



WCC Strategic Planning

Information Resource Packet

Completion and Transfer Working Group

Retention, Completion, Successful Transfer and Bachelor Degree Completion of Community College Students

Title	“College Completion Toolkit: Promising Practices for Improving Student Degree Attainment”
Source	US Department of Education
Link	https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/college-completion-toolkit.pdf
Description	Highlights research and recommendations by the Obama Administration for colleges to improve completion rates.
Est. Length	30 pages

Title	“Doubling Graduation Rates: Three Year Effects of CUNY’s Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP) for Developmental Education Students”
Source	Manpower Demonstration Research Center (MDRC)
Link	https://www.mdrc.org/publication/doubling-graduation-rates
Description	Provides learnings from CUNY’s Accelerated Study in Associates Programs (ASAP) for community colleges to retain students, improve student academic outcomes and improve community college finances while better serving students. Link takes you to website that contains article about the report, full report, and executive summary of report.
Est. Length	Article 2 Pages, Report 155 pages, Executive Summary 23 Pages

Title	“A Matter of Degrees: Practices to Pathways: High Impact Practices for Community College Student Success”
Source	Center for Community College Student Engagement
Link	https://www.ccsse.org/docs/Matter_of_Degrees_3.pdf
Description	“This report focuses on the critical next-level challenge in community college work: strengthening student success by identifying the educational practices that matter most and integrating them into coherent academic and career pathways for all students. Toward that end, this report offers exploratory analyses of relationships between high-impact practices and student outcomes.”
Est. Length	40 pages

Title	“Student Retention Best Practices at Public Two-Year College”
Source	The Affordable College Public Benefit Corporation
Link	http://www.affordablecollege.org/post/student-retention-best-practices-at-public-two-year-colleges
Description	Synopsis of Dept. of Education’s collection of 68 promising and practical strategies to increase postsecondary success. Highlights promising strategies from public two-year colleges.
Est. Length	3 pages

Title	“Implementing Guided Pathways: Early Insights from the AACC Pathways Colleges”
Source	Community College Resource Center
Link	https://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/publications/implementing-guided-pathways-aacc.html
Description	“This report provides insight into how colleges are planning and implementing ‘guided pathways’ reforms based on the early work of 30 colleges participating in the American Association of Community Colleges’ (AACC) Pathways Project.”
Est. Length	Full Report 66 pages, Executive Summary 8 pages

Title	“How to Measure Community College Effectiveness in Serving Transfer Students”
Source	Community College Research Center
Link	https://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/media/k2/attachments/measure-community-college-effectiveness-transfer.pdf
Description	“In this guide, we provide instructions for community colleges that want to use NSC data to measure their effectiveness in serving transfer students.” Explains how community colleges can assess their own effectiveness at helping students transfer, and how to evaluate and improve transfer partnerships with 4-year institutions.”
Est. Length	8 pages

Title	“The 2017 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence”
Source	The Aspen Institute
Link	https://www.aspeninstitute.org/publications/the-2017-aspen-prize-for-community-college-excellence/
Description	“The Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence honors those institutions that strive for and achieve exceptional levels of success for all students, while they are in college and after they graduate. This publication profiles and synthesizes the practices of colleges that won and were finalists for the Aspen Prize.”
Est. Length	36 pages

Title	“Making the Transition to 4-year Institutions: Academic Preparation and Transfer”
Source	Community College Research Center
Link	https://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/media/k2/attachments/making-transition-four-year-institutions.pdf
Description	This study examines “the role of academic preparation in the transition from community colleges to four-year institutions.” Evaluates the extent to which academically underprepared students transfer to 4-year institutions, and how positive experiences at community colleges might mitigate the effects of academically underprepared students.
Est. Length	35 pages

Title	“Transfer Students Get Boost from New Campus Programs”
Source	Berkeley News
Link	http://news.berkeley.edu/2018/01/25/transfer-students-get-boost-from-new-campus-programs/
Description	Explains efforts and programs to help smoothly transition transfer students from community colleges into UC Berkeley.
Est. Length	5 pages

Title	“First Year College Credits and GPA Big Predictor of Community College Success”
Source	Campus Technology
Link	https://campustechnology.com/articles/2017/09/20/first-year-college-credits- and-strong-gpa-big-predictor-of-cc-student-success.aspx
Description	Digs into analysis of Education Longitudinal Study of 2002 by the National Center for Education Statistics to discuss predictors of degree completion at community colleges.
Est. Length	2 pages

Title	“Redesigning Community Colleges for Student Success: Overview of the Guided Pathways Approach”
Source	Community College Resource Center
Link	https://www.irsc.edu/uploadedFiles/FacultyStaff/Redesigning-Community- Colleges-For-Student-Success.pdf
Description	“This overview describes the barriers to student success created by the way most community colleges are currently organized. It describes the key design features of the guided pathways model, describes the process for implementing it and outlines reasons why college leaders should consider doing so despite the costs involved.”
Est. Length	24 pages

