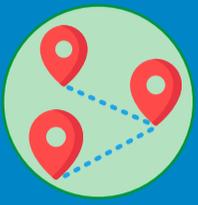
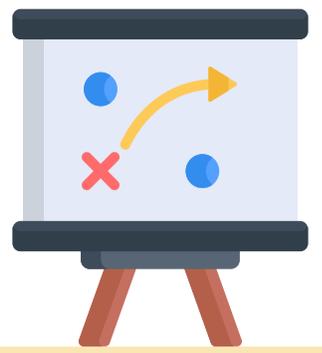


Strategies to Help Postsecondary Students in Developmental Education

Recommendations from the What Works Clearinghouse practice guide



Recommendation 1

Use multiple measures to assess postsecondary readiness and place students.

- ✓ Explore potential additional measures that faculty and administration believe might inform placement.
- ✓ Use a pilot period to study the placement rates and success rates of students involving different placement methods at your institution.
- ✓ After implementation, investigate the effects of the multiple measures policy on desired student outcomes over time.
- ✓ Consider how college-readiness policies and practices in your state and local area impact the parameters of decision-making and implementation of multiple measures.



Recommendation 2

Require or incentivize regular participation in enhanced advising activities.

- ✓ Recruit and train advisors.
- ✓ Require or incentivize in-person advising meetings.
- ✓ Require or incentivize students to meet with advisors frequently and over a long(er) period of time.
- ✓ Use early alert systems to identify the students who most need enhanced advising.



Recommendation 3

Offer students performance-based monetary incentives.

- ✓ Design and structure payments of students' performance-based incentives to yield students a net financial gain.
- ✓ Distribute payments incrementally, according to specific desired performance benchmarks.
- ✓ Target incentives to low-income students.
- ✓ Provide student support services, in conjunction with performance-based incentives.



Recommendation 4

Compress or mainstream developmental education with course design.

- ✓ Obtain faculty leadership support for rethinking course structures and policies to efficiently support students in mastering developmental education skills and earning college credits.
- ✓ Provide systematic professional development and support for faculty to implement new accelerated course models.
- ✓ Offer support to faculty for differentiating instruction to students of varied levels of academic preparedness in their classes.
- ✓ Mobilize and communicate targeted supports for students' specific instructional needs.



Recommendation 5

Teach students how to become self-regulated learners.

- ✓ Encourage students to improve their estimation of their current capabilities.
- ✓ Integrate monitoring and reflecting on the learning process with coursework or course content.
- ✓ Present students with examples and models of how to monitor and reflect in the course subject matter.



Recommendation 6

Implement comprehensive, integrated, and long-lasting support programs.

- ✓ Develop a strong, collaborative organizational structure that uses data to inform practice.
- ✓ Clearly communicate expectations to students. Require or incentivize in-person advising meetings.
- ✓ Design course enrollment strategically.
- ✓ Decide which student support services will be provided and how to ensure that students participate.
- ✓ Provide performance-based monetary incentives and other financial supports.



Discover how you can put these recommendations into practice by utilizing the implementation checklists available in the What Works Clearinghouse resource:

[Strategies for postsecondary students in developmental education – A practice guide for college and university administrators, advisors, and faculty.](https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/PracticeGuide/23)

<https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/PracticeGuide/23>



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