

Frontier Set Network Grant

Due October 24, 2016

Award: Early December

First Meeting: February/March

Up to \$630,000 over four years (implementation of key reforms and participation in the network)

- Selected institutions host a 2-day visit from a team of 4-5 experts
- Technical assistance to support key reforms and change management
- Cross-sector collaboration and learning

Selected colleges commit to accelerate and scale implementation of guided pathways to support:

- 1) Redesigned advising
- 2) Enhanced digital learning and courseware
- 3) Strengthened developmental education
- 4) Increased transfer rates

Bring about dramatic improvements in completion and equity through an integrated set of reforms tied to guided pathways redesign

Colleges selected for the Frontier Set will already be deeply engaged in a wide array of student success reforms.

Opportunity to further integrate and accelerate those reforms within a network that provides targeted support and the ability to learn from and share knowledge with, other high-performing institutions across postsecondary sectors.

Expectations:

- Engage with the Frontier Set Network
- Build a strong implementation team
- Accelerate improvements in student success and strengthen capacities for sustained reform
- Submit data and set targets on near-term and long-term key performance indicators
- Engage in introspection and transparency about transformational change efforts
- Make public commitments to improve
- Engage in development of knowledge-sharing resources and dissemination activities

| Near-Term KPIs | Long-Term KPIs |
|--|---|
| Increase gateway course completion rates | Increase graduation rates and/or transfer rates at a rate greater than the average of community colleges nationally |
| Increase the number of students that reach relevant credit accumulation thresholds while maintaining reasonable credit completion ratios | Increase completion rates and overall numbers of credentials produced |
| Increase retention rates | |

Eligibility:

- ✓ Strong & continually improving student outcomes (retention and completion)
- ✓ Above-average enrollment of students of color and low-income students
- ✓ Demonstrated commitment to achieving equitable outcomes for those students
- ✓ Enrollment of at least 5,000 students

Selection Criteria:

“Selection for the Frontier Set is centered on identifying high-potential institutions, defined as those with the proven ability to scale an integrated set of student success reforms and a willingness to document and share learning.

- **Leadership committed** to long-term student success reform (urgency and engagement)
- Evidence of **college-wide commitment**
Existence of an **integrated set of promising reforms**
- **Current implementation** of reforms in the specific areas prioritized in the Frontier Set (guided pathways with a focus on digital learning, redesigned advising, developmental education, transfer)
- Desire to fully engage in the **transparency and introspection** required to support network learning and collaborate in cross-sector learning activities

Application Narrative:

- 1) Student Success Agenda
- 2) Short-term to Medium-term Challenges
- 3) Completion Outcomes and Strategies
- 4) Post-completion/Transfer Outcomes
- 5) Student Learning (how do we evaluate and seek to improve it?)
- 6) Student Equity
- 7) Network Collaboration (what do we hope to gain? What will others gain from us? What is our level of comfort sharing information and progress?)
- 8) Initiative Management (list other initiatives; how would we characterize “initiative fatigue” at the college? What are our strategies for overcoming it?)

Budget Guidelines:

- Must appoint a point person with a clear line of communication with the president
- A portion of FTE salary(ies) may be allocated to the grant
- Must include travel funding (approx. \$7,500/year)
- May want to hire consultants for technical assistance (IPASS, digital learning)
- Faculty release time for pathways redesign
- Professional development
- Data Collection