

Mini Literature Review

Leading Issues in Community College Transfer Student Success

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Purpose: Summary of Key Issues in Transfer Student Success in Community Colleges

Methodology: Review of Published Literature

This Research Brief provides an overview of key trends and issues in community college transfer student education.

Essential Practices in the Community College

*** Prioritize transfer student success as core to the college's mission**

* Share data internally on transfer student outcomes and effectiveness of transfer practices

* Invest significant resources to support students seeking to transfer

*** Create clear program pathways with aligned high-quality instruction**

* Provide rigorous instruction and other high-quality learning experiences to prepare students to thrive in upper division coursework in their desired majors

* Solicit regular, honest feedback on college academic program quality from university academic departments

*** Provide tailored transfer student advising**

* Help students explore career/transfer options, choose a major field and preferred transfer destination, and develop a full-program plan as soon as possible

* Help students plan to finance their entire undergraduate education (not just the community college portion)

*** Build strong transfer partnerships**

* Share data on transfer student experiences and outcomes

* Collaborate on improving instruction and support services for transfer students

Essential Outcomes for Students who Transfer to Four-Year Institutions

* Clear transfer program pathways, defined through transfer program maps, guide students to further education and careers of economic importance to the college's service region

* Four-year institutions should provide effective orientation systems for community college students who transfer

* Progress of transfer students needs to be effectively monitored and adequate supports provided to help students

* Students should be able to access sufficient financial resources (financial aid) to fund their entire education

References

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