A bibliography of research on student attrition is presented. The 175 references, most of which are dated 1970 or later, are categorized under the following headings: research design, models of the attrition process, some historical perspectives, recent reviews of research—performance variables, empirical studies for 1970–1987, and intervention for retention. The empirical studies concern residence-oriented four-year institutions, commuter-oriented four-year institutions, and two-year colleges. (SW)
A Categorical Bibliography
for
Student Attrition Research

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Models of the Attrition Process


Some Historical Perspectives


Knoell, D. M. (1966). A critical review of research on the college dropout. In L. A. Pervin, L. E. Reik, & W. Dalrymple (Eds.), *The college dropout and the utilization of talent* (pp. 63-81). Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. (Critique of research designs, including "autopsy study" named by author in 1960; recommends research with diverse student and institutional populations such as those found among two-year colleges and more action research)


Spady, W. G. (1970). Dropouts from higher education: An interdisciplinary review and synthesis. *Interchange, 1*, 64-85. (Literature review and critique of research from the 1950s and 1960s; advocates more theory-based research)


Recent Reviews of Research: Performance of Variables


Empirical Studies 1970-1987

Residence-Oriented Four-Year Institutions


### Commuter-Oriented Four-Year Institutions


Two-Year Colleges


Reehling, J. E. (1980). They are returning: But are they staying? Journal of College Student Personnel, 21, 491-497.


Tichenor, R. (1986). *Student nonreturn rates at St. Louis Community College: An examination of the impacts of educational goals and enrollment status*. St. Louis, MO: St. Louis Community College. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 274 392)


**Intervention for Retention**


