

# What Works in Student Retention?

Fourth National Survey

## Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities Report\*

ACT 2010

\*Minor revisions were made to selected data in Sections I and II as of July 1, 2010.

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### For more information on this survey...

This report is the culmination of a two-year project directed by a four-member planning team. Inquiries may be directed to any member of the team.

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What Works in Student Retention  
2010 Study

**Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities**

This report presents the findings for public four-year colleges and universities that participated in ACT's 2010 What Works in Student Retention survey. The report contains information pertinent to only these institutions. For more information concerning the history of ACT's involvement in retention research; various aspects of the study's methodology (e.g., database, administration, etc.); response rates by type of institution; findings for background information; and retention and degree-completion rates for other types of institutions, the reader is directed to the *Report for All Colleges and Universities*. In that report the reader will find data for community colleges, private four-year colleges and universities, and public four-year colleges and universities. More in-depth information can be found for each of these types of institutions in their respective executive summaries.

A copy of the survey instrument to which all colleges and universities in this study responded can be found in Appendix B of this report. The survey was mailed to the Chief Academic Affairs Officers at 598 public four-year colleges and universities,  $\approx 18\%$  of the total 3,360 surveys mailed. Responses were received from 258 of the public four-year colleges and universities, resulting in a response rate of  $\approx 8\%$ . Overall, public four-year colleges and universities represented  $\approx 23\%$  of the total responding group.

**Section I: Background Information**

The full base of respondents and computed percentages were based on the number of individuals responding to each item unless otherwise noted with the inclusion of the work "blank."

- Just over two-thirds (69%) of the responding public four-year colleges and universities indicated a person on their campus was responsible for coordination of retention programs, while 31% indicated there was no person responsible for such coordination. By far, the largest percentage selected Assistant/Associate Provost (27%) as the title most closely approximating that for the individual. Close to 20% selected no title.
- Over a third of the schools (39%) offered 5% or less of their instructional courses online, and 25% offered between 5% and 29% online. Only 3.5% offered 30% or more of their courses online.
- From among the three transfer enhancement programs, by far the largest percentage of public four-year colleges participated in articulation agreements with selected colleges (57%) and with other groups: selected group or consortium of colleges (23%), system-wide (27%), and statewide (28%). They were also more likely to participate in course applicability systems statewide (36%), with a selected group or consortium of colleges (30%), and system-wide (26%) than they were to do so with selected colleges..

Q1: Is there a person on your campus who is responsible for the coordination of retention programs?

Yes:	69.4%
No:	30.6%

Q2: What title most closely approximates that of the individual?

Assistant/Associate Provost	27.3%
Director	16.5%
Provost	11.4%
Chief Enrollment Officer	10.8%
Chief Student Affairs Officer	8.6%

Q3: Approximately what percentage of undergraduate credit hours is offered through online instruction?

5% or less	39.2%
5% - 14.9%	18.2%
15% - 29%	6.6%
$\geq 30\%$	3.5%
Don't know/ unavailable/ blank	32.6%

Q4: Check all\* of the transfer enhancement programs below in which your institution participates

#### A. Common Course Numbering System

with selected colleges	8.1%
with selected group or consortium of colleges	6.6%
system-wide	19.8%
statewide	19.0%
none of the above	50.4%

\*Multiple responses possible. Percentages do not sum to 100%.

#### B. Articulation Agreements

with selected colleges	57.4%
with selected group or consortium of colleges	23.3%
system-wide	26.7%
statewide	27.5%
none of the above	1.2%

\*Multiple responses possible. Percentages do not sum to 100%.

#### C. Course Applicability System

with selected group or consortium of colleges	29.5%
system-wide	26.4%
statewide	35.7%
multi-state system	8.9%
none of the above	14.3%

\*Multiple responses possible. Percentages do not sum to 100%.

## Section II: Retention and Degree-Completion Rates

The full base of respondents and computed percentages were based on the number of individuals responding to each item unless otherwise noted with the inclusion of the work "blank."

- The median first-year to second-year retention rate was 75% for public four-year colleges and universities with a mean of 74%. Two-thirds (66%) of these schools reported having a specific goal for their first-year to second-year retention. The median retention goal was 80%. Achievement of that goal in a five-year timeframe was reported by the largest percentage of respondents (28%) followed by achieving the goal in a three-year timeframe (21%).
- The median degree-completion rate was 49% for the group; the mean completion rate was 50%. A little over half (53%) of the public four-year colleges and universities had a specific student degree-completion goal as opposed to the 35% that did not. The median degree completion goal was 52%. Achievement of that goal in a five-year timeframe was reported by the largest percentage of respondents (35%), with goals of three years reported by 19%, and four years and more than five years by 12%.

Q1. What is your institution's current first-year to second-year retention rate for first-time, full-time students?

current retention rate

N	256
Mean	74.3
25 <sup>th</sup> percentile	68.0
Median	74.8
75 <sup>th</sup> percentile	82.0

don't know/unavailable/  
blank

N	2
%	0.8%

Q2. Does your institution have a specific goal for its first-year to second-year retention rate?

no	27.5%
don't know/unavailable/ blank	6.2%
yes	66.3%

a. Retention rate goal?