Title	“7 Years to a Bachelor’s Degree”
Source	LA School Report
Link	http://laschoolreport.com/7-years-to-a-bachelors-degree-california-community- college-students-who-transfer-to-uc-or-csu-schools-are-trapped-in-a-system- that-adds-38k-to-the-cost-of-a-diploma-new-study-shows/
Description	Discusses challenges for community college students in California to transfer into public colleges affordably and successfully, and addresses legislative and programmatic changes to help community college students complete a bachelor’s degree.
Est. Length	1 page

Title	“Closing Gaps in Tennessee”
Source	Inside HigherEd
Link	https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2018/01/09/tennessee-colleges-face-achievement-gaps-and-decreasing-adult-student-enrollment
Description	Describes the Tennessee Promise Program, and continued challenges facing the state to enroll and retain minority students.
Est. Length	3 pages

Title	“Most Tennessee High School Students Apply for Tennessee Promise Program”
Source	Tennessean
Link	https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/education/2017/11/03/most-tennessee-high-school-students-apply-tennessee-promise-program/829011001/
Description	Short anecdotal piece on the Tennessee Promise Program and its effort to expand access to underserved students to higher education.
Est. Length	1 page

Workforce Development: How Community Colleges Can Promote Certificate/Credential Completion and Prepare Students for Jobs Needed in Economy

Title	“Empowering Community Colleges to Build the Nation’s Future”
Source	American Association of Community Colleges
Link	http://www.aacc21stcenturycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/EmpoweringCommunityColleges_final.pdf
Description	Presents recommendations for structural, staff and philosophical changes to improve retention, completion and pathways opportunities for students at community colleges.
Est. Length	52 pages

Title	“Preparing America’s Labor Force: Workforce Development Programs in Community Colleges”
Source	Brookings Institute
Link	https://www.brookings.edu/research/preparing-americas-labor-force-workforce-development-programs-in-public-community-colleges/
Description	“This policy paper makes use of interview data from multiple STEM-focused workforce training programs at public community colleges around the country to identify five common characteristics of successful programs. In addition, this paper makes 5 policy recommendations for state policymakers and community college leaders who seek to develop successful workforce training programs.”
Est. Length	25 pages

Title	“Good Jobs that Pay without a BA”
Source	Center on Education & the Workforce, Georgetown University
Link	https://goodjobsdata.org/wp-content/uploads/Good-Jobs-States.pdf
Description	Shows the concentration of and opportunities for non-BA workers state-by-state, industry and occupation.
Est. Length	136 pages

Title	“Community Colleges and Workforce Development in the 21st Century”
Source	Harvard Kennedy School
Link	http://ksr.hkspublications.org/2014/06/25/community-colleges-and-workforce-development-in-the-21st-century/
Description	Anecdotal and research-based piece discussing how community colleges can partner with local businesses to expand education and training for non-degree programs and improve the economic health of communities.
Est. Length	6 pages

Title	“Grow Economy by Modernizing Our Nation’s Approach to College”
Source	USA Today
Link	http://www.hattiesburgamerican.com/story/opinion/columnists/2018/01/14/grow-economy-modernizing-our-nations-approach-college-column/1030667001/
Description	Addresses need for colleges to change how they credential and prepare students for jobs needed in the economy.
Est. Length	2 pages

Title	“Pathways to Prosperity: Meeting the Challenge of Preparing Young Americans for the 21st Century”
Source	Harvard Graduate School of Education
Link	https://www.gse.harvard.edu/sites/default/files/documents/Pathways_to_Prospertity_Feb2011-1.pdf
Description	This seminal report launched the national dialogue about the need to develop meaningful career training as a part of comprehensive education reform. The report makes a case for the development of multiple pathways leading from high school to post-secondary education or career training with the end goal of gaining the meaningful work and educational experiences needed to earn degrees and higher salaries, helping to create better jobs and a stronger workforce.
Est. Length	53 pages

Rural and First Generation Students

Title	“Colleges Discover the Rural Student”
Source	New York Times
Link	https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/31/education/edlife/colleges-discover-rural-student.html
Description	Article that addresses unique challenges for rural students to succeed in college, and challenges faced by colleges to support them.
Est. Length	16 pages

Title	“Where to Turn When You’re the First in Your Family to go to College”
Source	New York Times
Link	https://www.nytimes.com/2017/06/07/education/where-to-turn-to-when-you-are-first-in-the-family-to-go-to-college.html?_r=1
Description	Article addresses unique challenges faced by first-generation students to transition to and succeed in college, and highlights college programs that are working to better support first-generation students.
Est. Length	11 pages

Title	“Who’s in First Generation?”
Source	Inside HigherEd
Link	https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2015/11/10/who-are-first-generation-students-and-how-do-they-fare
Description	Article digs into research that shows ‘first-generation’ college students are not universally defined across institutions, but regardless of definition, these students face more challenges to success in college than their peers.
Est. Length	3 pages

Title	“Closing the Gap for First-Generation Students”
Source	Chronicle of Higher Ed
Link	https://www.chronicle.com/article/Closing-the-Gap-for/239795
Description	Provides recommendations for colleges to promote access and increase supports for first-generation students.
Est. Length	3 pages

Other

Title	“The Community College Segregation Machine”
Source	The Atlantic
Link	https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2017/12/the-community-college-segregation-machine/548357/
Description	Article addresses the connections between minorities, remedial education, and challenges to degree completion in California.
Est. Length	4 pages

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