



NISTS 2020

REIMAGINING THE TRANSFER STUDENT EXPERIENCE FEBRUARY 5-7, 2020 • ATLANTA, GEORGIA

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Create Pivotal Moments for your Transfer Prospects

Curricular Alignment or Degree Pathways, Partnerships and Collaboration

How often have you heard the question, “how will my credits transfer”? EAB has partnered with universities across the country to deploy the Transfer Portal technology to answer this critical question, while building the transfer pipeline and deploying best practices strategies that reduce transfer barriers. Attendees will learn how EAB members have strengthened their market position, connected with stealth shoppers, and improved the transfer experience with focused and research-informed, high-impact admissions team activity.

Allison Ray Akalonu, Consultant

Matt Sheldon, Client Development Executive

EAB



Create Pivotal Moments for your Transfer Prospects

Leveraging Technology to Strengthen Transfer Yield and Boost Enrollment

We help schools support students from enrollment to graduation and beyond

> Find and enroll your right-fit students

> Support and graduate more students



> **ROOTED IN RESEARCH**

7,500+ Peer-tested best practices

500+ Enrollment innovations tested annually

> **ADVANTAGE OF SCALE**

1,500+ Institutions served

4 M+ Students supported by our SSMS

> **WE DELIVER RESULTS**

95% Of our partners continue with us year after year, reflecting the goals we **achieve together**

> Prepare your institution for the future

A Roadmap for Our Services



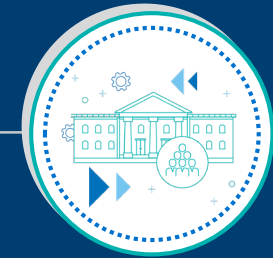
REACH

Cultivate Demand
in the Attention Economy



ENGAGE

Generate Applications
by Engaging Gen Z on Their Terms



CONVERT

Secure Enrollments
in a Competitive Market

THE CORE OF OUR OFFERING

----- Modern Marketing Designed Around Generation Z -----

----- Full-Funnel Analytics -----

- Targeting Strategy
- Year-Round Search
- Parent-First Search
- **Transfer Portal**

- Multichannel Marketing
- Student-Centric and Interactive Content
- YouVisit Virtual Tour
- .EDU Application

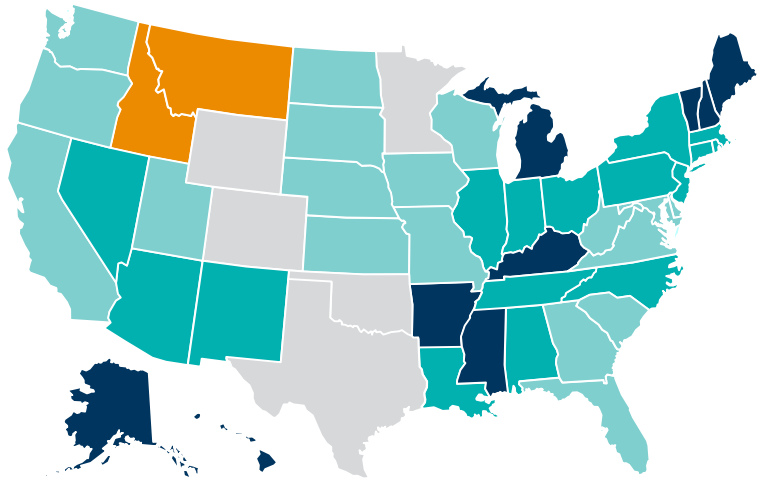
- Financial Aid Optimization
- Yield IQ
- Enrollment IQ Platform
- Benchmarking

