AVID for Higher Education

Decades of College Dreams
ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION
What is AVID for Higher Education?

Increased learning, persistence, completion and success in and beyond college

AVID for Higher Education was designed specifically to meet the needs of students attending a college or university. It partners with institutions of higher education to systemically address the goals of increased learning, persistence, completion and success in and beyond college. AVID assists postsecondary professionals in analyzing existing student support initiatives and data, identifying barriers and needs, and establishing and assessing student learning outcomes. By supporting faculty and administrators in their efforts to increase student engagement, AVID also supports students in their efforts to earn a college degree and/or certificate. When implemented with fidelity, AVID impacts the expectations and behaviors of postsecondary students, faculty, and administrators through thoughtful and ongoing professional development.

AVID for Higher Education Teacher Preparation Initiative

AVID Center partners with university teacher education programs to develop pedagogical and pre-service experiences that increase the capacity of future teachers to support a college-going culture. It is the goal of the AVID for Higher Education Teacher Preparation Initiative to provide teacher candidates with a deep understanding of, and practical experience with, AVID methodologies, e.g. WICOR (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization and Reading) so that they enter the teaching field having analyzed and practiced instructional strategies that make them more successful in meeting their students’ needs.
The AVID for Higher Education Essentials are designed to transform campus culture by engaging all key campus members and programs in the change process.

The following essentials are critical to successful AVID implementation at any college or university. The essentials require fidelity of implementation so that students and faculty gain the most benefit from the AVID system. Each essential has several key elements that further define it. Full descriptions can be found online at www.avid.org/highereducation.

**Essential 1—Administrative Leadership and Support**
Campus leadership actively supports and participates in the implementation of AVID for Higher Education.

**Essential 2—The AVID Campus Team: Campus-Wide Collaboration**
The AVID Campus Team works collaboratively to develop, implement and sustain AVID for Higher Education.

**Essential 3—Faculty Development and Professional Learning**
The Campus Plan includes on- and off-campus AVID planning and professional development experiences.

**Essential 4—AVID Experience: First Year Through Completion**
AVID for Higher Education students receive support through the AVID Seminar and other curricular and co-curricular experiences that continue through graduation or program completion.

**Essential 5—Assessment and Research**
AVID campuses participate in the evaluation of AVID for Higher Education through data collection and related research.

Although the AVID for Higher Education Essentials require fidelity of implementation, AVID staff and consultants collaborate with faculty and staff to customize services based on each campus’s distinctive culture and needs, building on existing services and creating new ones where needed.

The AVID for Higher Education Essentials are designed to create a support system that is:

**HOLISTIC**—Engaging the whole student and the whole college or university.

**SYSTEMIC**—Creating a comprehensive, cross-divisional infrastructure that generates increased student success.

**SUSTAINED**—Providing a dynamic plan for ongoing campus involvement that supports successful practices.

**TRANSFORMATIVE**—Accelerating organizational change, driving institutional movement toward the development of a student-centered, learning-focused college or university culture.

**EMPIRICAL**—Resting on a solid base of research evidence that spans multiple campus sites, multiple research methods and multiple points of assessment for tracking student progress across time.

**CUSTOMIZED**—Adapting services to fit the needs of students and campuses that have the commitment and determination to implement the AVID Essentials with fidelity.
What Others Say...

JOSEPH B. CUSEO, PROFESSOR EMERITUS, PSYCHOLOGY
"AVID engages the whole student and the whole campus. Promoting student success is a multidimensional process that requires attention to the student as a whole person. AVID's holistic approach provides this comprehensive support, and it does so in a way that helps campuses enact the full spectrum of intended learning outcomes espoused in their mission statements."

AUGSBURG COLLEGE
"AVID has begun to enter our culture and our conversations about teaching. I have even heard stories about the effectiveness of the strategies in graduate classes."

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY—COMMERCE
"The high-engagement strategies training day...helped faculty to see the importance of student engagement and just how easy it is to accomplish in the classroom."

AVID History

MORE THAN 30 YEARS OF COLLEGE READINESS
Mary Catherine Swanson created AVID, Advancement Via Individual Determination, to address the needs of students who were underrepresented in colleges and universities. Since then, AVID has worked closely with higher education institutions to ensure that its curriculum and strategies were addressing the needs of the students in elementary and secondary schools. AVID's strong connections to postsecondary institutions prompted colleges and universities to ask the AVID Center to extend its efforts to college students and create the possibility of a college support pipeline from kindergarten through higher education.

Today, AVID serves more than 425,000 elementary through postsecondary students in 4,800 schools, 48 states and 16 countries/territories. Policy makers and campus administrators now consider the AVID system an essential strategy for closing the achievement gap and making success in college and beyond achievable for all students.

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AVID's mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society.