



Preparing Your Examples of *Excelencia* Program Profile Submission: Selecting Your Program's Issue Area & Identifying Program Area Metrics

Examples of *Excelencia* is the only national effort to identify and promote evidence-based practices that help accelerate Latino student success in higher education. Programs seeking to be designated Examples of *Excelencia* must submit their program profile for consideration under a specific issue area designation. The issue area designation refers to a program's primary focus and purpose and is used to catalog programs. We describe the various issue areas utilized in the Examples of *Excelencia* submission profile below, as a guide to assist programs, especially those that may focus on multiple issue areas, to select the one area that best describes their program.

This document also serves to share some of the data and metrics programs should consider identifying based on their program's issue area, to show their program's effectiveness in serving Latino students.

Academic Program – a program within a department or institution that serves Latino students through a curricular-specific focus.

Consider sharing data that describes the following:

- Course completion
- Average course GPA
- Completion of developmental courses
- Pre/post-test
- Number of students that enter the specific work field related to the program.

Other qualitative information to considering sharing:

- Professional presentations by students
- Published student work

The data shared should show that students are successful in their specific field of study.

Access – a program focused on increasing the number of Latino students prepared and/or enrolling in higher education.

Data and metrics to consider sharing for these types of programs include:

- Number of students that enter institutions of higher education
- Success in college readiness courses and placement exams
- The number of financial awards received by students
- The number of financial awards the program distributes
- Percent of high school graduates that enroll in institutions of higher education
- Graduation rates to show success in access and completion

Programs should be able to show that the students they serve are not only able to succeed through the program, but also have the ability to access and succeed at higher education institutions.

Retention – a program focused on supporting enrolled students to enhance their persistence and improve progress through graduation.

When describing success in this issue area, consider sharing the following data and metrics:

- Retention rates and persistence rates (institutions retain students, while students persist in their education)
- Number of courses students have completed overall or in a program series
- Dropout rates
- Graduation rates

Retention programs should show evidence that the students they serve remain at the institution and graduate.

Support Services – a program that supports students through various aspects [any aspect] of their higher education experience, leading to increased student success. Examples of support services programs include those that provide academic advising, tutoring, career guidance, personal, and financial planning.

Programs under this issue area can consider sharing the following data and metrics:

- Percent of students that attend program activities
- Coursework GPA
- Completion rates including the percent of students that transfer, graduate or transition to graduate school

Support services programs should be able to show evidence that they are helping their students succeed in the area for which they are providing student support.

Transfer – a program that provides services and support to facilitate the transfer enrollment process, generally from a community college to a college/university.

Programs that identify with this issue area can focus on the following measures:

- Transfer rate
- Graduation rate
- Percent of cohort that transfers, graduates, or enters the workforce.
- Continuation, or the percent of graduates that continue their education.

Transfer programs should be able to show evidence that their students are able to transfer to higher degree levels.

Date Updated: 01/14/2020