of APEX students and GradesFirst system
- Collaboration with Academic Depts. to help identify *Faculty-fit*

## Slightly reduced course load in first Fall semester

- Limit of 11 Credit hours in the first fall semester
- Financial aid used to offset penalty for less than full time enrollment.
- Limit is removed for subsequent semesters



# APEX Scholars 2.0-cont.

## Learning Communities Revisited-

- Grouping by career/major to promote earlier interaction w/Department Faculty & Advisors

## Weekly Advisor-Attendance Reporting

- APEX is much more sensitive and responsive in tracking and monitoring student attendance to advising meetings

## Academic Planning Documentation

- Students work with Advisor to plan out assignments and studying, review accomplishments

## Monitored (and structured) Study Hours

- 8-Hour On-campus study in UGL and APEX computer labs

# APEX Scholars 2.0-cont.

## GradesFirst Monitoring & Communication System

- Progress Reports in 3<sup>rd</sup> week, 8<sup>th</sup> week and 11<sup>th</sup> week
- Goes directly to APEX Advisors
- Informs discussion regarding study planning and enrollment strategy

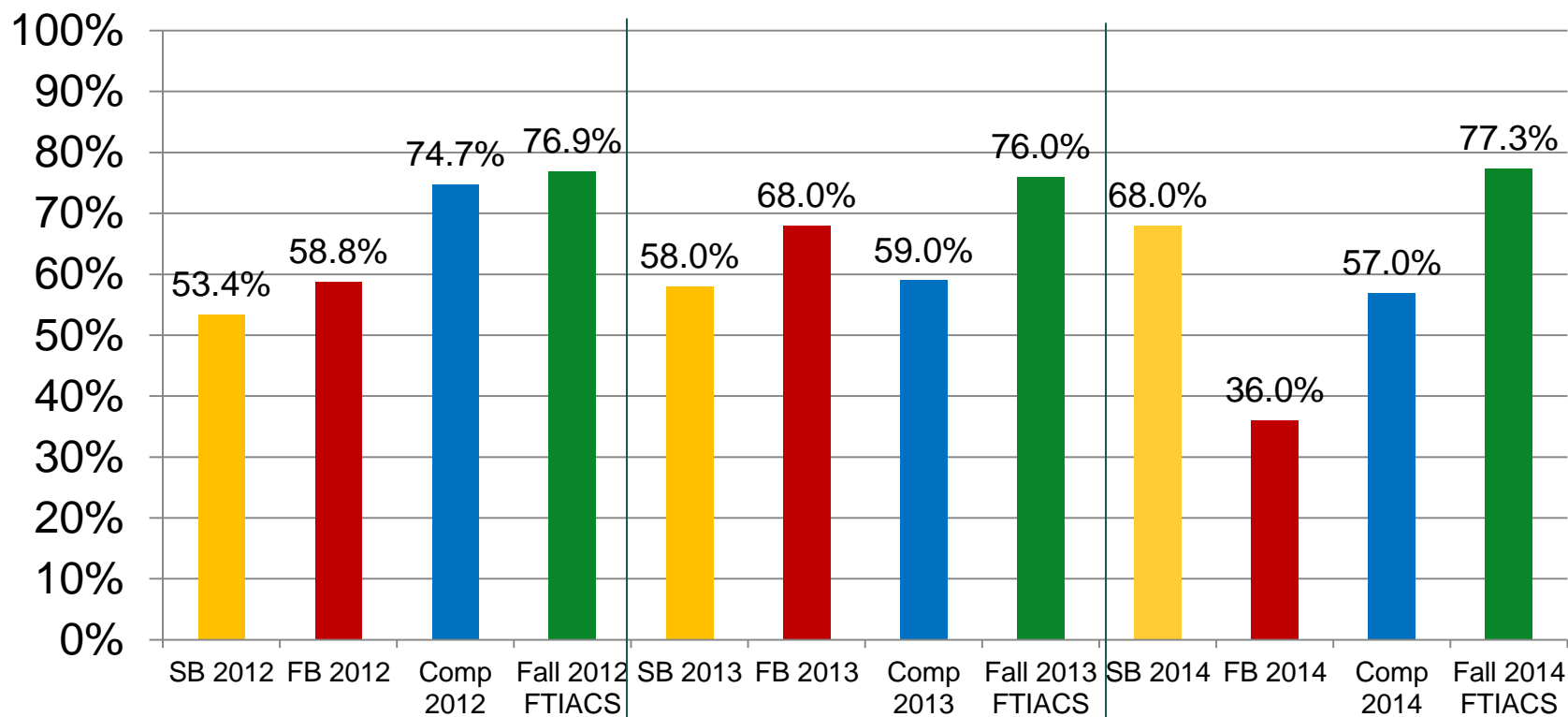
## More timely feedback to students on Success-oriented Compliance

- Automated reminders of APEX Advisor meetings
- Students are able to monitor their own study hours → better compliance

APEX will help students decide if they are prepared to demonstrate the behaviors that result in college success.