N	170
Mean	78.8
25 <sup>th</sup> percentile	73.0
Median	80.0
75 <sup>th</sup> percentile	85.0

b. Timeframe for achieving that goal

no specific timeframe	14.1%
one year	9.4%
two years	13.5%
three years	20.6%
four years	11.2%
five years	27.7%
more than five years	3.0%

Q3. Assuming a 6-year timeframe for four-year institutions, what is your institution's current student degree-completion rate?

current degree completion rate

N	236
Mean	50.1
25 <sup>th</sup> percentile	38.0
Median	48.5
75 <sup>th</sup> percentile	60.0

don't know/unavailable/ blank	
N	22
%	8.5

Q4. Does your institution have a specific goal for its student degree-completion rate (6-year timeframe for four-year institutions)?

no	35.3%
don't know/unavailable/ blank	12.0%
yes	52.7%

a. If yes, what is your degree completion rate goal?

N	128
Mean	56.0
25 <sup>th</sup> percentile	49.2
Median	52.0
75 <sup>th</sup> percentile	65.0

b. Timeframe for achieving that goal?

no specific timeframe	10.0%
one year	2.3%
two years	9.9%
three years	19.1%
four years	12.2%
five years	35.1%
more than five years	11.5%

### Section III: Factors Affecting Student Attrition at Your School

This section contained a list of 42 student and institutional characteristics or factors that can affect attrition. Respondents were asked to rate the degree to which these factors affected attrition at their school on a five-point scale where 5=major effect, 3=moderate effect, and 1=little or no effect. All 42 items are listed, in numeric order, along with means for each in Appendix A, Table A1. Tables I and II contain the attrition factors with the highest and lowest means, respectively, for public four-year colleges and universities.

Table I: Attrition Factors with Highest Means (Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities)

Item #	Item	Mean
2	level of student preparation for college-level work	3.90
20	adequacy of personal financial resources	3.90
31	student study skills	3.80
10	amount of financial aid available to students	3.65
21	level of student motivation to succeed	3.64
13	level of student commitment to earning a degree	3.56
27	level of job demands on students	3.52
9	student low socio-economic status	3.49
17	student educational aspirations and goals	3.36
42	student personal coping skills	3.34

Table II: Attrition Factors with Lowest Means (Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities)

Item #	Item	Mean
3	relevancy of curricula	2.59
40	distance from students' permanent homes	2.59
16	extracurricular programs	2.48
25	residence hall facilities	2.46
39	cultural activities	2.36
26	programs to support students' transition to residence hall living	2.30
22	student physical health issues	2.16
35	rules and regulations governing student behavior	2.10
37	campus safety and security	1.95

#### Section IV: On-Campus Retention Practices

A list of 94 programs, services, curricular offerings, and interventions, each of which may make a contribution to student retention, was presented in this section. For the remainder of this section, these will be referred to as “practices.” Observation of the mean distribution was used, for each set of items, to determine where reporting breaks were to be made.

Respondents were first asked to indicate if the practice was offered at their college. If the practice was offered, they were asked to then indicate the degree to which the practice contributed to retention on their campus using a five-point scale where 5=major contribution, 3=moderate contribution, and 1=little or no contribution. All 94 items are listed, in numeric order, along with means and incidence rates for each in Appendix A, Table A2.

The incidence rate is the percentage of campuses offering/delivering/providing a given practice. Tables III and IV contain the retention practices reported by the largest percentages of respondents as being either major contributors or minor contributors, respectively, to retention for public four-year colleges and universities.

Table III: Practices with Highest Incidence Rates (Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities)

Item #	Item	Incidence Rate
34	internships	97%
48	tutoring	97%
64	faculty use of technology in teaching	95%
1	summer orientation	93%
36	individual career counseling	93%
87	student leadership development	91%
85	college-sponsored social activities	90%
46	writing center/lab	90%
33	career exploration workshops or courses	89%
11	advising interventions with selected student populations	88%
65	faculty use of technology in communicating with students	88%
92	residence hall programs	88%
78	programs for honor students	86%
57	library orientation, workshop, and/or course	84%
62	instructional (teaching) techniques	84%

8	parent/family orientation	84%
24	mandated placement of students in courses based on test scores	83%
67	interdisciplinary courses	83%
69	pre-enrollment financial aid advising	81%
63	assessing student performance	80%

Table IV: Practices with the Lowest Incidence Rates (Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities)

Item #	Item	Incidence Rate
31	vocational aptitude assessment	29%
46	reading center/lab	28%
84	freshman interest groups (FIGS)	27%
16	assessment of faculty academic advisors	26%
3	extended freshman orientation (credit)	24%
29	values assessment	22%
61	community member mentoring	14%
83	degree guarantee program	12%
82	other student sub-populations	10%
4	freshman seminar/university 101 (non-credit)	9%

Reported in Tables V and VI are the retention practices with the highest and lowest means for public four-year colleges. Highest means were those at 3.80 or higher and lowest means were those at 2.93 or lower.

