

Student Retention and Timely Progress to Degree: Critical Success Factors

Initiatives Groupings

Recruitment and selection of students

0.0 Recruit and select for increased retention and lower time to degree

First year academic success

1.0 Develop and utilize predictive analytics to determine the students most likely to need enhanced support at the beginning of their career

1.a Screen applicant materials

1.b Coordinate outreach and support efforts

1.c Develop and offer programs and services that target at risk students in the first year

Engagement and integration in the first year

2.0 Provide support structures for all students in their 1st year

2.a Develop and/or enhance social, support and co-curricular activities

2.b Strengthen advising and peer mentoring focused on the 1st year experience

2.c Support living and learning communities

2.d Miscellaneous engagement and integration Ideas

Successful transition to major

3.0 Develop predictive analytics and assess progress in the 1st and subsequent years to identify and support students at risk

3.a General ideas and programs

3.b Develop tactics to identify interventions needed

4.0 Evaluate and modify curriculum, administrative policies and advising to address throughput/time to degree issues

4.a General ideas and programs

4.b Change policies, procedures, standards that impede progress

4.c Address courses with high fail rates

4.d Address issues with course access and availability

4.e Develop interventions

4.f Strengthen Advising support

Opportunities for deeper intellectual and academic engagement and challenge

6.0 Develop and enhance programs that engage and challenge students

6.a Engage, encourage and inspire

Crossing the finish line

5.0 Develop and enhance programs that support engagement and integration. Specifically

5.a Mental health initiatives and ideas for support

5.b Address financial needs

5.c Address the use of alcohol and other drugs

5.d General integration and engagement ideas

6.0 Develop and enhance programs that engage and challenge students

6.b Create incentives and dis-incentives around degree completion

6.c Actively monitor progress and support completion

Data, systems, organizational structures and philosophies

7.0 Collect data to support the programs that address retention and time to degree

7.a Measure program performance

7.b Measure student progress and persistence

7.c Address overarching needs for data

8.0 Enhance advising programs to support retention and time to degree goals

8.a Adopt philosophies that value 4-years to degree

