

SJECED STUDENT SUCCESS DEFINITION & POLICY -- BP-5050.2

Student Success Definition

Student Success for community college students means more than just obtaining degrees, transfer, certificate, or career advancement. It also means the achievement of the individual student's self-established educational goals including completing a specific course, program, career and/or technical education to maximize the skills necessary for becoming a better person, worker, and/or citizen. Student success is not merely an outcome, but also a process. It's a journey that encompasses multiple levels of achievement and milestones such as abilities to: analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information; effectively communicate with others; achieve proficiency in subjects including science, mathematics, computer/technical skills, world languages, history, geography, and global awareness; collaboratively work in culturally diverse settings; be leaders who see projects through to completion; be responsible decision makers who are self-motivated; be active civic participants; and be ethical individuals who are committed to their families, communities, and others. Student Success is everyone's responsibility demonstrated through role modeling, support, opportunity, equity, and social justice.

Student Success Policy

(Per California Leadership Alliance for Student Success (CLASS) Policy Agenda with Student Success Board Committee and Constituent Group modifications)

An effective student success policy agenda reflects an institution-wide commitment, involving faculty, staff, administration, students, and board, to improvement of educational outcomes for students across all groups. Improvement of student outcomes (for example, individual student's educational goals, successful course completion, persistence, certificate/degree attainment and transfer) clearly requires broad participation, commitment and leadership by the faculty. It also requires leadership and support by the president/chancellor and the Board of Trustees.

Leadership and Governance

Students succeed because of the work of the governing boards, chief executives, faculty, staff, administrators and students. Strong and supportive leadership is required to overcome cultural assumptions and systemic inertia that accepts the behavior that says "but we have always done it this way."

The Board's commitment to student success is to ensure the availability of resources for the colleges to:

- Ensure that Student Success is a shared responsibility.
- Mandate college orientation.
- Mandate assessment.
- Limit or eliminate late registration.

- Mandate advising and counseling and educational plans, targeted support and/or student success courses especially for high-risk students.
- Require or strongly encourage students to enroll in needed basic skills and prerequisite courses in their first term(s).
- Provide integrated basic skills programs and services that are evidence-based.
- Promote the use of disaggregated student progress data (qualitative and quantitative) and cohort tracking to foster inquiry and improve programs; engage in "courageous conversations."
- Foster common definitions of student progress and the ability to benchmark progress.
- Foster curricular and program design that addresses diversity in learning styles and cultural backgrounds.
- Engage employees in professional development focused on improving student success, including cultural competency and effective teaching/learning for students with a wide variety of backgrounds and skills.
- Revisit hiring practices for faculty to ensure effective teaching skills, including and particularly for faculty teaching basic skills courses.
- Adequately fund, staff and support Service-Learning programs on both campuses to create a culture of service and civic responsibility, and to provide students with opportunities to engage in social change work.

Board Adopted January 22, 2013