Table V: Practices with Highest Means (Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities)

Item #	Item	Mean
14	academic advising center	3.98
12	increased number of academic advisors	3.98
11	advising interventions with selected student populations	3.93
43	comprehensive learning assistance center/lab	3.92
39	supplemental instruction	3.91
76	programs for first-generation students	3.90
94	required on-campus housing for freshmen	3.86
45	reading center/lab	3.86
48	tutoring	3.84
40	summer bridge program	3.83
3	extended freshman orientation (credit)	3.82
78	programs for honor students	3.81
13	integration of advising with first-year transition programs	3.80

Table VI: Practices with Lowest Means (Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities)

Item #	Item	Mean
30	interest assessment	2.93
16	assessment of faculty academic advisors	2.93
57	library orientation, workshop, and/or course	2.92
83	degree guarantee program	2.90

28	learning styles assessment	2.89
31	vocational aptitude assessment	2.89
20	recognition/rewards for non-faculty academic advisors	2.85
29	values assessment	2.84
19	recognition/rewards for faculty academic advisors	2.78
32	personality assessment	2.64

Tables VII-IX contain the combination of practices that are highly rated by public four-year colleges and university respondents with the incidence rates of those practices. Table VII contains the percentages of four-year colleges and universities reporting highly rated practices with incidence rates  $\geq 76\%$ . Table VIII contains the percentage of these same institutions reporting highly rated practices with incidence rates between 48% and 74%. Table IX contains the percentages of these institutions reporting highly rated practices with incidence rates between 24% and 43%.

Table VII: Highly Related Practices with High Incidence Rates (Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities)

Item #	Item	Incidence Rate	Mean
11	advising interventions with selected student populations	88%	3.93
48	tutoring	97%	3.84
78	programs for honors students	86%	3.81
44	mathematics center/lab	78%	3.76
5	freshman seminar/university 101 (credit)	76%	3.74
49	study skills course, program, or center	79%	3.73
24	mandated placement of students in courses based on test scores	83%	3.71

Table VIII: Highly Rated Practices with Moderate Incidence Rates (Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities)

Item #	Item	Incidence Rate	Mean
14	academic advising center	74%	3.98
43	comprehensive learning assistance center/lab	66%	3.92
39	supplemental instruction	72%	3.91
94	required on-campus housing for freshmen	48%	3.86
40	summer bridge program	60%	3.83
13	integration of academic advising with first-year transition programs	60%	3.80

Table IX: Highly Rated Practices with Low Incidence Rates (Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities)

Item #	Item	Incidence Rate	Mean
12	increased number of academic advisors	38%	3.98
76	program for first generation students	43%	3.90
46	reading center/lab	28%	3.86
3	extended freshman orientation (credit)	24%	3.82
60	staff mentoring	35%	3.62



2	extended freshman orientation (non-credit)	33%	3.57
15	center that integrates academic advising with career/life planning	34%	3.56

Table X contains a list of practices that differentiate institutions in the top quartile of first-to-second-year retention rate for all public four-year college and university respondents from those in the bottom quartile of first-to-second-year retention rates by retention practices. The top quartile included 66 institutions and the bottom quartile included 67 institutions. Highly rated practices included in Table X were those with a mean  $\geq 3.6$  and a difference in incidence rate of  $\geq 10\%$  between top quartile and bottom quartile institutions. The top quartile and bottom quartile for all 94 items, in item number order, can be found in Appendix A, Table A3.

**Table X: Highly Rated Practices where Top Quartile Colleges Had Incidence Rates  $\geq 10$  than Bottom Quartile Colleges** (Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities)

Item #	Item	Top Quartile	Bottom Quartile
12	increased number of academic advisors	43%	30%
11	advising interventions with selected student populations	96%	82%
39	supplemental instruction	75%	64%
40	summer bridge program	75%	49%
78	program for honors students	91%	73%
13	integration of advising with first-year transition programs	72%	48%
10	training for non-faculty academic advisors	84%	67%
59	faculty mentoring	74%	45%
6	living/learning communities (residential)	84%	42%
79	program for international students	87%	60%
60	staff mentoring	57%	31%

## Section V: Top Three Retention Practices

In this section, public four-year college respondents were asked to review the pool of 94 practices and identify the three that made the greatest contribution to retention on their campus. Table XI contains the percentage of institutions that selected a practice as one of the top three; only nine practices were chosen by 10% or more of the institutions as among the top three. Forty-four practices were chosen by 9% or fewer of the institutions as among the top three; these items and the percentage choosing each can be found in Appendix A, Table A4. The remaining 41 practices were not identified by any of the colleges as one of the three top practices having an effect on retention.

