



Appalachian State University

<http://collegestar.appstate.edu/about>

About College STAR

Students with learning differences (e.g., specific learning disorders, Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder) are seeking higher education in growing numbers, and yet few programs exist at public universities that provide coordinated and comprehensive services to meet their needs. It is not surprising, given their many challenges and this lack of specifically tailored services, that this group of students experiences substantially elevated rates of academic failure in college. Appalachian's involvement in College STAR reflects our commitment to meeting the educational needs of diverse learners, including those with learning differences. This is embodied in our mission statement, which in part reads:

Appalachian recognizes that the success of the University depends upon the achievement and cooperation of a diverse community of students, faculty, and staff... We accept our responsibility to be actively involved in addressing the educational, economic, cultural, and societal needs of the changing region, state, nation, and world.

Like our sister campuses, East Carolina University (ECU) and University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG), we have designed a comprehensive student support intervention that targets a specific group with learning differences. While ECU and UNCG have programs designed to enhance the academic outcomes of students with specific learning disorders (SLD) and Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), respectively, ASU's program focuses on students with executive functioning challenges (EFC).