

# Measuring Learning of Peer Financial Advisors

**Do students working with Financial Fitness possess the content knowledge necessary to advise and educate students on a variety of common topics asked within DePaul Central?**

## Learning Outcome

- Students who are employed with Financial Fitness will demonstrate the financial knowledge necessary to communicate to their intended audience.

## Methodology

- A pre/post survey was internally created using scenario-based writing prompts regarding budgeting, financial aid packages, loan repayment, credit cards and implications of course withdrawals.
- The pre-survey was distributed on the first day of training for the Peer Financial Advisor team and the post-survey was distributed at the year-end meeting 3 months later.
- An internally created rubric consisting of 4 content domains and 4 tiers worth 0-3 points for each prompt was used to analyze student responses.
- Students could receive up to 12 points for each prompt with a threshold of success set at an increase in their point total per prompt.

## Demographics

- 8 of the 9 Financial Fitness student employees were invited to participate in the assessment.
- Of the 8 students assessed, 6 worked as Peer Financial Advisors, 1 worked as a Peer Financial Educator, and 1 worked in both roles.
- Only 7 respondents completed both the pre- and post-surveys because one student employee resigned before the post-test.

## Key Findings

- All 7 respondents demonstrated an overall increase in their rubric scores between the pre- and post-survey.
- Of the 7 students assessed, 1 student demonstrated increases for all 5 prompts, two students demonstrated increases for 4 prompts, and 3 students demonstrated increases for 3 prompts.
- There was an overall increase in the range of scores for most of the prompts on the post-survey with the largest increase related to budgeting and the smallest increase related to the impact of course withdrawals.
- On the post-survey, all 7 students demonstrated an increase in rubric scores related to budgeting, 5 students demonstrated an increase related to financial aid packages and loan repayment, and 4 students demonstrated an increase related to credit cards and implications of course withdrawals.

## Plan of Action

- Additional training, especially in the area of how academic choices are intertwined with student finances, will be provided to Peer Financial Advisors by attending the larger DePaul Central monthly training initiative.
- Peer Advisor monthly training meetings that incorporate more scenario-based work and standard guidelines for appointments will be implemented.
- This assessment will be improved by more clearly defining questions, giving participants more time, and being adapted to new and returning Peer Financial Advisors.

“The assessments helped me identify the gaps in my knowledge, whether that meant the actual financial content itself or the task of transforming what I knew inside my head into words that made sense to others.”

## Social Media Information