**Table XI: Three Practices Making the Greatest Contribution to Retention** (Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities)

Item #	Item	% Selecting as Among Top Three
5	freshman seminar/university 101 (credit)	24%
39	supplemental instruction	16%
48	tutoring	15%
6	living/learning communities (residential)	14%

Item #	Item	% Selecting as Among Top Three
11	advising interventions with selected student populations	14%
24	mandated placement of students in courses based on test scores	13%
14	academic advising center	12%
1	summer orientation	11%
50	early warning system	10%

## Appendix A

### **Data for Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities**

Table A1: Means for All Attrition Factors; All Items by Item Number Order

Table A2: Contribution Means and Percents Using for all Programs, Services, Curricular Offerings, and Interventions; All Items by Item Number Order

Table A3: Differentials between Top Retention Quartile and Bottom Retention Quartile Colleges; All Items in Item Number Order

Table A4: Programs, Services, Curricular Offerings, and Interventions; Top Three Selected by Fewer than Ten Percent of Colleges; Listed by Percentage from Highest to Lowest

Table A1

Means for All Attrition Factors  
All Items in Item Number Order

**Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities**

Item #	Item	Mean
1	student employment opportunities	3.00
2	level of student preparation for college-level work	3.90
3	relevancy of curricula	2.59
4	student access to needed courses in the appropriate sequence	2.76
5	student first-generation status	3.32
6	accuracy of information provided by academic advisors	2.79
7	availability of academic advisors	2.84
8	level of academic advisors' concern for students	2.77
9	student low socio-economic status	3.49
10	amount of financial aid available to students	3.65
11	student access to financial aid advising and information	2.95
12	ratio of loans to other forms of financial aid	3.08
13	level of student commitment to earning a degree	3.56
14	student-institution "fit"	3.08
15	level of certainty about career goals	3.18
16	extracurricular programs	2.48
17	student educational aspirations and goals	3.36
18	commuting/living off-campus	2.79
19	level of certainty about educational major	3.00
20	adequacy of personal financial resources	3.90
21	level of student motivation to succeed	3.64
22	student physical health issues	2.16
23	adequate academic/learning support services	2.88
24	level of emotional support from family, friends, and significant others	3.14
25	residence hall facilities	2.46
26	programs to support students' transition to residence hall living	2.30
27	level of job demands on students	3.52
28	quality of interaction between faculty and students	3.16
29	consistency of instructional quality	2.86
30	out-of-class interaction between students and faculty	2.85
31	student study skills	3.80
32	student engagement opportunities in the classroom (active learning)	3.10
33	quality of interaction between staff and students	2.75
34	student mental or emotional health issues	2.95
35	rules and regulations governing student behavior	2.10
36	student family responsibilities	3.21
37	campus safety and security	1.95
38	student peer group interaction	2.83
39	cultural activities	2.36
40	distance from students' permanent homes	2.59
41	level of intellectual stimulation or challenge for students	2.76
42	student personal coping skills	3.34

Table A2  
Programs, Services, Curricular Offerings, Interventions  
Percent Using and Contribution Means  
All Items in Item Number Order

**Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities**

Item #	Retention Interventions	Incidence Rate	Mean
1	summer orientation	93%	3.61
2	extended freshman orientation (non-credit)	33%	3.57
3	extended freshman orientation (credit)	24%	3.82
4	freshman seminar/university 101 (non-credit)	9%	3.38
5	freshman seminar/university 101 (credit)	76%	3.74
6	living/learning communities (residential)	62%	3.67
7	learning communities (non-residential)	44%	3.56
8	parent/family orientation	84%	3.15
9	training for faculty academic advisors	74%	3.46
10	training for non-faculty academic advisors	74%	3.70
11	advising interventions with selected student populations	88%	3.93
12	increased number of academic advisors	38%	3.98
13	integration of advising with first-year transition programs	60%	3.80
14	academic advising center	74%	3.98
15	center(s) that integrates academic advising with career/life planning	34%	3.56
16	assessment of faculty academic advisors	26%	2.93
17	assessment of non-faculty academic advisors	49%	3.16
18	application of technology to advising	72%	3.30
19	recognition/rewards for faculty academic advisors	38%	2.78
20	recognition/rewards for non-faculty academic advisors	34%	2.85
21	specified student learning outcomes (syllabus) for advising	31%	3.09
22	online advising system	34%	3.39
23	campus-wide assessment/audit of advising	33%	3.08
24	mandated placement of students in courses based on test scores	83%	3.71
25	recommended placement of students in courses based on test scores	58%	3.54
26	diagnostic academic skills assessment	50%	3.54
27	outcomes assessment	70%	2.97
28	learning styles assessment	37%	2.89
29	values assessment	22%	2.84
30	interest assessment	42%	2.93
31	vocational aptitude assessment	29%	2.89
32	personality assessment	34%	2.64
33	career exploration workshops or courses	89%	3.11
34	internships	97%	3.70
35	cooperative education	52%	3.52
36	individual career counseling	93%	3.34
37	computer-assisted career guidance	79%	2.96
38	job shadowing	42%	3.27

