

To Improve Adult Learner Engagement, Focus on Career Alignment

Non-Traditional is Now the Typical Student

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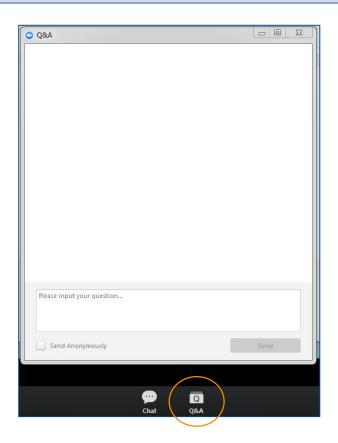


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We help schools support students

from enrollment to graduation and beyond

ROOTED IN RESEARCH

Peer-tested 7.500^{+} best practices

Enrollment innovations 500⁺

tested annually

ADVANTAGE OF SCALE

Institutions 1,500+ served

Students supported by our SSMS

WE DELIVER RESULTS

95%

Of our partners continue with us year after year, reflecting the goals we achieve together



Presenters





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2 Dissertation Findings

3 Career Integration

Non-Traditional is the New Traditional



The Changing Face of College



No Longer 18 Year-Olds

38%

Over 25 years of age



Take Longer to Graduate

47%

Enroll part-time at some point



Have Families of Their Own

25%

Federal financial aid deems undergrads independent if:

Raise children



Need to Pay the Bills

70%

Work while enrolled

Adult is Nearly Synonymous With Independent Student

DEFINITION

53%

of financial aid recipients are independent 0 04

- Over age 24
- Married
- Independent of parents

- Military service
- Homeless
- Have dependent children

Other adult learner characteristics:

- Lack traditional HS diploma
- Work full-time



Few Colleges Meet Adults' Needs

Not a Small Part of Your Student Body, But Struggling to Thrive



Limited after-hours class schedules and services



Penalties for absences



Programs lack milestone credentials







Adults Contribute Value to Classrooms

Having Their Voices on Campus Fills a Need and Supports Their Goals

Adult learners are:



Motivated

They enroll on their own volition, want to be there and are driven



Experienced

Past experiences contribute richly to classroom discussions



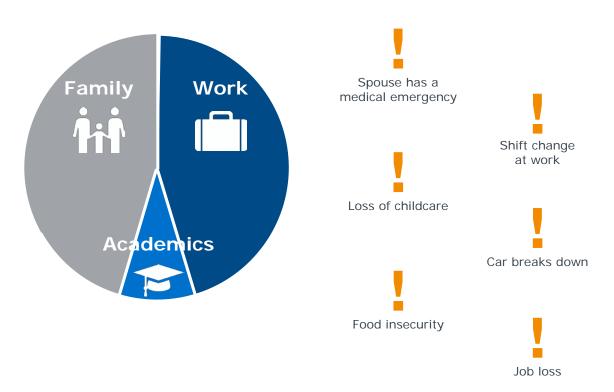
Independent

Believe that responsibility for their success is their own, not the institution's



Complex Lives Crowd Time for Academics

Success of Low-Income, Adult Students a Precarious Balance



Understanding Adult Learners

2 Dissertation Findings

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Serve Adult Learners By Providing Allies

Combine Holistic Advising with Institutional Support

In their Own Words: What Contributes to Adult Learner Student Success?



Academic, Personal & Professional Balance









Understanding Adult Learners

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Career Motivations Vary

College Education and Credentials Prepare Them for New Opportunities

Upskilling to Seek Promotion



"I need to build skills for my next step."

Facing Replacement



"My career doesn't exist anymore."

Returning to Workforce



"I haven't worked in a long time."

