Overview

- Quick facts
- Barriers to access and success
- Focused recruitment in college access programs
- Preparing students of color for college and careers
- Effective practices and programs
Quick Facts

High School Completion Rates for Traditional College-Aged Population (Aged 18 to 24), by Race/Ethnicity: 1987 to 2006

* Due to data unavailability, high school completion rates for Asian Americans and American Indians are shown for 2006 only.

Note: Data include high school equivalency credentials such as the GED® (General Educational Development) credential. To obtain a large enough sample size to make reliable estimates, three-year averages were used for trend analysis, except for 2006 data, which had a much larger sample and account for the single year.

Quick Facts

- Percentage of students who leave HS with reading skills and a course record that qualifies them for a 4-year college:
  - 51% of Whites
  - 41% of African Americans
  - 38% of Hispanics

Quick Facts


- **Asian Americans**: 61% in 2006
- **Whites**: 44% in 2006
- **African Americans**: 32% in 2006
- **Hispanics**: 25.4% in 2006
- **American Indians**: 24.6% in 2006

*Due to data unavailability, enrollment rates for Asian Americans and American Indians are shown for 2006 only.*

**Note:** To obtain a large enough sample size to make reliable estimates, three-year averages were used for trend analysis, except for 2006 data, which had a much larger sample and account for the single year.

Quick Facts

Degrees Conferred by Ethnicity (2005)

- Associates
- Bachelors

- White
- African American
- Hispanic
- Asian American
- American Indian
Barriers to Access and Success
Barriers to Access and Success

- **Myth 1: Everyone knows how to get into college**
  - Reality: Students of color often lack information
  - Reality: Many make decisions based on misinformation

- **Myth 2: Everyone knows how to get financial aid**
  - Reality: Students of color are not as likely to understand the financial aid process as their White peers
  - Reality: Students of color are not as likely to discuss how college will be paid for with their parents

- **Myth 3: “I’m not college material”**
  - Reality: Many students of color attend high schools where many graduates do NOT attend college afterwards
  - Reality: Many students of color face additional constraints that make them believe they are not capable of succeeding in college
Barriers to Access...

- **Myth 4: College is every student’s first choice after high school**
  - Reality: Students have competing options
    - Military
    - Work

- **Myth 5: High school prepares all students for college – they just have to try hard**
  - Reality: Students of color are less likely to leave high school with college-readiness skills and college course preparation
  - Reality: Teacher expectations are low for many students of color

- **Myth 6: Every student knows somebody who is in or has attended college**
  - Reality: Many students of color are first-generation college students
  - Reality: Guidance counselor support is not readily available to all students
Barriers to Access…

- **Myth 7:** Information on college access is readily available to everyone who wants it
  - Reality: Many students of color get bits of information from peers
  - Reality: Students of color often lack guidance in making college-related choices

- **Myth 8:** College aspirations lead to college participation every time
  - Reality: Aspirations for students of color at 9th grade change by 12th grade without proper guidance, support, and information

- **Myth 9:** Going to college sounds fun and exciting to everyone
  - Reality: It is frightening to many students and families to take out loans
  - Reality: Not every student is excited about leaving home
Effective Practices & Recruitment Strategies
Elements of Effective College Access Programs

- **Early** access to college planning information
- Mentoring and guidance
  - Personalized attention
  - Adult role models
- Financial aid awareness
  - Financial support component
- Family involvement
  - Parent/guardian education programs
- Academic support
- College exposure
- Peer support
- Staff support for intervention and school support
Recruitment of Students of Color to College Access Programs

- Catch the window of opportunity
- Focus on the family
- Tap into the community
  - Schools
  - Community centers and social groups
  - Parks and recreation
  - Churches, synagogues, temples, etc.
- Connect with 2-year and 4-year colleges for support
Questions?