

Project Abstract

Making it Happen! – A Pathway for Equitable Degree Completion at Bakersfield College.

Bakersfield College (BC) is the primary gateway to higher education for a growing Hispanic student population that is increasingly high need and underprepared for college. Institution-wide planning and analysis led to the Comprehensive Development Plan that reflects BC's top priority commitment to underlining student success in all operations and development. BC has many strengths and a long history of serving basic skills students, but increased enrollment of underprepared students and reliance on ad hoc, disconnected services is no longer adequate. The proposed project will address BC's most significant problem affecting student outcomes by developing a more holistic, integrated pre-college pathway based on proven strategies that increase Hispanic and other underrepresented student success.

| GOALS | OBJECTIVES |
|--|--|
| <p>Goal 1. To develop an exemplary, holistic pathway for our underprepared students – through improving vertical and horizontal connections and processes - with a clear mission to significantly improve learning and success from entry to degree completion.</p> | <p>1. 50% of all first-time, degree-seeking, underprepared students are participating in BC's Completion Program and have signed a success contract for "<i>Making It Happen!</i>"</p> <p>2. 20% decrease in student enrollment in courses three and four levels below transfer, with concurrent increases in levels one and two levels below transfer, over baseline.</p> <p>3. 80% of basic skills faculty are trained through the <i>Making it Happen! Academy</i> in best practice pedagogy and methods including effective use of instructional technology.</p> |
| <p>Goal 2. To significantly increase underprepared student learning and success rates while closing the equity gap at identified <i>momentum points</i> through development of an engaging, integrated, and supported degree pathway that utilizes technology as a means to improve delivery of instruction and services.</p> | <p>4. 15% increase in the successful completion of developmental instruction within two years, over baseline.</p> <p>5. 15% increase in successful completion of the initial college level/gateway courses in English and math, over baseline.</p> <p>6. 8% increase in students who successfully complete at least 30 college level units within six-years of enrollment.</p> |
| <p>Goal 3. To significantly increase BC's productivity and overall six-year <i>completion</i> rate by addressing the needs of our underprepared students.</p> | <p>7. 10% increase in the underprepared student six-year completion rate.</p> <p>8. 5% increase in BC's overall six-year completion rate.</p> <p>9. 10% improvement in CA Scorecard efficiency metric (currently being developed, with baseline expected by Summer 2015).</p> |
| <p>Competitive Preference Priority 1: <u>Every</u> project goal and objective is designed to increase academic success by increasing success rates at each momentum point through to completion (metrics are defined by a statewide student success scorecard). All project strategies were selected after extensive analysis of what works with high need, at-risk students.</p> | |
| <p>Competitive Preference Priority 2: The project includes well thought-out online student support services as well as research-based hybrid methods of instruction in developmental math and English, in order to increase access and accommodate students that work or are otherwise unable to attend traditional courses and take advantage of face-to-face student services. The new methods of course delivery and student engagement will significantly reduce costs.</p> | |