



Models and Examples of Adult Degree Completion Programs

Georgia Adult Learner Consortium – This statewide effort is funded through Georgia’s College Access Challenge Group. As part of the effort, most public institutions in the state have agreed to adopt a set of adult-friendly practices, including granting credit for prior learning. In return, the state system carries out a marketing campaign to inform adults about completion opportunities. Additionally, Georgia commissioned market research to better understand the messages that resonate with adult students.

More information:

<http://adultcollegecompletion.org/mktingCommunications>

<http://www.discoveryourgoal.net/>

GradTX.org – The state of Texas has a degree completion program somewhat similar to Georgia’s consortium. The Texas website also includes a transfer portal that allows potential students to see how many of their existing college credits might be accepted at institutions in the state. Texas has also conducted significant usability studies of its website to increase its usefulness for adults.

More information: <http://GradTX.org>

Go Back to Get Ahead – Connecticut recently launched a statewide degree completion program. Based on a data mining and marketing approach similar to other states, the effort seeks to identify former students of state public institutions who left after earning significant college credit. The state will pay for up to three courses when these students return through a grant program that is essentially a “buy-one-get-one-free” approach. The launch has had a strong initial response.

More information: <https://www.gobacktogetahead.com/>

Non-traditional No More – This project convened leaders from institutions and state higher education systems to identify policy and practice barriers to adult degree completion. The model focused on developing five working groups to address data, finance and financial aid, student services, academic policies, and marketing and outreach. Arkansas, Colorado, Nevada, New Jersey, North Dakota, and South Dakota participated. This effort concluded in 2012, but resources are still available.

More information: www.wiche.edu/ntnm

Other States and Programs:

Oklahoma: Reach Higher

Kentucky: Project Graduate

Florida: Complete Florida

West Virginia: DegreeNow

Minnesota: RAPID Completion Program

Ivy Tech: Adult Reengagement Project

Louisville, KY: 55,000 Degrees

St. Louis, MO: St. Louis Graduates

Philadelphia: Graduate!Philadelphia