ASPIRE
Academic Support Program for Inspiring and Reaching Excellence

Q: What is ASPIRE?
A: ASPIRE supports students academically to enhance the opportunity to be successful in their first year at John Brown University. As part of the Head, Heart, and Hand mission of JBU, we seek to come alongside students who may need additional academic assistance during their first year at John Brown in order to offer guidance, support, and accountability.

Q: Who is eligible to participate in ASPIRE?
A: ASPIRE is required for all students who are admitted to John Brown University on Special Action Admission; that is, students who have either a high school GPA below 2.5, a composite ACT score of 19 or below, or a combined SAT score of 950 or below.

Q: What are the benefits of ASPIRE?
A: The benefits of participation in ASPIRE are as follows:
- Student’s class load is carefully monitored
- A dedicated section of Gateway Seminar in Christian Scholarship
- Bi-weekly grade checks
- Monthly individual meetings with the Director of the ASPIRE program
- Specialized advising
- Group and individualized tutoring

Q: Are there other requirements for participation?
A: Students who participate in ASPIRE must sign a commitment to participate agreement (along with their parents if they are a traditional undergraduate). Also, each student must pay a fee of $500.00 for participation in the program. This fee is used to cover the expenses of the program.

Q: How do I know if my student must participate in ASPIRE?
A: If your student was admitted to the University on Special Action Admission, you must participate in ASPIRE. If you are unsure, you should contact your admissions counselor.

Q: Does participation in ASPIRE guarantee success at John Brown University?
A: While participation in ASPIRE does not guarantee success, we believe that students who combine participation in the program with hard work and personal commitment will greatly enhance their opportunity to fulfill their dream of a degree from JBU.

For more information concerning ASPIRE, please contact Jacqueline Wright, Director of Student Support Services, at JWright@jbu.edu or at 479-238-8770.