

## **Achieving the Dream Six Year Success Rate (ATD Grad Rates)**

This is the same community college student success model employed as the key community college completion metric in *Time to Lead*. The success rate captures the following distinct outcomes for all first-time degree-seeking students six years after initial entry:

1. Earning a degree or certificate at any MA community college and transferring to a four-year institution (including private and out-of-state institutions)
2. Earning a degree or certificate at any MA community college without a record of transferring to a four-year institution
3. Transferring to a four-year institution (including private and out-of-state institutions) without earning a degree or certificate at any MA community college,
4. Remaining enrolled at any MA community college after six years without earning a degree or certificate but with at least 30 credits earned.

The rate used in the formula is the combined success rate for fall 2003, 2004, and 2005 entering cohorts. This metric will be difficult to replicate completely at the campus level because it relies on both NSC data and access to system level HEIRS data. However, campuses could approximately replicate the system level findings (such as completion at any MA community college) using data from the NSC.

This measure was developed by Achieving the Dream Cross State Data Workgroup, initially published in *Test Drive: Six State Pilot Better Ways to Measure and Compare Community College Performance* (<http://www.jff.org/publications/test-drive-six-states-pilot-better-ways-measure-and-compare-community-college>) and updated and revised in *On the Road to Success: How State Collaborate and Use Data to Improve Student Outcomes*. (<http://www.jff.org/publications/road-success> )