Demographic Changes Present Challenges for Enrollment Leaders

The Birth Dearth Is Already Having an Effect on Enrollment

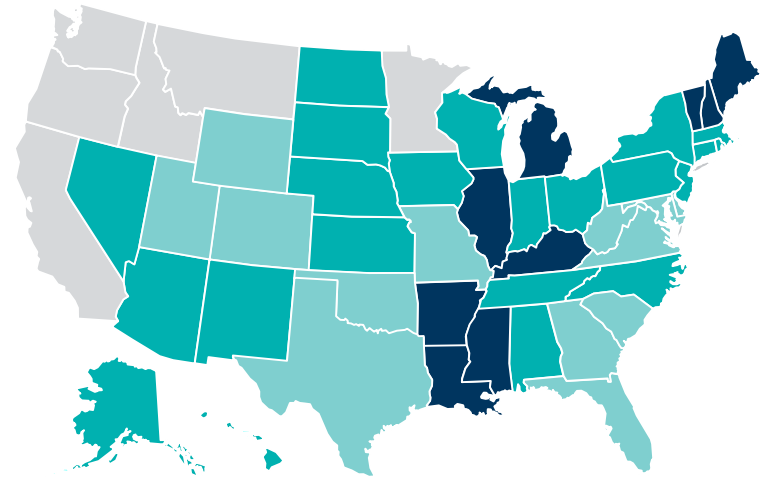
There Are Fewer Babies Being Born

Projected Percent Change in the Population of 18-Year-Olds, 2017-2029



And Fewer Students Going to College

Projected Change in Students Attending Regional Four-Year Colleges and Universities from 2017 to 2029



Source: Grawe, Nathan D., *Demographics and the Demand for Higher Education*, 2018

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additional challenges



Stealth Prospects

52%

of the transfer applicant pool was comprised of "stealth prospects"¹



Enhanced Competition

23%

of schools will consider recruiting students who have already committed to another institution²



Community College Declines

16%

Projected decline in community college students between 2025 and 2029³



4-Year Transfer

31%

of 4-year students end up transferring schools at some point in their college journey⁴

1) "What We Know About Transfer" Community College Research Center
 2) EAB Research and Analysis
 3) Nathan Grawe, Demographics and the Demand for Higher Education, 2018
 4) EAB analysis of National Student Clearinghouse data; Shapiro, D et al. (2018, July), "Transfer and Mobility: A National View of Student Movement in Postsecondary Institutions," Fall 2011 cohort (Signature Report No. 15), Herndon, VA: National Student Clearinghouse Research Center.

A Closer Look at Community College Students

Intention to Transfer Is High Among Community College Students



Only

85%

of community college students expressed a desire to earn a four-year bachelor's degree



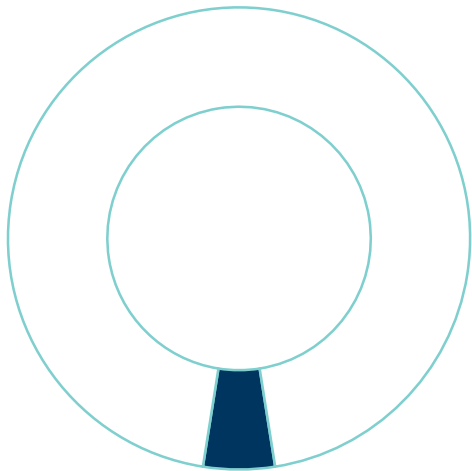
“The primary challenge for the two-year sector in the next fifteen years is clear: dramatically reduced enrollments. Indeed, the **expected rate of contraction in two-year enrollments is almost 20% faster than for college enrollments in general.**”

Nathan Grawe, *Demographics and the Demand for Higher Education*, 2018

A Closer Look at 4-Year Students

Few Students Start with Intent to Transfer; Decision Is Often Attributable to Unanticipated Circumstances

4-Year Students Who Expect to Transfer



5%

of freshmen say there's a "very good chance" they will transfer to another college before graduating

(CIRP)

4-Year Students Who End Up Transferring



31%

of students who start at a four-year institution end up transferring to a two-year or four-year school

(National Student Clearinghouse)

Source: EAB research and analysis; CIRP, The American Freshman: National Norms, Fall 2017; Shapiro, D et al. (2018, July), "Transfer and Mobility: A National View of Student Movement in Postsecondary Institutions," Fall 2011 cohort (Signature Report No. 15); Herndon, VA: National Student Clearinghouse Research Center

Transfer Students Can Support Your Institutional Mission

Achieve Class-Shaping and Student Success Goals



Access and Diversity

Transfer students are more likely to be underrepresented minorities

48%

of community college students identify as minorities



Student Success

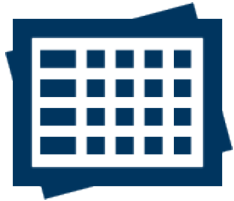
Transfer students are just as likely to complete as “natives”