# Retention by Cohort

## Year One through Second Fall Term

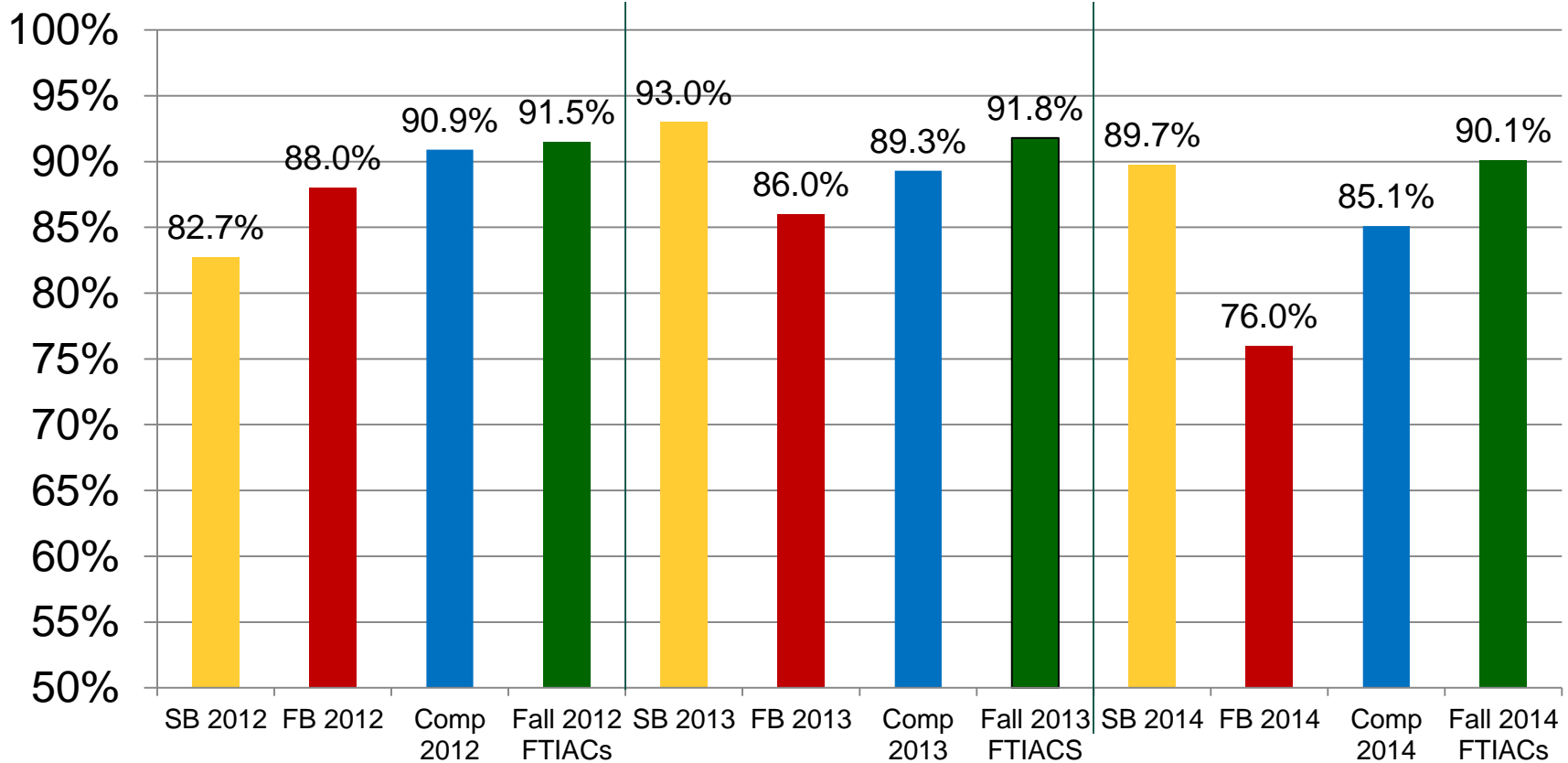




Questions?

# Retention by Cohort

## Fall to Winter Semester (of First Year)



First Fall and Winter Term GPA

