

PRESENTED BY:
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SPECIALIZED
PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT



STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS



ILLINOIS CENTER FOR SPECIALIZED PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

- creates, supports, and delivers professional development for career and technical education professionals across Illinois
- provides technical assistance, develops publications, and facilitates program improvement strategies for our partners
- focuses on transition, recruitment, retention, and completion—encouraging achievement of special populations learners
- founded in 1977 at Illinois State University



Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support,
Illinois State University, College of Education

Define

Informing and Recruiting

Supports and Services

Discussion and Questions

Additional Resources

AGENDA

WHO ARE 'ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED' STUDENTS?



- Perkins V refers to this Special Population as: “individuals from economically disadvantaged families, including low-income youth and adults”

WIOA & ESSA STATE PLAN

- Receives assistance through the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP), the temporary assistance for needy families program (TANF), or the supplemental security income program
- In a family with a total family income that does not exceed the poverty line or 70% of the lower living standard income level
 - An individual with a disability that meets the above income requirements even if they are a member of a family whose income does not
- Experiencing homelessness
- Receives or is eligible to receive free or reduced price lunch
- Being supported in a foster home with public funds

INFORMING & RECRUITING

- Strengthen partnerships and collaboration with local area high schools and community colleges
 - Collaborate on “CTE Exploration Days”
- Encourage academic and guidance counselors to promote the benefits of CTE programs
- Inform students of support services available on campus prior to enrollment
- Emphasize potential earnings and timelines for completion when marketing specific CTE programs



SUPPORTS & SERVICES

Utilize the additional Super Strategy documents

- Foster Care Involved youth
- Individuals Experiencing Homelessness
- Individuals with Disabilities

Take steps to improve the accessibility of financial supports

- Reduce “hassle” factors
- Simplify students’ (or families’) choice-making
- Provide clear messages and reminders to students and families about financial support services
- Assist students with researching available scholarships and FAFSA completion
- Consider “opt-out” versus “opt-in” models to normalize the use of financial supports

SUPPORTS & SERVICES

Connect

Offer counseling and advising services several times throughout the semester to foster a meaningful counselor-student relationship and open lines of communication

Review

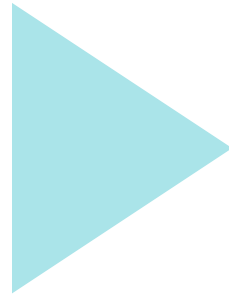
Continual review of quantitative and qualitative program data can help determine accurate numbers and characteristics of economically disadvantaged students

These data can inform how students experience the program and institution, and which factors affect their ability to succeed

SUPPORTS & SERVICES

- Build internal and external partnerships to leverage and expand institutional capacity to meet the needs of students
- Have information readily available for support services within the community. These services could include:
 - food pantries
 - mental health agencies
 - public health departments
 - community action agencies
 - housing authorities
 - churches
- Promote available services for economically disadvantaged students and their families to the entire student body to avoid stigmatization

How is your institution currently supporting economically disadvantaged students?



Are you seeing gaps in services?

LET'S DISCUSS...



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QUESTIONS

SPECIAL POPULATION WEBINAR SERIES

English Learners

- Wednesday, January 13th at 2:30 PM
- <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6754736846119804430>

Students with Disabilities

- Wednesday, January 27th at 2:30 PM
- <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3425646534655968526>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Special Populations Super Strategies & Webinar Series:

<https://icsps.illinoisstate.edu/cte/special-populations/76-super-strategies>



Recruitment, Engagement, and Retention Webinar Series:

<https://icsps.illinoisstate.edu/adult-education>



Universal Design For Learning Webinar Series:

<https://icsps.illinoisstate.edu/cte/universal-design-learning/2-home/68-universal-design-learning-series>