5-15%

additional likelihood of a transfer student graduating within six years

Transfer Students Can Also Support Your Bottom Line

Mitigate Revenue Pressures



Capacity Utilization

Transfers fill upper-division capacity left open by attrition

74%

of upper-division courses are not full



Increasing Revenue

Transfers typically receive less aid than freshmen

20-40%

Higher average price paid by transfers than first-time, full-time freshmen



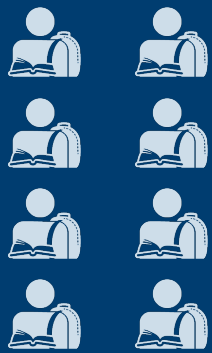
Fulfilling State Regulations

State transfer initiatives are expanding



Challenging Process for Prospective Students

Students Face Obstacles Throughout Their Journey, Causing Many to Abandon Their Transfer Goal



Limited Support for Stealth Shoppers

52% 

of transfer applicants are "stealth shoppers"

Lost Credits and Poor Articulation

13 

average number of credits lost when transferring

Lack of Clarity on Cost, Time-to-Degree

1-3 

weeks spent waiting for credit evaluation

Complex Application Process

11 

typical number of distinct application steps

Source: "What We Know About Transfer" Community College Research Center; "Improving Student Transfer From Community Colleges," The College Board; "Education Trends through the Eyes of Your Customer," ThinkEducation and Google; EAB interviews and analysis

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Create a Transfer Experience That Speaks to Gen Z

Success Relies on Crafting an Experience That Is Different from the Status Quo

Address their **concern about the cost** of college

→ **60%**

say their number one concern is to avoid drowning in debt

Provide them with a **frictionless user experience**

→ **62%**

will not use apps or websites that are difficult to navigate

Use **plain language** that they can understand

→ **50%**

increase in response rate when student-centric copy is used

Maintain their focus with **instantaneous information**

→ **8 sec**

attention span



Take a Holistic Approach to Transfer Readiness: From the Inside Out

Four Ps Measure Readiness for Technology and Optimization Path for Growth

PROCESS

PARTNERS

POSITION

PEOPLE

I Transfer-friendly policies and practices

E Enduring, data-driven partnerships

E Differentiation resources and reach

I Capabilities and capacity to seamlessly support transfer growth

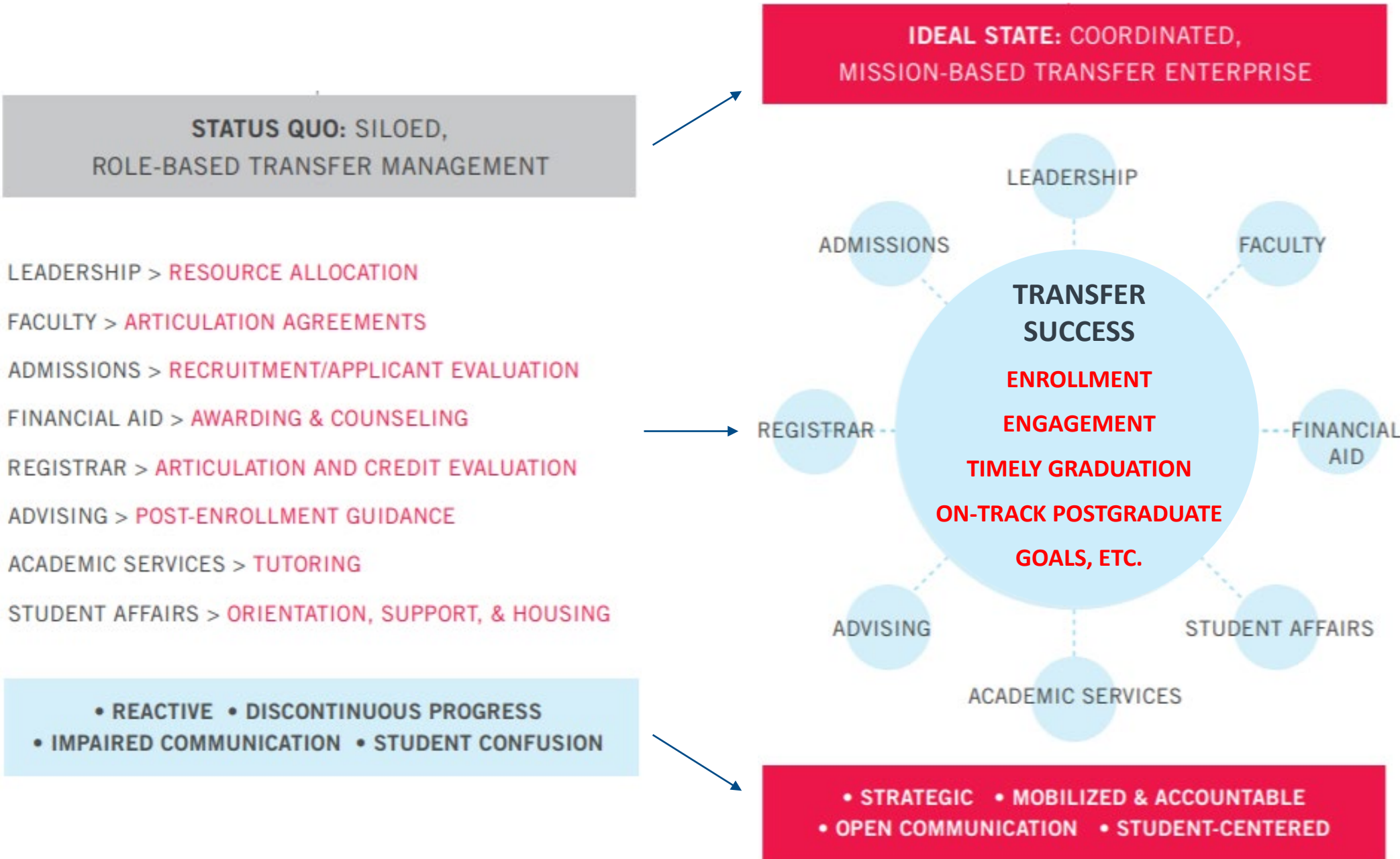
1. Enrollment Planning
2. Course Equivalency Management
3. Credit Evaluation

