

# Noncognitive Guidance Curriculum | Year 3

## Overview:

The Noncognitive Guidance Curriculum is a classroom or small group program that promotes development of multiple noncognitive skills (attitudes and behaviors that are predictive of academic success and persistence in school). During the first 2 years, an 11-lesson curriculum (lasting about 40 minutes per lesson) was developed and studied to determine program impact. Data from year one suggest clear impact on students' attitudes and promising impact on grades and attendance. Data from year two will be examined in the summer of 2016. The curriculum has been implemented in a variety of methods including across an entire school and in small groups within a single grade.

Starting in fall, 2016, schools interested in utilizing the curriculum can implement it in a variety of ways including integration into an advisory program or existing classroom lessons, basis for small groups or electing to pull and utilize only specific lessons. In addition, a partnership between GEAR UP Iowa and ACT will make ACT Engage available to the GUI cohort at no cost. ACT Engage is a measure that can assist students and schools in identifying and creating plans to build students and schools in identifying noncognitive skill needs and inform goal setting to build relevant skills.

## Existing Curriculum:

- Five lessons on growth mindset, two lessons on goal setting and action planning, on lesson each on self-efficacy, thinking before acting, optimism and self-management
- Pre- and post-curriculum survey to measure changes in students' attitudes toward non-cognitive skills
- Data collection plan to capture information to determine program impact (optional starting in year 3)

## New for Year 3 (2016-2017):

- Newly developed components are optional; elect to use any or all parts of the curriculum allowing extreme flexibility to fit your needs
- ACT Engage assessment and interpretation (optional starting in year 3)
- Expanded lessons on optimism to help students develop more skills to build hope and engage in more positive thinking strategies
- Expanded lessons on self-efficacy to help students learn how to engage in experiences that build their confidence in accomplishing tasks critical for school success
- New lesson on time management to help students learn strategies to make better use of their time

## Training:

- In-person or webinar training to introduce the curriculum
- "Train the Trainer" model or school-wide training options
- Training on administration, interpretation and use of data from ACT Engage