

Single Stop USA's Community College Initiative

Intervention Snapshot | Supporting Postsecondary Success Topic Area

WHAT WORKS CLEARINGHOUSE™
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Earning a college degree is one of the primary pathways to economic success. Median weekly earnings of full-time workers with an associate degree in 2017 were 17 percent higher than full-time workers with a high school diploma only. Yet, over two-thirds of students who enroll in community college do not either graduate or transfer within three years. Many programs and practices aim to improve college persistence and completion, including *Single Stop USA's Community College Initiative*, hereafter referred to as *Single Stop*. *Single Stop* supports community college students with screening and applications for public benefits and other wraparound services that can include housing, food

assistance, tax preparation, child care, financial and legal services, and immigration consultations.

This What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) report, part of the WWC's Supporting Postsecondary Success topic area, explores the effects of *Single Stop* on persistence in college and academic achievement. The WWC identified three studies of *Single Stop*. Two of these studies meet WWC standards. The evidence presented in this report is from studies of the impact of *Single Stop* on first-time community college students—including Black, Hispanic, and White students—in urban, suburban, and rural settings.

What Happens When Students Participate in *Single Stop*?

The WWC found that implementing <i>Single Stop</i> :	Effectiveness rating	Study findings	Evidence meeting WWC standards (version 4.0)	
		Improvement index (percentile points)	Number of studies	Number of students
May increase college persistence	Potentially positive effects	+8	2	10,231
May increase academic achievement	Potentially positive effects	+3	2	10,213

Note: The improvement index can be interpreted as the expected change in percentile rank for an average comparison group student if that student had received the intervention. A positive improvement index does not necessarily mean the estimated effect is statistically significant.

FINDINGS ARE BASED ON:

2 studies with 10,231 students in 5 community college systems in Florida, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania



STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS:

Gender: 55% female	Race: 33% minority	Ethnicity: 61% Hispanic
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What Does *Single Stop* Cost?

Single Stop establishes an office on each college campus that provides a range of services to students and has dedicated staff and site coordinators paid by the community college who are expected to have experience and degrees in social

work, counseling, student services, or other related fields. *Single Stop* uses a software program called *Single Stop Technologies 3.0*. The cost of a *Single Stop Technologies 3.0* software license ranges from \$5,000 to \$45,000 annually depending on the scope of services, the number of schools in a cohort, and whether or not there is a statewide license.

LEARN MORE



Read more about the *Single Stop* intervention and the studies that are summarized here in the [Intervention Report](#). Contact the [Single Stop USA](#) for additional information on implementing *Single Stop*.