Item #	Retention Interventions	Incidence Rate	Mean
39	supplemental instruction	72%	3.91
40	summer bridge program	60%	3.83
41	remedial/developmental coursework (required)	76%	3.49
42	remedial/developmental coursework (recommended)	46%	3.36
43	comprehensive learning assistance center/lab	66%	3.92
44	mathematics center/lab	78%	3.76
45	writing center/lab	90%	3.72
46	reading center/lab	28%	3.86
47	foreign language center/lab	50%	3.19
48	tutoring	97%	3.84
49	study skills course, program, or center	79%	3.73
50	early warning system	74%	3.53
51	mid-term progress reports	63%	3.38
52	performance contracts for students in academic difficulty	55%	3.53
53	organized student study groups	45%	3.52
54	service learning program	72%	3.14
55	ESL program	59%	3.11
56	online learning support	45%	3.19
57	library orientation, workshop, and/or course	84%	2.92
58	peer mentoring	65%	3.59
59	faculty mentoring	51%	3.68
60	staff mentoring	35%	3.62
61	community member mentoring	14%	3.00
62	instructional (teaching) techniques	84%	3.32
63	assessing student performance	80%	3.27
64	faculty use of technology in teaching	95%	3.35
65	faculty use of technology in communicating with students	88%	3.42
66	writing across the curriculum	63%	3.18
67	interdisciplinary courses	83%	3.01
68	enhanced/modified faculty reward system	31%	3.14
69	pre-enrollment financial aid advising	81%	3.49
70	workshops in money management	53%	3.01
71	short-term loans	63%	3.41
72	programs for adult students	39%	3.35
73	programs for commuter students	37%	3.04
74	programs for ESL students	47%	3.23
75	programs for female students	34%	3.36
76	programs for first-generation students	43%	3.90
77	programs for gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender students	53%	3.17
78	programs for honor students	86%	3.81
79	programs for international students	79%	3.66
80	programs for racial/ethnic minority students	76%	3.70
81	programs for veterans	53%	3.37
82	programs for other student sub-populations	10%	4.20
83	degree guarantee program	12%	2.90
84	freshman interest groups (FIGS)	27%	3.50
85	college-sponsored social activities	90%	3.28
86	diversity information/training	74%	2.98
87	student leadership development	91%	3.49
88	time management course/program	64%	3.25

Item #	Retention Interventions	Incidence Rate	Mean
89	health and wellness course/program	77%	2.96
90	personal coping skills course/program	50%	3.07
91	motivation and goal setting workshop/program	47%	3.19
92	residence hall programs	88%	3.50
93	fraternities/sororities	77%	3.12
94	required on-campus housing for freshmen	48%	3.86

Table A3

Programs, Services, Curricular Offerings, and Interventions  
Differentials between High Performing and Low Performing Colleges  
All Items in Item Number Order

**Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities**

Item #	Item	Top Quartile	Bottom Quartile
1	summer orientation	3.85	3.58
2	extended freshman orientation (non-credit)	3.59	3.62
3	extended freshman orientation (credit)	4.19	4.06
4	freshman seminar/university 101 (non-credit)	3.57	3.17
5	freshman seminar/university 101 (credit)	3.74	3.69
6	living/learning communities (residential)	3.93	3.41
7	learning communities (non-residential)	3.51	3.71
8	parent/family orientation	3.21	3.21
9	training for faculty academic advisors	3.43	3.53
10	training for non-faculty academic advisors	3.72	3.71
11	advising interventions with selected student populations	3.82	3.76
12	increased number of academic advisors	4.07	3.85
13	integration of advising with first-year transition programs	3.82	3.66
14	academic advising center	4.00	3.91
15	center(s) that integrates academic advising with career/life planning	3.60	3.43
16	assessment of faculty academic advisors	2.53	3.25
17	assessment of non-faculty academic advisors	3.03	3.43
18	application of technology to advising	3.41	3.04
19	recognition/rewards for faculty academic advisors	2.51	3.13
20	recognition/rewards for non-faculty academic advisors	2.73	3.00
21	specified student learning outcomes (syllabus) for advising	3.09	3.00
22	online advising system	3.56	3.28
23	campus-wide assessment/audit of advising	3.00	3.32
24	mandated placement of students in courses based on test scores	3.52	3.90
25	recommended placement of students in courses based on test scores	3.31	3.71
26	diagnostic academic skills assessment	3.36	3.75
27	outcomes assessment	2.77	3.21
28	learning styles assessment	2.96	2.76
29	values assessment	2.95	2.71
30	interest assessment	2.90	2.90
31	vocational aptitude assessment	2.92	3.00
32	personality assessment	2.82	2.64
33	career exploration workshops or courses	3.17	3.03
34	internships	3.68	3.72
35	cooperative education	3.42	3.52
36	individual career counseling	3.39	3.27
37	computer-assisted career guidance	3.00	2.94
38	job shadowing	3.32	3.25



