



What is College Access?

College Access is a focus on motivating and preparing middle/high school students and families to enter postsecondary education by addressing a range of academic, financial, social, and informational skills necessary to participate in college.

College Access Programs typically represent a range of goals and strategies customized for students based on needs and interests. Program components commonly include regular meetings, test preparation, application assistance, financial aid assistance, counseling and mentoring, college visits, information on college readiness, academic advising, and tutoring.

What is College Persistence?

College Persistence is a collection of behaviors and motivations students exhibit for continuing their education until completion of a degree, certificate, or other credential.

College Persistence Programs provide support to college students across a range of academic, financial, social, and informational needs to improve student engagement and completion. Persistence programs help students to address cultural and socio-economic barriers and needs, develop self-advocacy skills, and empower students to succeed.

The program evaluation includes two measures of College Access:

1. Enrollment in the Fall following high school graduation (direct-to-college enrollment)
2. Enrollment within a year of high school graduation

Where possible, the evaluation will also examine the shares of students enrolling full-time vs. part-time.

The program evaluation includes three measures of College Persistence:

1. Enrollment in successive Fall semesters/quarters/sessions (persisting in college)
2. Enrollment in each semester since entering college (continuous enrollment)
3. Attainment of a degree, certificate, or credential (completion)

Where possible, the evaluation will also examine the shares who persist full-time vs. part-time.