Preparing for a Switch



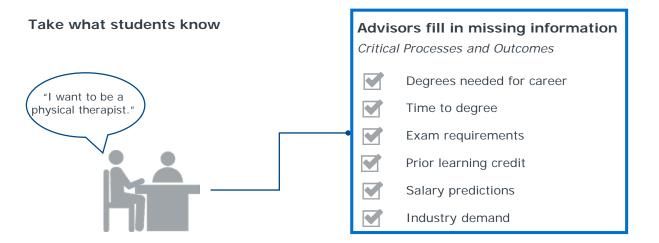
" I want a better job in a different field."





Understanding Program Choice and Requirements

Advise Students Early About the Missing Pieces



Student Insight

Adult learners need **early advising** to set **realistic expectations** for time to degree, metrics for success, and intended outcomes





Using Quick Polls to Gather Key Student Info

Help Students Set and Meet Their Goals

Use Navigate's student-facing **Quick Polls** to gather useful information about students' plans and goals

Ask questions like:

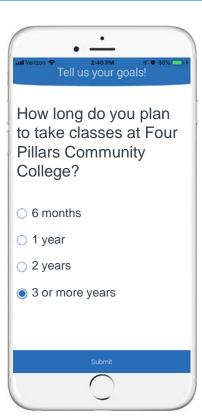
- What are your career goals after college?
- How much time do you anticipate spending at this school before you graduate or transfer?

Advisors use this information to:

- Uncover students in specific programs that don't align with their career goals
- Uncover students who are taking credits at a lower rate than needed to meet their graduation goal

Turn insight into action:

- Connect students with campus resources
- Intervene with students to help them set and meet their academic and career goals

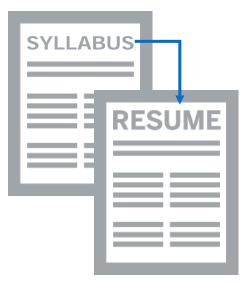




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Connecting Classroom to Career

Reinforce Student Motivations Across the Curriculum



Articulate Professional Competencies

Reinforce Connections in Course Material

3 Offer Work-based Assignment Options

Student Insight

Integration of **career relevance** allows adult learners to understand how the **curriculum aligns with their goals**



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Using Early Alerts to Identify Disengaged Students

Help Students Connect Classroom Lessons With Real-Life Career Skills





Faculty member notices student isn't participating in class, and submits an alert in Navigate





Student meets with advisor and discloses that they are struggling with the course materials





Student is referred to the Career Center to better assess their major and career goals





Administrators note high withdrawal rate for this course and assess the need for better communication around class expectations



Adults Need Work-Based Learning, Too



Colleges Offer Career Development

But Not for Adult Learners



Career and resume workshops



Limited time on

Internships



Unable to afford unpaid internships

Employer-based co-curriculars





Competing work obligations

How Schools Can Improve Adult Access

- Offer virtual opportunities
- · Engage employers to solve real-world problems
- Partner with employers to offer paid internships
- · Invite employers oncampus during evening hours to meet your adults

Student Insight

Adults need career preparation activities that allow them to stay in their current job or get paid for new professional experiences



1 Understanding Adult Learners

2 Dissertation Findings

3 Career Integration

Summary of Insights

From Adult Students

- Adult learners need **early advising** to set **realistic expectations** for time to degree, metrics for success, and intended outcomes
- Integration of career relevance allows adult learners to understand how the curriculum aligns with their goals
- Adults need career preparation activities that allow them to stay in their current job or get paid for new professional experiences



Help Center and Community Updates

Focusing on Improved Support, Resources, and Collaboration

The Navigate Help Center was been relaunched with a new organizational design and updated content, including:



Platform Information – Information on specific features and common platform workflows across all three pillars of Navigate: Strategic Care, Smart Guidance and Intelligence.



Product Updates – Release notes for all three pillars from the previous six months and important cross-platform announcements.



Site Administration – Decision guidance, EAB recommendations and configuration information for all pillars of Navigate.



Resources – EAB Infographics, toolkits, training materials, student promotional materials and other resources to support your use of Navigate on campus.



The Community – New topics to facilitate engaging conversation, make connections, share best practices, and answer questions.



Any Questions?





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