Item #	Item	Top Quartile	Bottom Quartile
39	supplemental instruction	3.76	4.02
40	summer bridge program	3.90	3.81
41	remedial/developmental coursework (required)	3.47	3.63
42	remedial/developmental coursework (recommended)	3.38	3.47
43	comprehensive learning assistance center/lab	3.91	4.11
44	mathematics center/lab	3.84	3.88
45	writing center/lab	3.73	3.92
46	reading center/lab	4.06	3.92
47	foreign language center/lab	3.22	3.25
48	tutoring	3.91	3.90
49	study skills course, program, or center	3.72	3.73
50	early warning system	3.51	3.47
51	mid-term progress reports	3.21	3.40
52	performance contracts for students in academic difficulty	3.41	3.30
53	organized student study groups	3.50	3.35
54	service learning program	3.12	3.29
55	ESL program	3.09	3.39
56	online learning support	3.04	3.37
57	library orientation, workshop, and/or course	2.78	3.07
58	peer mentoring	3.80	3.38
59	faculty mentoring	3.77	3.67
60	staff mentoring	3.80	3.65
61	community member mentoring	2.88	3.00
62	instructional (teaching) techniques	3.37	3.35
63	assessing student performance	3.26	3.41
64	faculty use of technology in teaching	3.31	3.44
65	faculty use of technology in communicating with students	3.33	3.53
66	writing across the curriculum	3.31	3.19
67	interdisciplinary courses	3.03	3.04
68	enhanced/modified faculty reward system	3.12	2.96
69	pre-enrollment financial aid advising	3.51	3.78
70	workshops in money management	2.92	3.40
71	short-term loans	3.48	3.56
72	adult students	3.29	3.21
73	commuter students	3.04	2.88
74	programs for ESL students	3.39	3.32
75	programs for female students	3.38	3.15
76	programs for first-generation students	3.97	3.91
77	programs for gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender programs for students	3.42	2.58
78	programs for honor students	3.87	3.56
79	programs for international students	3.68	3.59
80	programs for racial/ethnic minority students	4.00	3.59
81	programs for veterans	3.43	3.37
82	programs for other student sub-populations	4.25	3.88
83	degree guarantee program	2.67	2.73
84	freshman interest groups (FIGS)	3.59	3.33
85	college-sponsored social activities	3.41	3.37

Item #	Item	Top Quartile	Bottom Quartile
86	diversity information/training	3.20	2.80
87	student leadership development	3.66	3.38
88	time management course/program	3.30	3.11
89	health and wellness course/program	3.08	2.85
90	personal coping skills course/program	3.18	2.73
91	motivation and goal setting workshop/program	3.19	3.07
92	residence hall programs	3.62	3.44
93	fraternities/sororities	3.09	3.05
94	required on-campus housing for freshmen	4.08	3.84

Table A4

Programs, Services, Curricular Offerings, and Interventions  
Top Three Selected by Fewer than Ten Percent of Colleges  
Listed by Percentage from Highest to Lowest

**Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities**

Item #	Item	% Selecting as One of Top Three Practices
43	comprehensive learning assistance center/lab	9%
58	peer mentoring	8%
40	summer bridge program	7%
59	faculty mentoring	7%
62	instructional (teaching) techniques	7%
12	increased number of academic advisors	6%
13	integration of advising with first-year transition programs	6%
7	learning communities (non-residential)	6%
41	remedial/developmental coursework (required)	6%
69	pre-enrollment financial aid advising	6%
94	required on-campus housing for freshmen	6%
78	programs for honor students	5%
44	mathematics center/lab	4%
51	mid-term progress reports	4%
2	extended freshman orientation (non-credit)	3%
10	training for non-faculty academic advisors	3%
34	internships	3%
49	study skills course, program, or center	3%
92	residence hall programs	3%
15	center(s) that integrates academic advising with career/life planning	3%
54	service learning program	3%
84	freshman interest groups (FIGS)	3%
9	training for faculty academic advisors	2%
33	career exploration workshops or courses	2%
45	writing center/lab	2%
87	student leadership development	2%
28	learning styles assessment	2%
36	individual career counseling	2%
52	performance contracts for students in academic difficulty	2%
85	college-sponsored social activities	2%
3	extended freshman orientation (credit)	1%
4	freshman seminar/university 101 (non-credit)	1%
18	application of technology to advising	1%
35	cooperative education	1%
67	interdisciplinary courses	1%
76	first-generation students	1%
79	programs for international students	1%
16	assessment of faculty academic advisors	1%
21	specified student learning outcomes (syllabus) for advising	1%
22	online advising system	1%
27	outcomes assessment	1%
31	vocational aptitude assessment	1%

Item #	Item	% Selecting as One of Top Three Practices
32	personality assessment	1%
80	programs for racial/ethnic minority students	1%

## Appendix B

### What Works in Student Retention

#### Instrument

# What Works in Student Retention?

## Fourth National Survey

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This study reiterates ACT's on-going commitment to help colleges and universities better understand the impact of campus practices on college student retention and persistence to degree attainment. Throughout the last three decades, ACT has conducted a number of research studies relevant to college student success. Postsecondary educators use the results from these research efforts to enhance the quality of programs leading to student success. These projects include, among others, the following.

- Three National Surveys on Retention: *What Works in Student Retention?*
- Six National Surveys on Academic Advising Practices
- Annual Report on National Retention and Persistence to Degree Rates

Your participation in this effort, the 4<sup>th</sup> National Survey on Retention, will make a significant contribution to a better understanding of retention practices.

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Directions: Please complete each set of items on this survey, and then return your completed survey in the envelope provided or mail it to: ACT, Inc.; Survey Research Services 47; PO Box 168; Iowa City, IA 52243.

## SECTION I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Is there a person on your campus who is responsible for the coordination of retention programs?

☐ Yes ☐ No (Skip to Question 3.)

