

SHEEO Information Request

March 7, 2013

Query:

New Jersey is designing a survey to collect information about its “access to success” programs – programs that help disadvantaged students stay in school and complete their studies. We are looking to collect data and anecdotes to identify exemplary programs to see if they can be replicated. If any other state has conducted a similar survey of its higher education institutions and would be willing to share the survey instrument with us, we would be grateful for the help.

State Agency Responses:

Illinois	<p>The Illinois Board of Higher Education annually collects quantitative and qualitative data from the public universities on the status of underrepresented student groups (reports located at www.ibhe.org/Reports %20&% 20Studies/access.htm). The qualitative response is based on the <i>Illinois Public Agenda for Career and College Success</i> (Goal 1: Increase educational attainment) allowing each of the institutions to summarize activity on “access and success programs” at their institution.</p> <p><i>Illinois Public Agenda for Career and College Success</i> is located at (www.ibhe.org)</p>
Indiana	<p>Our 21st Century Scholars Program in Indiana is a promise scholarship that covers tuition and fees for free and reduced lunch students who sign up in 7th or 8th grade, maintain a 2.5 GPA, stay out of trouble, and participate in intervention programs. We have 100,000 students who are in the program (7th grade through college).</p>
Louisiana	Louisiana has not conducted such a survey.
Massachusetts	Massachusetts has not conducted such a survey.
Ohio – SEE ATTACHMENT	<p>Last summer, an OBR intern did a report on mentoring programs in Ohio designed to promote college access and success. I’m attaching the report, which may benefit the New Jersey folks. While it’s not a broad-based study of “access to success” in Ohio, it does explore one aspect of work in that area. The report is a good inventory of mentoring programs in Ohio.</p>
Virginia—SEE ATTACHMENT	<p>I am responding on behalf of Virginia. I am the director of SCHEV’s College Access Challenge Grant Program which funded a recent study on the Commonwealth’s adult learner population and supporting programs at higher education institutions. The research methodology included interviews with representatives from existing bachelor degree attainment/completion programs. The attached template was used to organize the information gathered during each interview. While it is not a survey, as requested, and it focuses solely on adult completion programs, I</p>

	<p>hope that some of the topics and terms used can assist in the development of New Jersey’s assessment of “access to success” programs. The data from the interviews helped us to develop a greater understanding of Virginia program characteristics and participant trends. Notes from each interview were shared in the Appendix of SCHEV’s Assessment of Opportunities and Models for Adults to Complete the Baccalaureate Degree at Virginia Four-year Institutions, completed in March 2012. I believe that information found in the full report, which highlights programs and policies from other states, may also be beneficial to you. The framework of many of the noted practices can support college access and success programming targeted at various campus student groups such as, first year students, first generation students, students with disabilities, etc.</p>
Per the SHEEO office	<p>As I read your query, three things came immediately to mind:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For examples of effective practice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Education Trust’s Access to Success program • For assistance in connecting with the right people in your state to complete your survey: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The New Jersey membership of the National College Access Network (NCAN) ○ The New Jersey membership of the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE)