



WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT'S



ACHIEVING THE DREAM INITIATIVE



Contributing to a Multi-Year National Initiative to Increase Student Success

Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) has the distinction of being selected as one of less than 90 community colleges to participate in the national Achieving the Dream (AtD) initiative, and is one of six community colleges brought into the partnership in Michigan in 2007-2008.

The Achieving the Dream initiative was created by a number of national partners to increase the number of community college students who succeed by completing developmental education and college-level courses with a "C" or better, return to college from semester to semester, and complete certificate and degree programs. The national partners include the Lumina Foundation for Education, the American Association of Community Colleges, the Kellogg Foundation and the Kresge Foundation. The WCCCD AtD initiative is funded by a five-year grant from the Kresge Foundation.

WCCCD completed the planning year for AtD participation in 2007-2008. A four-year implementation period began in fall 2008, and will conclude at the end of the 2011-2012. WCCCD identified four priority interventions based on research on student achievement patterns, these are:

Student Advising: increase student involvement in student orientation, testing, advising, and course placement.

Developmental Education: increase student achievement in developmental education courses, beginning with English departmental education courses, and in the transition from Developmental Education and college-level courses.

Student Retention: increase the percentage and number of students who persist from fall to fall semesters, and who complete certificate and degree programs.

Institutional Effectiveness and Research Capacity: increase the institutional research capacity of the Institutional Effectiveness function with a focus on collecting and using student learning outcomes data.

Did you know?

The Achieving the Dream initiative at WCCCD allows our college to focus on, improving the advisement process for student success, improving student overall performance in ENG 111, 112, 113, and enhancing our institutional research capacity to ensure data-driven decisions by:

1. Implementing more intrusive advising activities that provide support to our students based on their needs.
2. Creating holistic learning environments by coupling instruction with student support services to better prepare students for college-level courses.
3. Conducting institutional research techniques that track student performance and use of student services from the point of entry to completion of a college degree and/or certificate.

Achieving the Dream Concept

