GaDOE
Georgia Department of Education
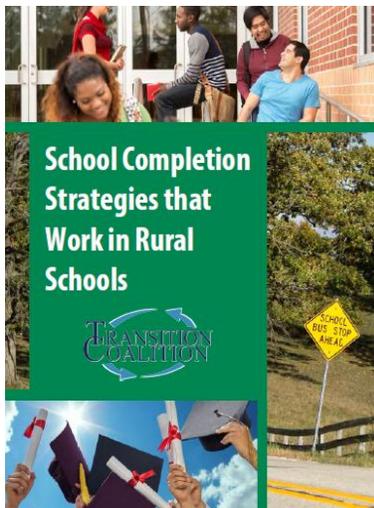
School Completion Strategies

October is National Dropout Prevention Month. The implications of dropping out are high for students, families, communities, and society as a whole; therefore, it is pivotal that we bridge the gaps for students at-risk of dropping out by utilizing effective interventions and identifying students early (*Wilkins & Bost, 2015).*

National Dropout Prevention Month challenges our nation to become better informed about how to prevent students from dropping out of school. The following resources are provided to support LEAs in increasing graduation rates and decreasing students who drop-out of school.

GaDOE School Completion Toolkit

The School Completion Toolkit provides links to state and national resources, as well as successful practices from LEAs across the state, aimed at improving outcomes for all students, including students with disabilities. All resources shared on this handout can be found on the GaDOE School Completion Toolkit.
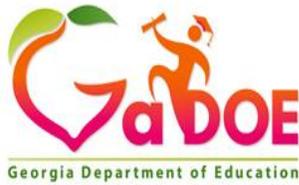
National Research Center School Completion Resources

Transition Coalition: School Completion Strategies that Work in Rural Schools
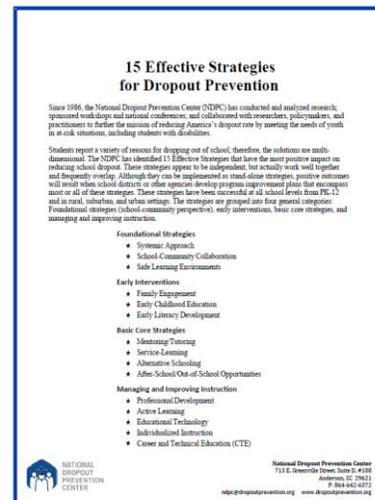
National Dropout Prevention Center: 15 Effective Strategies for Dropout Prevention

Strategies for School Completion ABC

Let's go! WORK ON THIS MODULE

The National Technical Assistance Center on Transition (NTACT)

Data show that students with disabilities drop out at a higher rate than students without disabilities. Resources and effective strategies and interventions for these students are available.

How can we improve school completion for students with disabilities in our schools?

CREDITS AND REFERENCES

NTACT
National Technical Assistance Center on Transition

The National Technical Assistance Center on Transition (NTACT) has developed this module to provide you with information and materials you need to make a difference!

Implement and Monitor an Early Warning System

Early Warning Systems (EWS) are an important strategy to monitor students who may be at-risk for dropping out. Early Warning Systems are based on established indicators that predict whether a student is off-track for graduation. By tracking Early Warning Indicators, it is possible to identify when students are beginning to fall off-track, providing time to intervene and alter their trajectory to keep students on the pathway to graduation.

LONG STORY SHORT
90-Second Answers

AMERICAN INSTITUTES for RESEARCH

American Institute for Research (AIR): Can Early Warning Systems prevent Students from Dropping out of High School?

