



Achieving the Dream: Community Colleges Count

**DABCC Lumina Foundation
Initiative**



Achieving the Dream

- **DABCC is participating in a national student retention initiative funded by the Lumina Foundation.**
- **26 Partner community colleges in five states were selected through a competitive proposal process this past summer.**



Lumina Foundation for Education

**Launched a major new initiative called,
Achieving the Dream:
Community Colleges Count**



Vision

- **A major multi-year, national initiative to increase success rates for low-income students and students of color**
- **A learning community that will help CCs identify and adapt promising policies and practices to support academic and career attainment**
- **A college-wide Dream Team is working to identify strategies to improve student retention, graduation and transfer rates**

GOALS

- **Complete developmental courses and progress to credit bearing courses**
- **Complete gatekeeper courses**
- **Complete courses they take with C or higher**
- **Re-enroll from one semester to the next**
- **Earn Certificates and degrees**



Integrated Approach to Change

- **Institutional Change**
- **Policy Development**
- **Knowledge Development**
- **Public Engagement**
- **Capacity Building for Partners**



Institutional Change

- **50-75 CCs that serve large numbers of low-income students & students of color**
- **Diverse mix of institutions**
 - **Geography**
 - **Demography**
 - **Economy**
 - **Institutional size & structure**



Policy Development

- **Break down barriers for low-income students**
- **Create incentives for colleges to improve student success**
- **Work at 3 levels:**
 - **7-10 states**
 - **National policy**
 - **Accreditation agencies**



Knowledge Development

- **Generate and disseminate knowledge about student outcomes and ways to improve student success**



Public Engagement

- **Increase public awareness and support for Achieving the Dream goals**
- **Spark a national movement to raise student success rates**



Capacity Development of Partners

- **Expand and sustain the work over the long term**

Expectations of Colleges

- **Work in diverse teams, including student & community voices**
- **Core Team and Data Team**
- **Participate in institutes and workshops**
- **Data analysis for decision-making**
- **Priority areas**
- **Indicators of success**
- **Work closely with partners, including evaluation team**
- **Participate in learning community**

Purpose of Investment Grants

- To enable colleges to form teams, collect and review student data
- Study and design strategies for increasing student success
- Develop customized action plans
- Prepare a proposal for subsequent four-year implementation grants

Purpose of Investment Grants

Overview of Year One (2004-2005)

- **Summer Institute – June 13-17**
- **Data Workshops – Mid-summer**
- **Team work – with support from a coach, data facilitator, and others**
- **Strategy Institute – Jan/Feb 2005**
- **Implementation Proposal – May 2005**

Eligibility

- **Approximately 100 public community colleges in five states (FL, NM, NC, TX, VA) will be eligible**
- **Based on location and student demographics**
- **Must have at least 33 percent minority enrollment (or at least 50 percent first-time, first-year Pell Grant recipients)**

Some ATD Partners

- **American Association of Community Colleges (AACCC)**
- **Community College Leadership Program, UT- Austin**
- **Community College Research Center, Teachers College, Columbia University**
- **Futures Project Brown University**
- **Jobs for the Future**
- **MDRC**
- **Public Agenda**
- **Achieving the Dream Colleges**

New Mexico ATD Colleges

Albuquerque TVI

DABCC

San Juan College

Santa Fe Community College

Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

**University of New Mexico-Gallup Achieving the
Dream**

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DABCC Achieving the Dream

Information on our action plans, focus of work, and strategies to implement our Achieving the Dream model will be shared.



DABCC Processes

- Learning College Initiative

Student Advisement

- **STAR degree audit and information system**
- **Decentralized student-advising model**



Student Retention & Success

- **Tutoring services**

University Transition Program (UTP)

- **Student transition program to NMSU**
- **ABE student – GED completers to DABCC**



Education Outreach & Access

- **Improve completion rates**
 - **Certificates**
 - **Degrees**
 - **Industry credentials**



Financial Assistance

- **Increase:**
 - **Awareness**
 - **Applications**
 - **Number receiving aid**
 - **Impact on Developmental courses**

Emerging Student Population

- **Assist Public Schools to help them improve academic preparedness of high school graduates**
- **Increase collaboration/communication with high schools/ISDs**
- **Increase concurrent enrollment??**



Data Capabilities

- **Using data – both quantitative and qualitative – to make better decisions**
- **Integration of program review and planning processes more effectively**
- **Manage more effectively our enrollment growth**



Achieving the Dream

- **Application Process—What's in it for you?**
- **What is our commitment to Lumina Foundation?**
- **What are our expectations for the grant?**



Questions??