Research Case Study: TEAS V Scores Significantly Predict Students' Academic Completion in Allied Health Programs



Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) is a multiplechoice assessment of basic academic knowledge in reading, mathematics, science, and English and language usage. When used as an admissions screening tool for Allied Health programs, the TEAS enables institutions to assess the academic preparedness of incoming students. The TEAS has well documented psychometric rigor and has been normed specifically for Allied Health programs separatley from norms established for Nursing programs. However, to assess how the TEAS V predicts actual student outcomes, ATI-Allied Health, a sister company to ATI Nursing Education, recently collaborated with a respected community college partner to complete a multi-year study tracking the academic outcomes of students admitted into 2-year allied health programs of study.

As part of this initial examination of multi-year TEAS V outcomes (data spans June, 2011 to June, 2013), 255 students were screened, of which 94 students had since been admitted and either completed or failed to complete their academic programs of study. When evaluating how TEAS V scores predicted academic success for these 94 students, TEAS V composite scores were split into two groups: top 50% of scores and bottom 50% of scores. These two comparison groups only included data for those students that were admitted and enrolled in a program of study and did not include data for students still actively working towards the completion of their course work.

*The TEAS V, when normed for Allied Health programs, was formerly called the Health Occupations Basic Entrance Test, or HOBET



Using Allied Health norming data, results indicate that, when compared to the bottom 50% of TEAS V scorers, students scoring in the top 50% on the TEAS V had a 32% increased rate of academic program completion. This finding of increased rate of program completion is both practically and statistically significant (t = 2.032, p < .05) and underscores the power of the TEAS V as a predictor of academic success.

Additional analyses were conducted in order to explore how specific TEAS performance predicted individual student's likelihood of program completion.

Results indicate that for each point earned on the TEAS V (composite score), an average 7.7% increased likelihood exists for completion of one's academic program of study (Model $x^2 = 12.151$, df = 1, p < .001; Nagelkerke R² = .179). Said another way, a student with a composite score of 60 on the TEAS V is 77% more likely to complete their program of study than a student with a composite score of 50 on the TEAS V.

Taken as a whole, these findings show a consistent link between students' TEAS performance and academic success. On-going data collection efforts exploring this relationship are underway and additional outcomes and larger samples will be forthcoming. If your program is interested in exploring how the TEAS V predicts academic success in Allied Health programs at your institution, please contact your ATI-Nursing Education client executive for more information.

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