



### READY FOR PELL

Deadline: Wednesday, Nov. 24

Ascendium®  
Elevating opportunity



## Ready for Pell Proposal Deadline is Nov. 24

Ready for Pell proposals are due Wednesday, Nov. 24 to Jobs for the Future (JFF), intermediary partner in Ascendium's \$4.7 million, two-year initiative. Ready for Pell is designed to support and strengthen postsecondary education in prison programs in advance of the full restoration of Pell Grant eligibility for people in prison, coming in the 2023-24 academic year. Individual colleges are eligible for grants of \$100,000 to \$125,000 over two years. Postsecondary systems are eligible for grants of up to \$50,000 to support a coordinating function for a cohort of colleges. Grantees will also receive technical assistance from JFF, the Council of State Governments Justice Center and other subject matter experts. Applicants must be Title IV eligible institutions that do not currently administer Pell Grants in the postsecondary education in prison programs for which they are applying. For more details, see the [JFF article](#), view the [RFP document](#) or email [AskReadyForPell](#).



## New CCRC Report on Guided Pathways One of Several Ascendium-Supported Efforts on the Evidence-Informed Framework

Too many learners from low-income backgrounds start community college and drop out, never completing a degree or credential. To reverse this pattern, institutions nationwide are adopting guided pathways reforms, which aim to improve student outcomes by redesigning programs and providing students with clearer pathways to a credential with labor market value. Ascendium continues to support guided pathways efforts, which are showing promise in improving completion rates for learners from low-income backgrounds. Recent guided pathways efforts include a new report by Community College Research Center, informed by its six years of research and work with more than 100 institutions. [Read more...](#)

## Additional Ascendium News



[Grant from Ascendium's Maintain Momentum Supports Community Colleges of Appalachia in New Rural Educators Academy](#)



[Rural Research, Postsecondary Partnerships Highlighted in Recent Rural Matters Podcast Episodes](#)

## New Resources

- [Bucking the Trend: How Some Institutions Grew Their Transfer Enrollment Amid a Pandemic](#)
- [Degrees When Due Case Study: Anoka-Ramsey Community College](#)
- [Degrees When Due Case Study: Shasta College](#)
- [How Community Colleges Are Strengthening Guided Pathways to Ensure Students Are Learning](#)
- [Midwest Credential Transparency Alliance Pathways Action Team: A Brief](#)

## Recent Grants

### Field Support and Development

[Continuation of a Learning Community of Rural Community College Leaders](#)

Scaling

[New Venture Fund | \\$100,000 | 10/2021 - 09/2022](#)

This grant supports Ascendium's sponsorship of the NCII Impact Fund, a project of the New Venture Fund, in continuing a learning community that provides professional development and peer learning that is specific to the unique context of rural community colleges and their leaders.

[Establishing a Data Use Challenge to Inform Education & Workforce Transitions](#)

Scaling

[Coleridge Initiative Inc | \\$900,000 | 10/2021 - 07/2023](#)

This grant supports Coleridge Initiative in developing and launching a data use challenge and call for proposals to solicit data-driven ideas that inform education and workforce transitions. Ascendium will select individual projects that link education and workforce data, provide states the relevant data analysis capacity to answer critical questions about student progression and inform evidence-based policies and practices that support learners from low-income backgrounds.

## On the Go: Find Ascendium Staff in the Field

Ascendium is committed to the safety of our staff and will continue to monitor and follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's guidance regarding travel. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming virtual and in-person events.

### [Council on Adult and Experiential Learning: 2021 Annual Conference](#)

San Diego, CA / Virtual  
November 17 - 19, 2021



### [National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students: From Moment to Movement: Shaping the Future of Transfer](#)

In-person: February 2-4, 2022, St. Louis, MO

Virtual: February 23-24, 2022

- Carolyn Lee, presenter



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