

INITIATIVE BRIEF

STUDENT SUCCESS



Student success is one of UTSA's highest institutional priorities. To accelerate improvements in retention and graduation rates, the university is implementing an integrated strategic plan that builds on UTSA's dramatic increases over the last decade.

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CONSULTANT EAB

OVERVIEW

In the fall of 2017, UTSA launched a Presidential Initiative on Student Success. The task force was charged with developing a retention and graduation rate improvement strategy to ensure the university surpasses national averages within the next five years. After a year-long examination of processes, procedures and best practices at model research intensive, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, a student success plan was launched to guide UTSA's efforts toward meeting its aggressive retention and graduation rate goals.

THE CHALLENGE

Improving student persistence and graduation rates requires regular interventions that remove any unnecessary barriers students may face to continuing their education and obtaining their undergraduate degrees. The university has made great strides over the last decade, showing improvements of a magnitude rarely seen within the public university landscape. Data from the Texas Coordinating Board Higher Education Almanac confirms that UTSA is the fastest improving institution in Texas, evidence that the university is well on its way to becoming a model for student success advancement at the national level. Continuing this momentum is UTSA's core challenge.

THE PLAN

In August 2018, the Student Success Task Force introduced UTSA's new Integrated Student Success Plan. The plan outlines a strategic approach to meeting and exceeding the university's minimum goals: an 85% first-year retention rate, a 35% four-year graduation rate, and a 60% six-year graduation rate.

STRATEGIES

- » Advising Excellence Project Plan
- » Coordinated Care Network Project Plan
- » Graduation Action Project Plan
- » Student Success Communication Project Plan
- » Data and Progress Tracking Project Plan
- » Expanded Coordinated Care
- » Expanded Progress Report Utilization
- » Peer Mentoring
- » Student Hiring Hub and Training
- » Expanded Advising Excellence

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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