1. Pathway Optimization
2. Transfer Feeder Review
3. Partnership Development

1. Transfer Marketing
2. Transfer Preparation
3. Transfer-Friendly Web Presence
4. Affordability

1. Capacity and Capability
2. Admissions Outreach
3. Transfer Student Success

Creating a Coordinated, Mission-Based Transfer Enterprise





Transfer Portal Demo



Transfer Portal Recap & Questions

Provides End-to-End Support to Boost Enrollment and Drive Yield

Student-Facing Dashboard

- ✓ Unique **Self-Service Credit Estimations**, Including Progress to Degree
- ✓ Unparalleled **Major and Career Exploration**
- ✓ Customizable, **Personalized Checklist** to Keep Prospects on Track to Enroll
- ✓ Consolidated List of **Key Institutional Resources**

Administrator-Facing Dashboard

- ✓ Pipeline **tracking and analysis**
- ✓ **Full-funnel metrics** and gap-to-goal
- ✓ Use data to inform targeted outreach strategy and prioritize recruitment efforts

"I've spent a lot of time looking for information on different college websites and this [EAB Portal] was 10-times easier. Having all the information in one place makes the whole process seem way less intimidating."

Transfer Portal Student User

"The portal provides insight into what the student is thinking and what is important to them, allowing us to adjust marketing and course offerings accordingly."

*David Wright
Chief Data Officer*

Next Steps



Matt Sheldon

Partner Development Executive
Email: msheldon@eab.com



Allison Akalonu

Consultant, Transfer
Email: AAkalonu@eab.com



Schedule a following
Transfer Portal demo or
exploratory conversation



Stop by our table, email us
or find us on LinkedIn if you
want to chat further!

PLEASE COMPLETE A SESSION EVALUATION



AVAILABLE IN THE MOBILE APP



OR VIA THE QR CODE ABOVE

<https://tinyurl.com/NISTSEval>



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Impressive Early Results from Alpha Members



