



theRPgroup

Research • Planning • Professional Development
for California Community Colleges

From the RP Group

Learn About the Outcomes for Students in the Academy for College Excellence Program

In October, we published a summary on the key findings from a mixed methods study examining the long-term academic and wage outcomes of students who participated in the Academy for College Excellence (ACE) program.

The qualitative component provides perspectives of former ACE students and their employers on the influence of ACE on students' personal and professional lives, while the quantitative component provides information on ACE's impact on students' academic outcomes and potential earnings. [Go here to read the summary.](#)

Evaluation Methodology

Qualitative data for this evaluation was collected via telephone surveys with 435 individuals who had completed ACE at some point between 2003 and 2014 at one of three colleges that host the ACE program: Cabrillo College, Berkeley City College, and Hartnell College. The telephone survey was a 30-question instrument designed to capture former students' impressions of the ACE program, with an emphasis on how specific program components may have impacted students' academic, career, and personal outcomes. In particular, the survey explored how the ACE personal success skills (see Table 1) have affected participants' employability, competitiveness in the workplace, emotional well-being, community ties, and capacity to develop and realize academic and professional goals.

Table 1. ACE Personal Success Skills

Personal Success Skill	Examples
1. Purpose and direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Realizing one's own influence over life and personal successConsidering the consequences of one's actions
2. Self-awareness and self-discipline	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Understanding bioreactions, such as fight, flight, freeze, or appease
3. Communicating with others	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identifying, grasping, and aligning needs/concerns of individuals with the goals of a project team or organization practiced by leaders
4. Working styles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Understanding one's own and others' working styles
5. Social justice research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cultivating critical thinking through the use of research methods

Full Technical Report on Phase I of Through the Gate Transfer Study Released

We are excited to announce the release of the full technical report detailing the initial quantitative findings from the RP Group's *Through the Gate* transfer study, a new approach to informing the transfer challenge in California.

[The study](#) aims to identify strategies for increasing transfer among "high-leverage" learners in CCCs - individuals who have completed all or most of their transfer requirements (those who are "near" or "at" the gate), but who do not make it "through the gate" to a university. Inside the report you will find:

- Synopsis of prior research focused on increasing transfer success
- Overview of the "transfer continuum"
- Methodology for identifying students near the gate, at the gate, and those who transfer
- Key findings on these "transfer-bound" students
- Implications for Through the Gate's next phase: Research focused on students' perspectives

[Read the Technical Report](#)

[View the Brief](#)

[Glance at the Quick Facts](#)



What Can We Learn from Students Near the Transfer Gate?

Students who are near the transfer gate show significant progress toward transfer, but have not yet met critical milestones required to achieve this goal. These students are considered "transfer prepared" and have earned 60 or more transferable units with a 2.0 GPA, but still need to complete transfer-level math and/or English. Nearly 18% of our study sample ($n=156,999$) met this definition. What can the data tell us about how completing the math and/or English coursework required for transfer may factor into their progress, and what happens to them over time?

What Math and English Barriers Do Students Near the Transfer Gate Face?

Learning from Students Near the Gate

Completed 60+ transferable units, but missing transfer-level English and/or math and had not yet transferred (15.5%, $n=135,557$)

ACTIONABLE FINDINGS:

- Math is a significant barrier. Nearly 92% needed to complete math requirements in order to transfer.

When looking at the literature, math and English requirements have at times served as barriers to completion of a degree (e.g., Bahr, 2010; Bailey, Jeong, & Cho, 2010; Fong, Melguizo, & Prather, 2015), and thus potentially for transfer. In examining the course-taking of students who were near the gate...

- **Half (50.6%) of students who were near the transfer gate were missing both transfer-level math and English.**
- **A small percentage (7.9%) were only missing transfer-level English.**

RP Conference 2018: Submit a Proposal and Award Nomination



In case you missed it, we have extended the deadline to submit a proposal for the RP Conference and nominate a project for an RP Group Award, to December 4th at 11:59 pm.

Selected proposals and awards will be presented at the 2018 RP Conference, to be held April 11-13, 2018 at the Westin Long Beach.