2. What title most closely approximates that of the individual? (Check only one.)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chief Executive/President                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Chief Enrollment Management Officer               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provost                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Associate/Assistant Enrollment Management Officer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate/Assistant Provost                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Director  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chief Academic Affairs Officer/Campus Dean   | <input type="checkbox"/> Associate/Assistant Director                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate/Assistant Academic Affairs Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chief Student Affairs Officer                | <input type="checkbox"/> Specialist  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate/Assistant Student Affairs Officer  |  |

3. Approximately what percentage of your undergraduate credit hours is offered through online instruction?

\_\_\_\_\_ % ☐ Don't know/Unavailable

4. Check all of the transfer-enhancement programs below in which your institution participates.

A. Common course numbering system

- ☐ With selected college(s)  
☐ With selected group or consortium of colleges  
☐ System-wide  
☐ Statewide  
☐ None of the above

B. Articulation agreements

- ☐ With selected college(s)  
☐ With selected group or consortium of colleges  
☐ System-wide  
☐ Statewide  
☐ None of the above

C. A course applicability system (any system that informs students on the applicability of credits earned at other institutions)

- ☐ With selected group or consortium of colleges  
☐ System-wide  
☐ Statewide  
☐ Multi-state  
☐ None of the above

## SECTION II: RETENTION AND DEGREE-COMPLETION RATES

1. What is your institution's **current first-year to second-year retention rate** (for first-time, full-time students)?

\_\_\_\_\_ % (percent retained) ☐ Don't know/Unavailable

2. Does your institution have a specific **goal** for its **first-year to second-year retention rate**?

☐ No (Skip to Question 3.) ☐ Don't know/Unavailable (Skip to Question 3.)

☐ Yes→ If yes: The goal for the student retention rate (% of students who will be retained – not percent increase) and the schedule for achieving that goal are:

a. \_\_\_\_\_ % (percent retained goal)

b. Timeframe for achieving that goal

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> No specific timeframe | <input type="checkbox"/> Five years           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One year              | <input type="checkbox"/> More than five years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Two years             |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Three years           |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Four years            |   |

3. Assuming a 6-year timeframe for four-year institutions and a 3-year timeframe for two-year institutions, what is your institution's **current student degree-completion rate**?

\_\_\_\_\_ % (degree-completion rate) ☐ Don't know/Unavailable

4. Does your institution have a **specific goal** for its **student degree-completion rate** (6-year graduation timeframe for four-year institutions or 3-year graduation timeframe for two-year institutions)?

☐ No (Skip to Section III.) ☐ Don't know/Unavailable (Skip to Section III.)

☐ Yes→ If yes: The goal for the student degree completion rate (% of students who complete degrees – not percent increase) and the schedule for achieving that goal are:

a. \_\_\_\_\_ % (degree-completion rate goal)

b. Timeframe for achieving that goal

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> No specific timeframe | <input type="checkbox"/> Five years           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One year              | <input type="checkbox"/> More than five years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Two years             |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Three years           |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Four years            |   |

## SECTION III: FACTORS AFFECTING STUDENT ATTRITION AT YOUR SCHOOL

This section contains a list of student and institutional characteristics or factors that can affect attrition.

**To what degree does each factor affect attrition at your school?**

Major Effect on attrition at your school						Major Effect on attrition at your school								
Moderate Effect on attrition at your school					Moderate Effect on attrition at your school					Little or No Effect on attrition at your school				
5	4	3	2	1	Factors	5	4	3	2	1	Factors			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. student employment opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	22. student physical health issues			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. level of student preparation for college-level work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	23. adequate academic/learning support services			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. relevancy of curricula	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	24. level of emotional support from family, friends, and significant others			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. student access to needed courses in the appropriate sequence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	25. residence hall facilities			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. student first-generation status	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	26. programs to support students' transition to residence hall living			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. accuracy of information provided by academic advisors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	27. level of job demands on students			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. availability of academic advisors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	28. quality of interaction between faculty and students			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. level of academic advisors' concern for students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	29. consistency of instructional quality			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. student low socio-economic status	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	30. out-of-class interaction between students and faculty			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. amount of financial aid available to students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	31. student study skills			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	11. student access to financial aid advising and information	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	32. student engagement opportunities in the classroom (active learning)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	12. ratio of loans to other forms of financial aid	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	33. quality of interaction between staff and students			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	13. level of student commitment to earning a degree	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	34. student mental or emotional health issues			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	14. student-institution "fit"	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	35. rules and regulations governing student behavior			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	15. level of certainty about career goals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	36. student family responsibilities			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	16. extracurricular programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	37. campus safety and security			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	17. student educational aspirations and goals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	38. student peer group interaction			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	18. commuting/living off-campus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	39. cultural activities			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	19. level of certainty about educational major	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	40. distance from students' permanent homes			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	20. adequacy of personal financial resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	41. level of intellectual stimulation or challenge for students			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	21. level of student motivation to succeed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	42. student personal coping skills			



## SECTION IV: ON-CAMPUS RETENTION PRACTICES

Listed below is a series of programs, services, curricular offerings, and interventions that may make a contribution to retention on your campus.

