



Retaining Students in Changing Times Worksheet and Action Plan

Personal Goal/Need from the Workshop:

What is one area of need or a pain point at your institution right now as it relates to student retention?

Your most valuable resource:

Jot down five key people in your institution's student life cycle and write what you perceive to be that person's "super power"...an area where they truly excel and contribute to your institution:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

First Contact through Admissions Interview

What might your organization modify or change to the admissions process in light of the need to offer remote or in-person interviews? Is there something that was developed that was intended to be temporary that needs to be refined/enhanced?



Risk Factors and Persistence

What are the four most common reasons students currently provide when they leave without completing their program of study? How have these changed in 2020?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Digging deeper, below is a more comprehensive or detailed list of risk factors that affect persistence with a suggested weighting score and indication if they are objective (o), subjective (s) or both (o/s). How do you support these risk factors?

Risk Reason	Score	Risk Reason	Score
Academic Background (O)	0.8	Financial Warning/SAP (O)	1.3
Academic Confidence (S)	0.5	First in family (O)	0.5
Academic Commitment (O)	0.5	Grades (O)	1
Active Military (O)	0.5	Health Issues (S)	0.8
Attendance History (O)	1	High Balance (O)	1
Cultural Fit (S)	0.3	Institutional Commitment (O/S)	0.8
Delayed Entrance (O)	0.3	Instructor/Class Problems (O/S)	1
Family Support (S)	0.5	International Student (O)	0.3
Financial Support (S)	0.8	Socio Economic Background (O)	0.5
Language Barrier (O)	0.5	Technology Knowledge (S)	0.5
Missing School Supplies/Materials/Tech (O/S)	0.8	Young Online (O)	0.5
Non-traditional Household (O/S)	0.3	Personal/Professional Issues (S)	0.8



Pre-Term Best Practices

What is one idea that you would like to deploy, and what do you need to make that happen?

First Week/Month

What is one new measure that you have put in place or would like to put in place to support students in the first week or month in light of blended learning?

What additional resources will you need to be more proactive with outreach to students in the first week or month?

First Mod/Quarter/Semester

What health check-ins are you prepared to deploy for the safety of your students and faculty, and who will handle these?

What additional resources will you have to make available to support students in a blended learning, should that be required?

What is one other strategy that you might deploy to retain students in these changing and difficult times?



New Ways to Promote Career Readiness

List new ways you can deploy career focused activities now that large gatherings will be prohibited for the foreseeable future? What do you need to make these successful? What new skills do students need to be successful with these?

Career Fairs

Guest Speakers

Mock Interviews

New Student Skills

Creative Ways to Celebrate Success

Make note of a creative way to celebrate success with each of your critical partners

Students

Faculty and Staff

Employers and Industry Representatives

Staying in Touch

What is one challenge that you face with staying in touch with students? What is a creative strategy to overcome this challenge?



Action Plan

Review the action plan you developed while participating in this session. Pick one new strategy or action item that you can start doing in each of the three timeframes.

What is one new strategy or activity you can deploy...

in the next 24-48 hours?

Who will be responsible?

What resources are needed?

How will you evaluate its success?

in the next week?

Who will be responsible?

What resources are needed?

How will you evaluate its success?

in the next month?

Who will be responsible?

What resources are needed?

How will you evaluate its success?