The annual RP Conference is the largest gathering of institutional researchers and planners in the California

Community College system, and the place for our IRP community to exchange local approaches to common issues, learn about the latest developments in the field, and strengthen relationships with each other. The conference includes three focus areas under the theme of integration for transformation:

- Institutional Effectiveness
- Advancing Student Equity
- The RP Toolbox

[Submit a Proposal or Award Nomination](#)

The RP Group Out and About Round Up

We've been busy the last couple of months, presenting to CCC professionals and practitioners about *Through the Gate* Transfer Study, Guided Pathways, and more. See where we've been, and **click the button below to get more information on ways we can help inform and inspire on your campus!**

***Through the Gate* Transfer Study: So Close, Yet So Far from Candy Castle**

Presented by Kristen Fong, PhD and Alyssa Nguyen of the RP Group at the Fall CCCCIO Conference

***Through the Gate* Transfer Study**

Presented by the RP Group's Kristen Fong, PhD at the California Guided Pathways Advisory Committee

Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering Technology Linked Learning (AMETLL) Dual Enrollment Institute

Presented by the RP Group's Rogear Purnell-Mack and Career Ladders Project at Cerritos College.

Getting Students Through the Transfer Gate: Mapping the Transfer Landscape for California Community College Students

Presented by the RP Group's Kristen Fong, PhD and Dr. Darla Cooper at the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges.

You're Invited: CAP's 2nd Annual Conference

March 8-10 | Sheraton Grand Hotel | Sacramento, CA

The California Acceleration Project (CAP) hosts its 2nd annual conference, Acceleration Across California, at the Sheraton Grand in Sacramento on March 8-10, 2018. The Pre-Conference will be held on March 8, and the Main Conference will take place March 9-10. This event will showcase colleges across California that are transforming remediation and placement in English/reading, ESL, and math. [Register now!](#)



Start the New Year by Joining the Faculty Teaching and Learning Academy!

For all those in the LA area, the FTLA begins January 10th at Los Angeles City College. The Academy, founded by the Student Success Initiative, is a joint effort between the District administration and the District Academic Senate to foster the highest standards of teaching and learning scholarship and to encourage the development of institutional cultures and environments that are learning centered, technologically advanced, and culturally responsive.



FTLA enrollees may receive 3 units of course credit applicable to step/column advancement on the district salary scale as well as flex credit; upon completion, a Board-issued certificate of achievement will be issued. For those in the Los Angeles area and by application only; contact Jessica Cristo at jessica@3csn.org for more information.



3rd Annual Reading Apprenticeship Conference

May 11-12, 2018 | Kellogg West Conference Center and Hotel | Pomona, CA



Join educators from across California to learn more about how they use the Reading Apprenticeship framework to create more equitable learning environments. On Friday, May 11, choose a full day (10 am -4 pm), pre-conference workshop. On Saturday, May 12, concurrent sessions will highlight practitioners' work with Reading Apprenticeship across levels and disciplines and in a variety of learning environments. [Register here.](#)

Register for the 5th Annual SLO Symposium

Friday, February 9, 2018 | Orange Coast College | Costa Mesa, CA

Over 200 faculty, SLO coordinators, researchers, administrators and research analysts are expected to attend



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the 5th Annual SLO Symposium. Breakout sessions and topics will include: ACCJC mandates, updates on SLO assessment, SLO assessment data disaggregation, how to make SLO assessment consequential, building teams and faculty learning communities around SLOs, and how to engage students and faculty in meaningful SLO assessment processes. [Register here.](#)

If you are interested in [submitting a presentation](#); the deadline is December 10th. The following are suggested presentation topic areas:

- Faculty Learning Community and how to make assessment data consequential
- ACCJC standards and assessment
- SLO assessment data disaggregation projects
- Faculty engagement and how to make SLO assessment meaningful for both faculty and students

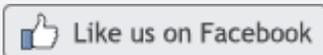
For more information, contact Jarek Janio at Janio_Jarek@sac.edu.

Submit Your News to the RP Super Brief!

If you would like to include information in a future RP Super Brief about opportunities or resources that increase the capacity of California Community Colleges to support student success, please send your announcement (a title, a two or three-line description, and any photos, logos and links) to oloy@rpgroup.org by the 25th of the month for publication in the next month's issue.



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