Expanding Beyond Core Markets

1 in 3

Portal users comes from out of state



Building the Future Pipeline

40+%

Share of Portal users who intend to transfer in 2019 or 2020



Driving Application Velocity

30+%

Increase in application completion percentage among Portal users



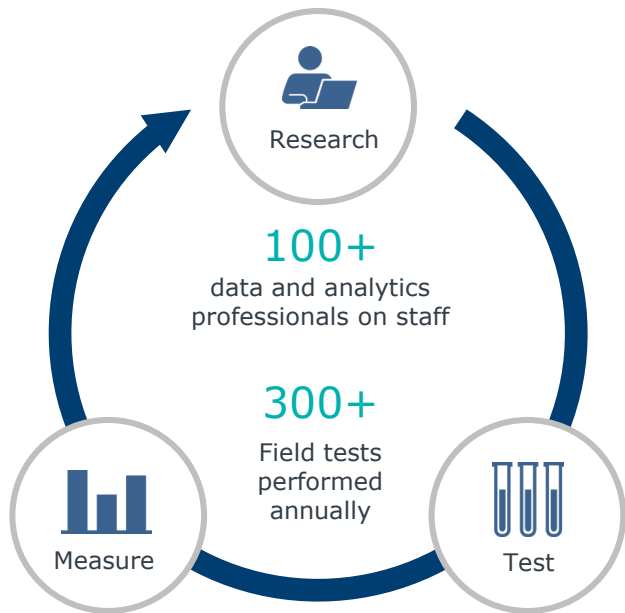
Improving Yield

24%

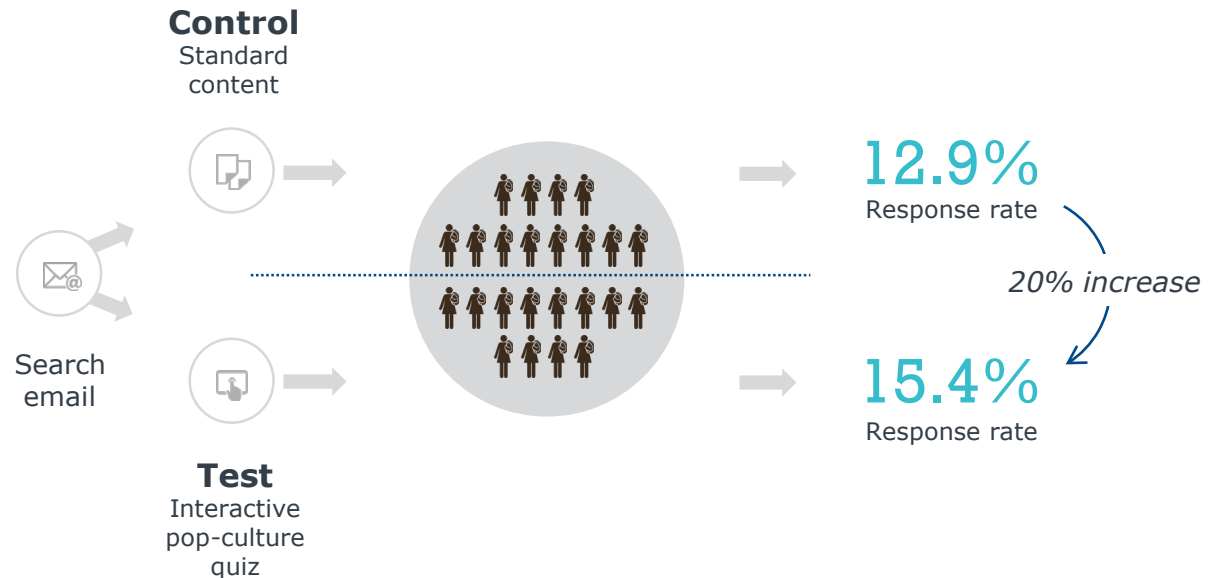
Higher yield among Portal users

Our Testing Philosophy

Channeling Your Recruitment Spend to Where It Has the Greatest Impact



Example A/B Split Test



Guiding Principles of Our Approach



Broadly Scoped

We simultaneously test many different aspects of outreach; the resulting findings aggregate into large-scale impact



Insight-Oriented

We mine our testing results for findings with broader applicability across your recruitment efforts



Vigilant

We continuously scan the market for recruitment-marketing innovations and test the most promising of them

Support Throughout Process Leads to Powerful Impact

Technical Implementation Support Minimizes Demands on Team Time

Partnerships and Process Readiness Accelerator



In-depth Review of Current Transfer Program

People

- Survey transfer-facing staff to identify roadblocks or non-scalable processes
- Interview VPED and Registrar to identify staffing, structure, and resource challenges

Process

- Review strategic transfer goals, policies, prospect touchpoints, and transfer data
- Review transfer processes and map ideal admissions, credit evaluation, and course equivalency workflows

Position

- Audit website and outreach materials to ensure transfer-friendliness
- Support Portal promotion plan development to build early momentum

Partners

- Review regional transfer trends and market landscape
- Interview local two-year partners to identify opportunities for strategic alignment
- Analyze degree conferment rates to identify program articulation opportunities

