Are Colleges Guiding Students to Choose Valuable Programs and Pathways?

Michael Collins
Jobs for the Future
About Jobs for the Future

OUR MISSION

JFF works to ensure that all young people and workers have the skills and credentials needed to succeed in our economy.

OUR VISION

The promise of education and economic mobility in America is achieved for everyone.
Postsecondary State Policy Network: The Arc of Our Work
Overview of the SSC Network
# Overview of the SSC Network

<table>
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<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Year Est</th>
<th># of Colleges</th>
<th>Host Organization</th>
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<td>Lisa Garcia-Hanson</td>
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What Do the Centers Do?

Student Success Center Strategy & Framework

- Map and align initiatives to create **COHERENCE**
- **STUDENT SUCCESS CENTERS** organize a state’s community colleges around common action to improve persistence and completion
- Develop an agenda for **RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT** to support reform
- **CONVENE** learning opportunities for administrators and faculty to support innovation
- Strengthen state **DATA** capacity to support innovation and improve performance
Center Expectations

• Build institutional and statewide capacity to support student success efforts across the state’s community colleges.

• Establish and sustain student success as a priority for the state’s community colleges.

• Leverage the infrastructure of the Student Success Center to increase coherence across multiple completion initiatives.

• Deepen the commitment of the state’s community colleges to implement innovative models to increase completion.

• Gather multi-institutional student success and progression data and share the data across institutions.

• Raise leveraged funding from the colleges, state organization, or local/national foundations to sustain the Center.
The Network’s Potential for Impact

- Key data points for public, two-year colleges in the 13 states with Student Success Centers:
  - 49% of colleges are in these states
  - 58% of the fall enrollments were in these states
  - 67% of all minority students were in these states
  - 55% of Pell grant recipients were in these states
  - 56% of the Associate’s degree recipients were in these states

Source: 2013-14 IPEDS data
JFF Support to the SSC Network

- Lead cross-state convenings with SSC leadership and staff
- Create tools, templates, and resources for use by SSCs
- Disseminate information through knowledge management and regular communications
- Communicate value and impact of SSCs to the field
- Develop and manage system to provide technical assistance to SSCs – in development
Sample of Technical Assistance Needs from Survey Results

• Advising
• Effective use of labor market information
• Stackable credentials and career pathways
• Industry/employer engagement
Types of Technical Assistance

• Types of TA Ranked Highest by SSCs:
  1. Assessing gaps, strengths, and opportunities
  2. Institutes, seminars, and workshops
  3. Just-in-time packaged content, tools, and examples
  4. Peer-to-peer learning and communities of practice

• Other TA Types Included:
  1. Train-the-trainer
  2. In-person convenings and meetings
  3. Consulting, agenda setting, strategic planning
  4. Direct in-person coaching and TA with colleges
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