



OVERVIEW OF PROJECT COMPLETION

A DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROJECT SUCCESS PROGRAM

The most expensive degree is the one you don't get. An estimated 3.5M Texans have some college credit but no college degree. Select Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) participating in the US Department of Education's Project Success, can access additional resources to re-start students who have dropped out or stopped out, generating new tuition revenue and improving graduation rates. This project, which is coordinated statewide through the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas (ICUT) and supported by Trellis Corporation, will target students in collections, re-assigning resources to help them come back and complete.

The goal of Project Completion is twofold:

1. To re-engage students and increase institutions' tuition revenue and graduation rates
2. Improve student loan repayment outcomes through degree completion

Students interested in completing their degree will be advised into one of three pathways by a coach assigned by Trellis, to:

1. Return to their home school and finish out their degree
2. Earn their degree online/remotely from their home school through consortial courses
3. Transfer to another participating institution offering associate's and/or online degree options

Note: in options 1 and 2, host school bills the student and can generate new tuition revenue.

SUPPORT NEEDED FROM PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Participating schools will be required to provide the following:

- ▶ An executive champion at the cabinet level who will represent the project on campus and across the country, serving as a role model for future MSIs being added to Project Success
- ▶ A primary contact(s) within academic affairs and/or student advising who will work with Trellis to re-enroll students who choose to come back to complete in either option 1 or 2 above
- ▶ Bi-annual access to academic and directory data for students who have stopped or dropped-out, which will be collected securely under a FERPA compliant data sharing agreement
- ▶ Debt forgiveness, if applicable

TIMELINE AND TO DOS

The goal is to begin this project over the 2018 summer, when participating schools have more availability and less advising. Below are the immediate next steps to participate:

- ▶ Attend a 30 minute webinar to learn more about the program and resource requests
- ▶ Sign a data sharing agreement, making a commitment to participate
- ▶ Invite members of the project working team from Trellis to campus to announce the program and provide the requested data (to be sent in advance)
- ▶ Schedule training for the primary contact(s) and define the hand-offs between Trellis and each participating school (this will include billing/student accounts for options 1 and 2)
- ▶ Re-enroll students interested in converting their debt into a degree