

Challenges and Lessons Learned: Sinclair Community College

Due to serving credit and non-credit students under the Walmart Brighter Futures 2.0 grant, reporting has been highly challenging. Sinclair does not utilize the institution's ERP system for capturing non-credit student data. Therefore, it is a laborious, manual process to consolidate non-credit and credit data for purposes of reporting. In response, Sinclair has initiated conversations with other leading community colleges seeking best practices related to data capture for non-credit students.

During the grant period, Sinclair's Project Director retired, and as a result, momentum was temporarily impacted. Through an expedited search process to bring on staffing, as well as a reconvening of the core team, forward progress and necessary program continuity was reestablished.

Due to the participant population targeted for the Walmart Brighter Futures 2.0 grant, student dropout rates prior to the beginning of class have been challenging. In order to ensure these programs are affordable for low-wage individuals, margins are typically small. To maintain class enrollment, additional outreach prior to class start dates has increased enrollment, thus decreasing the number of classes that have had to be canceled or rescheduled.