

Increase College Retention and Graduation Rates with Your Economically Diverse Student Population

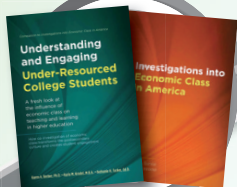
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Low-income and first-generation students require a different level of support than students from a stable environment. Being trained in these areas has allowed me the ability to reframe their needs in a manner that helps faculty, advisors, and other student affairs staff understand how to help our students be successful. It allows me to advocate for my students.

—Temesia Perdue, Director,
TRiO Student Support Services, Madisonville
Community College, Madisonville, Kentucky

01 Introduction

Introduction to Understanding and Engaging Under-Resourced College Students (URCS) by book or by conversation



02 Meetings

Offer a three-hour, in-person overview for key decision makers
Discuss implementing Investigations course

03 Follow-Up

Follow-up discussion concerning expected outcomes/implementation plan

08 Data Collection

Collect data through program, department, or specified person
Identify barriers to staying in college

06 Build Community

Choose individuals to become College Achievement Alliance certified trainers
Reach out to community organizations to begin collaborations that stabilize students

04 Workshop

Full-day URCS workshop for faculty and staff
On-campus discussion concerning Investigations course

05 Strategic Consulting

A day of planning guided by an aha! Process consultant for embedding constructs and new strategies

09 Check-In

Six-month check-in with aha! Process personnel

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It is the glue that provides an opportunity to develop relationships.

—Angela Martindale, Visiting Clinical Assistant Professor, University of Tulsa, Tulsa, Oklahoma

10 Planning

Plan next steps for training based on needs of college faculty and staff

11 Anniversary

One-year “check up” report with engagement manager on return on investment, retention, graduation rates, and other changes

07 Implementation

Campus changes begin using client life cycle review; provide Investigations into Economic Class course

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TAKEAWAYS

Train all faculty/staff on economic class diversity; create common language

Create pathways for retention and graduation

Form partnerships with community organizations for student resources