

Inaugural Conference on Post-Secondary Programs for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Evaluation Results

Below is a summary of the evaluation results from the Inaugural Conference on Post-Secondary Programs for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. This information is critical to inform ASERT and other efforts moving forward for future collaboration on post-secondary programs supporting students with ASD.

Overall Impressions of the Conference:

- 97.4% found the topics covered by the conference of interest.
- 89.4% would be interested in attending this conference again in the future.
- 65.8% thought the conference would help them make their college ASD-specific program more responsive to the needs of students with ASD.
- 79.4% of attendees felt the speakers overall were knowledgeable about the subject matter.
- 69.7% of attendees thought the content described helped him/her think about identifying and addressing potential barriers to implementing a program at his/her college/university.
- 58.4% of attendees thought the content described could help him/her implement or maintain an ASD-specific support program at my college/university.

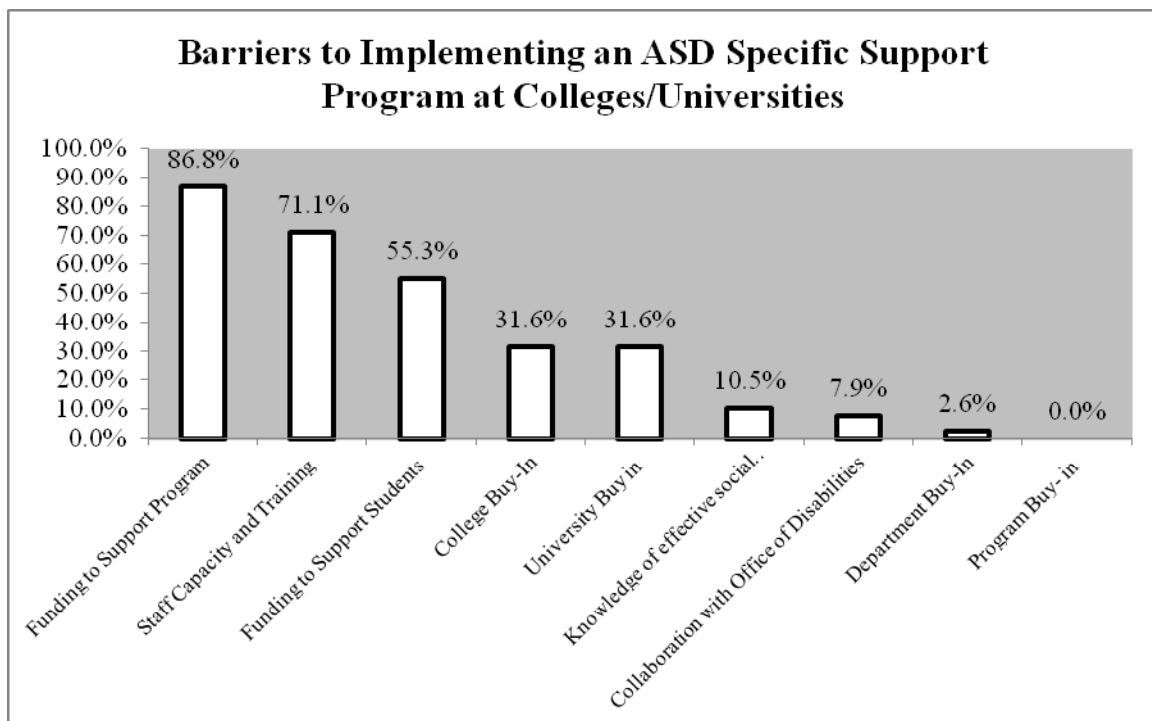


Figure 1

Additional materials or information attendees would need to set up an ASD-specific support program at their school:

- About 31% of conference attendees mentioned funding as additional materials needed to set up an ASD specific program at their institution.
- About 26% of attendees mentioned the need for staffing or additional training materials.
- About 29% of attendees' evaluations were not applicable.

Additional topics that would benefit the conference in the future:

- Tips on how to collaborate with other stakeholders on campus such as administration and office of disability to promote buy-in.
- Provide trainings for faculty, staff members, and peer mentors to assist and raise awareness about students with ASD.
- There should be more discussion on social skills training and how to better understand students with ASD.
- Parent involvement at the conference.
- How to modify programs for community colleges and other commuter schools they may not have the resources to start programs similar to private institutions.

Other individuals who would benefit from attending the conference:

- Parents of students with ASD
- Counselors and staff from counseling centers
- Administration and other stakeholders in higher education
- Additional faculty from the institutions

Contact ASERT at autism@mail.med.upenn.edu or 1-866-506-5841 with questions or for additional information.

