



# EOF Special Project

Project Test Prep

Ms. Kim Quick

Mr. Khayriy Tilghman



**TCNJ** THE COLLEGE OF  
NEW JERSEY

# TCNJ EOF STAFF

**Dr. Tieka Harris**

*Director of EOF*

**Mr. Todd McCrary**

*Associate Director of EOF*

**Mr. John Marshall**

*Assistant Director for the Schools of Health & Exercise Science,  
Nursing, Science, & Engineering`*

**Ms. Kim Quick**

*Assistant Director for the School of Humanities & Social Science*

**Mr. Khayriy Tilghman**

*Assistant Director for the Schools of Arts & Communication,  
Business, and Education*

**Mrs. Sylvia Speed**

*Administrative Specialist*

**Ms. Asianna Hall**

*Program Assistant*

# TCNJ EOF SPECIAL PROJECTS

## FY 21

- Project TestPrep
- STEMposium
- Sophomore Second Summer

## FY 22

- Life After Undergrad
- Developing Professionals Initiative
- Creating Creators
- Upperclassmen Textbook Support
- Project TestPrep

# Project Description

**Background** - Project Test Prep was developed out of the need to provide equitable opportunities for highly motivated TCNJ EOF students to prepare themselves for advanced or professional entrance exams. There has been a gap between encouraging students to participate in preparatory programs and the ability for students to afford the cost. In lieu of proper preparation, the EOF program has encouraged students to take advantage of any free online materials and resources. Despite the effort, such recommendations are subpar when preparing underrepresented students for professional exams.

Through Project Test Prep, students received test preparation for the following entrance exams:

- MCAT - Medical College Admission Test
- GRE - Graduate Record Admissions
- LSAT- Law School Admission Test
- Praxis - Part of the American teacher certification exam

# The Why...

- **TCNJ EOF students need to compete in the global market and require the necessary tools like test prep access**
- **EOF students are high in motivation but low on income... remove the financial barrier**
- **Learning test taking strategies helps with building confidence, hence improving overall test scores**
- **Special Project Funds allows students to work with trained Kaplan facilitators....access**

# An Excerpt

According to the article, “Addressing Inequities Precipitated by the LSAT: Schools and Nonprofits Strive to Develop Solutions to African Americans’ LSAT Struggles” in Insight to Diversity, (Jackson, 2018), the author postulates that it’s not a matter of **underrepresented students not having the financial means for proper preparation, not that they’re not smart enough** (Jackson, 2018).

# Target Audience

- TCNJ EOF students seeking to gain entry into a graduate or professional program that required an entrance exam.
- Priority was given to rising Seniors who were closer to graduation or who were within a few months of taking an entrance exam for a graduate or professional program.

# Project Goals & Objectives



## Goals

1. To expose underrepresented economically disadvantaged TCNJ EOF students to a full series of test preparation services while eliminating the financial burden associated with such programs.

## Objectives

1. To have students participate in structured test preparation course with a Kaplan instructor during summer 2021.
2. To have students familiarize themselves with the format and content of their identified entrance exam.
3. To expose students to opportunities that build success and enhance test taking confidence.



# Assessment Measures

A three tiered approach was used to assess student engagement and growth through the program. Through the use of Pre/Post surveys, review of course activity and debriefing, we were able to draw reliable conclusions based on not only what students said, but what they showed.

An Interest Survey was sent to the entire cohort of TCNJ EOF students. A total of 32 responded, with 15 willing to commit to completing the program by the targeted end date August 30, 2021.

**The following is a breakdown of the programs students registered for:**

- **MCAT - 4**
- **LSAT - 2**
- **Praxis - 3**
- **GRE - 6**

# Assessment Measures

An Interest Survey was sent to the entire cohort of TCNJ EOF students. A total of 32 responded, with 15 willing to commit to completing the program by the targeted end date August 30, 2021.

**Pre/Post Surveys** - Participating students were given surveys at the beginning and end of their programs to assess their feelings of preparation for their chosen entrance exam.

**Course Activity** - Students' online activity was monitored to assess participation and engagement with the material in addition to reviewing test scores.

**Focus Groups** - Focus groups were held with participating students to discuss their experience and evaluate the effectiveness of their program.

# BUDGET

*Covers live course (or Praxis Self Study),  
books, practice tests*

<b>Grant Proposal</b>	\$14,995.00	20 Students
<b>Cost of Program</b>	\$9,995.00	15 students

# Outcomes/Results

At the close of their respective programs, students reported:

**100%**

of students remained engaged with the online platform for the entire summer

- Student activity was monitored throughout the summer

**100%**

of students reported an increased feeling of preparedness and confidence after taking the test prep courses .

- Based on survey taken by 15 students

**100%**

of students reported they would take the program if offered again and/or refer it to other EOF students.

- Students reported a better understanding of test strategy, not just content knowledge as the main benefit.

## *In Their Words.....*

**S. Ekambi - GRE**

“Thank you for that wonderful idea because test prep is expensive. It was extremely, extremely, extremely helpful. I can’t thank EOF enough”

**K. Stefanik - MCAT**

“It wasn’t about the content necessarily but all about the test taking strategies. When I started studying myself I was trying to use some of the other outside sources and it wasn’t working”

**L. Parra - LSAT**

“Before I started taking my test prep I had no idea where to start or what to do. I was staring at the book and I was very confused. I just didn’t know what to do”



**Timing - During Summer Program**

**Navigating Kaplan course  
schedules and registration**

**Student Follow-up and  
Feedback**

**THE UNKNOWN**

# What's Next...

Beyond the summer, we intend to:

- Continue to apply for special project funding to continue Project Test Prep
- Work with academic departments on campus to secure additional test taking resources with the understanding that test preparation is a huge benefit to our EOF students.
- Utilize the first cohort of test prep students to share their knowledge with other EOF students and encourage them to participate in future opportunities.

# Thank You!!

18

Kim L. Quick  
[quikk@tcnj.edu](mailto:quikk@tcnj.edu)

Khayriy Tilghman  
[tilghmak@tcnj.edu](mailto:tilghmak@tcnj.edu)