**First indicate if the practice is or is not offered at your school.**

**Then, if a practice is offered, indicate the degree to which you think it contributes to retention at your school.**

Programs, Services, Curricular Offerings, Interventions	Offered at Your Institution?		Major Contribution to retention					
	No	Yes	Moderate Contribution to retention					
	(Then, what degree of contribution to campus retention?)		Little or no Contribution to retention					
			5	4	3	2	1	
<b>First-Year Transition</b>								
1. summer orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. extended freshman orientation (non-credit)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. extended freshman orientation (credit)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. freshman seminar/university 101 (non-credit)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. freshman seminar/university 101 (credit)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. living/learning communities (residential)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. learning communities (non-residential)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. parent/family orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Academic Advising</b>								
9. training for faculty academic advisors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. training for non-faculty academic advisors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. advising interventions with selected student populations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. increased number of academic advisors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. integration of advising with first-year transition programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. academic advising center	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. center(s) that integrates academic advising with career/life planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. assessment of faculty academic advisors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. assessment of non-faculty academic advisors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. application of technology to advising	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. recognition/rewards for faculty academic advisors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. recognition/rewards for non-faculty academic advisors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. specified student learning outcomes (syllabus) for advising	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. online advising system	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23. campus-wide assessment/audit of advising	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Assessment</b>								
24. mandated placement of students in courses based on test scores	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25. recommended placement of students in courses based on test scores	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26. diagnostic academic skills assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27. outcomes assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28. learning styles assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
29. values assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
30. interest assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31. vocational aptitude assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
32. personality assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Programs, Services, Curricular Offerings, Interventions	Offered at Your Institution?		Major Contribution to retention					Moderate Contribution to retention		Little or no Contribution to retention	
	No	Yes (Then, what degree of contribution to campus retention?)	5	4	3	2	1				
<b>Career Planning and Placement</b>											
33. career exploration workshops or courses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
34. internships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
35. cooperative education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
36. individual career counseling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
37. computer-assisted career guidance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
38. job shadowing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Learning Assistance/Academic Support</b>											
39. supplemental instruction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
40. summer bridge program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
41. remedial/developmental coursework (required)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
42. remedial/developmental coursework (recommended)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
43. comprehensive learning assistance center/lab	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
44. mathematics center/lab	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
45. writing center/lab	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
46. reading center/lab	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
47. foreign language center/lab	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
48. tutoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
49. study skills course, program, or center	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
50. early warning system	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
51. mid-term progress reports	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
52. performance contracts for students in academic difficulty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
53. organized student study groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
54. service learning program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
55. ESL program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
56. online learning support	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
57. library orientation, workshop, and/or course	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Mentoring</b>											
58. peer mentoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
59. faculty mentoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
60. staff mentoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
61. community member mentoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Faculty Development</b>											
62. instructional (teaching) techniques	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
63. assessing student performance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
64. faculty use of technology in teaching	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
65. faculty use of technology in communicating with students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
66. writing across the curriculum	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
67. interdisciplinary courses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
68. enhanced/modified faculty reward system	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

		Offered at Your Institution?		Major Contribution to retention					Moderate Contribution to retention		Little or no Contribution to retention		
		No	Yes (Then, what degree of contribution to campus retention?)	5	4	3	2	1					
<b>Programs, Services, Curricular Offerings, Interventions</b>													
<b>Financial Aid</b>													
69.	pre-enrollment financial aid advising	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
70.	workshops in money management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
71.	short-term loans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Co-curricular Services/Programs for Specific Student Sub-populations</b>													
72.	adult students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
73.	commuter students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
74.	ESL students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
75.	female students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
76.	first-generation students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
77.	gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
78.	honor students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
79.	international students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
80.	racial/ethnic minority students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
81.	veterans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
82.	other (Specify.) _____ →				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other Activities/Programs</b>													
83.	degree guarantee program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
84.	freshman interest groups (FIGS)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
85.	college-sponsored social activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
86.	diversity information/training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
87.	student leadership development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
88.	time management course/program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
89.	health and wellness course/program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
90.	personal coping skills course/program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
91.	motivation and goal setting workshop/program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
92.	residence hall programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
93.	fraternities/sororities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
94.	required on-campus housing for freshmen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other Programs, Services, Curricular Offerings, Interventions that contribute to retention at your school (Please specify.)</b>													
95.	_____ →				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
96.	_____ →				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## SECTION V

From the 96 items in Section IV (beginning on page 3), write the **item number and text** for the 1 to 3 items among the 96 that have the **greatest positive impact** on retention at your school.

Item # \_\_\_\_\_ Text \_\_\_\_\_

Item # \_\_\_\_\_ Text \_\_\_\_\_

Item # \_\_\_\_\_ Text \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION VI

We will prepare a report containing the results of this survey. Would you agree to a brief follow-up survey or phone call should we identify your retention program for inclusion?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide the following information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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## SECTION VII: COMMENTS

If you would like to share information or comments that would enlighten our understanding of retention problems and/or solutions at your school, please write them in the space below.

**Thank you!**

(Please return your completed survey in the enclosed envelope. If you no longer have the envelope, please mail your completed survey to ACT, Inc.; Survey Research Services 47; PO Box 168; Iowa City, IA 52243.)