Data

Data Acquisition Team



EAB-led Implementation Minimizes Member Time

4-6 months Estimated time-to-implementation¹

40-50 Estimated hours required of member during implementation¹

Key Build Activities

Data extraction and validation

- EAB data acquisition services team leads extraction process
- Establish regular data refresh cycle to keep Portal data up to date

Site build and configuration

- Site styling to match look and feel of institution website
- Customization of Portal content

Testing and launch

- Soft launch to institution team for testing
- Full launch

Launch

Dedicated Support Team



Dedicated Follow-up Support Ensures Successful Deployment



Dedicated Project Support



Expert Consultation



Collaborative Calls and
Onsite Workshops



Implementation Toolkits

Transfer Consulting Supports Technology

Research Across Multiple Fronts to Generate Comprehensive Assessment

Feedback on Existing Infrastructure and Process



Cross-Functional Survey

- In-depth questionnaire to capture current state perspectives
- Respondents completed across Admissions, Enrollment, and Marketing

Stakeholder Interviews

- Discussion with institutional representatives to verify survey response
- Provides insight on current program objectives and challenges

Study of Institutional Funnel and Market Data



Funnel Metrics Review

- Analysis of internal application, admission, and enrollment data
- Review top feeder institutions and key program competitor list

2-Year/4-Year Market Scan

- External data review of relevant 4-year peers and competitor groups
- IPEDS review of conferment rates and program alignment opportunities

Feedback from External Stakeholders



Website and Materials Audit

- Review of website and application against national best practices
- Outlines steps necessary to improve website utilization and application completion

2-year Partner Interviews

- Interviews with local 2-year partner institutions
- Provides external lens on program

Timeline to Impact

Upfront Support Combined with Data and Marketing Expertise Smooth Rollout and Drive Impact



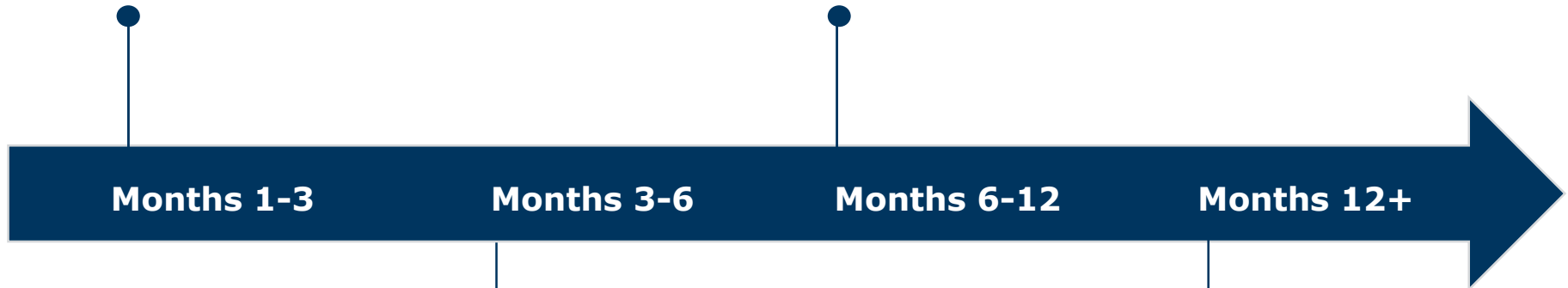
Portal Readiness and Optimization Accelerator

Assess transfer program and develop recommendations for customized launch plan



Full Launch

Launch Portal with press releases, website links, and marketing collateral



Months 1-3

Months 3-6

Months 6-12

Months 12+



Portal Build and Testing

Complete Portal build, including customization of checklist and list of key resources; pilot in soft launch with transfer team



Marketing Expansion

Extend Portal marketing and use Portal to deepen existing partnerships and add new ones

Transfer Marketing Services to Support the Entire Pipeline

Resources Align with the Transfer Portal to Support Students at Every Stage



Search

Building
a Robust Pipeline

Transfer Search

- Strategy setting
- List acquisition and management
- Innovative use of institutional inquiry and National Clearinghouse data to find prospective students
- Messaging, content development



Application

Driving
Immediate Results

Application Marketing

- Custom application design
- Brand/messaging refinement
- Web hosting, mobile optimization
- Application document management
- Multi-channel campaign, including print, persistent email, and digital display ads
- IP Targeting and Geofencing



Yield

Ensuring
Targeted Execution

Yield IQ

- Predictive analytics
- Advanced surveying techniques
- Workflow management
- Routinely updated intelligence about affinity-level of every admitted student

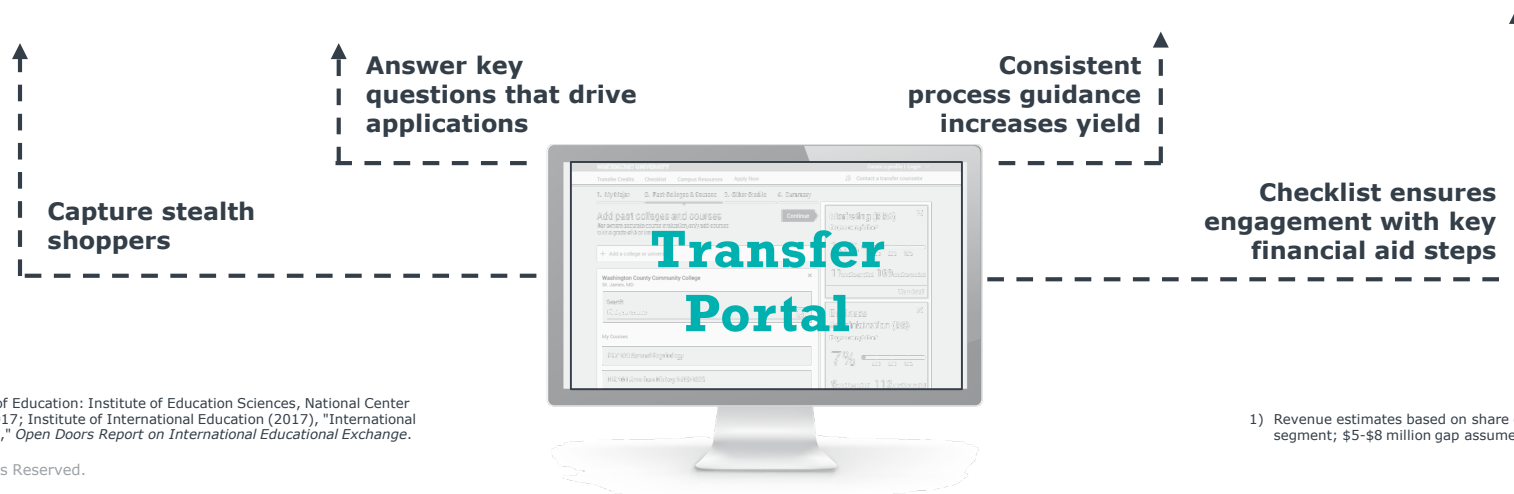


Financial Aid

Maximize
Financial Aid

Financial Aid Optimization

- Live modeling
- Deep customization
- Net price calculators



Source: U.S. Department of Education: Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, 2017; Institute of International Education (2017), "International Student Enrollment Trends," *Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange*.

Solutions Derived from Local Expertise and National Research

40+

Research conversations on state initiatives

80+

Interviews with 4-year EMs about transfer opportunity

100+

On-sites with 2-year presidents on strategic issues

500+

Interviews with 2-year students about transfer challenges

Transfer-Friendliness a new imperative, but institutional barriers persist...

Reach Unengaged Prospects

✘ *Insufficient detail and sparse contact by recruiters*

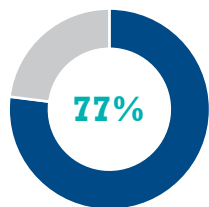
Keep On Track to Transfer

✘ *Confusing transfer practices and guides*

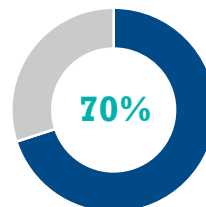
Guide to Deposit

✘ *Limited/inconsistent information on credit, speed, and cost to degree*

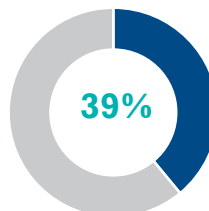
2-year transfer prospects highly affected by challenges



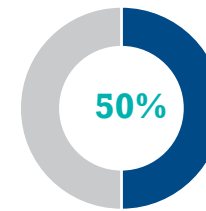
are unsure where to transfer, and apply to fewer institutions



lack adequate advising on which classes best prepare them to transfer to a four-year institution



cannot articulate a single credit to a four-year institution



call the 4-year transfer process "challenging and confusing"