- A Pathway to Localizing Early Warning Indicators (Video)
- District guide to creating indicators for early warning system (PDF)
- Worksheet to use with the district guide (PDF)
- Early Warning Intervention and Monitoring System (EWIMS): American Institute for Research (AIR) Video Series:
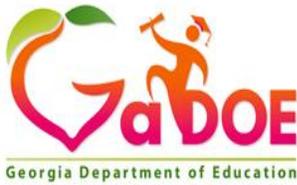
[A Practitioner's Guide to Implementing Early Warning Systems](#): [Regional Educational Laboratories (REL)](#)

[Early Warning Data System:](#) [Texas Comprehensive Center at American Center for Institute of Research (AIR)](#)

Check and Connect Student Engagement Intervention

Check & Connect is an intervention used with K-12 students who show warning signs of disengagement with school and who are at risk of dropping out. At the core of *Check & Connect* is a trusting relationship between the student and a caring, trained mentor who both advocates for and challenges the student to keep education salient.

Check & Connect has met the evidence standards of the What Works Clearinghouse (2006, 2015): http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc

Check and Connect is the only dropout prevention intervention to show positive effects for staying in school.

Currently in Georgia over 120 schools are implementing C&C and we have 21 statewide trainers available to help districts implement the C&C framework. Check and Connect Training is FREE through the GLRS. If you are interested in implementing Check and Connect in your LEA please contact your GLRS at [Georgia Check and Connect Information](#).
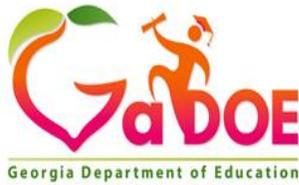
Monitor Dropout Data

In addition to the data that will be collected throughout the process of implementing the selected interventions as well as the improvement process itself, there are also state and federal reports that should be accessed periodically as the information found in these reports will provide valuable information and aide in informing action steps that may need to be added or adjusted.

Student Record Report **ENR019b**- Dropout Reason Report

- This report will display all students who have dropped out and the reason they dropped out.

Student Record Report **SR 057b**- Graduation Diploma Information

- This report may be checked after graduation data has been entered in Student Record. This report should be checked prior to sign-off.   This report will display who is receiving a diploma and what type of diploma is being reported- General Education or Special Education.   (As a reminder- special education diplomas count against your graduation rate.)

Links to Publicly Reported Data

Type of Data	Source of Data
Graduation Rate	• Special Education Annual Reports (GaDOE) • Archived Special Education Annual Reports (2016-17 and earlier) (GaDOE) • Publicly Reported Data – Achievement, Grad Rate, Preschool Data, Demographic Data and more (GOSA)
District Enrollment	• Publicly Reported Data – Achievement, Grad Rate, Preschool Data, Demographic Data and more (GOSA) • 4 Year Cohort Graduation Rate (Go to GaDOE/Data&Reporting/Graduation Rates for downloadable Excel) (GaDOE) • Enrollment by Grade (GaDOE) • Enrollment by Ethnicity/Race (GaDOE)
District Enrollment – SWDs	• Student Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) - Enrollment & SWDs
% of SWD	• Publicly Reported Data – Achievement, Grad Rate, Preschool Data, Demographic Data and more (GOSA)
SWD Eligibility Areas	• Enrollment by Disability Area (GaDOE)
Achievement Gap	• Special Education Annual Reports (GaDOE) • Archived Special Education Annual Reports (2016-17 and earlier) (GaDOE) • CCRPI Reports (GaDOE)
Student Absences	• Publicly Reported Data – Achievement, Grad Rate, Preschool Data, Demographic Data and more (GOSA)
Discipline	• K-12 Student Discipline Dashboard (GOSA) • Find My School's Suspension Rate (At the school level you may search by subcategories: grade, gender, race/ethnicity and special ed status) (Ga Appleseed)
Student Perceptions of School	• Georgia's Students Health and Safety Survey (GaDOE)
Dropout Rate	• Special Education Annual Reports (GaDOE) • Archived Special Education Annual Reports (2016-17 and earlier) (GaDOE)
Reasons for Dropping Out	• Georgia's Students Health and Safety Survey (GaDOE)

For additional information contact:
Dr. Susan Brozovic at sbrozovic@doe.k12.ga.us or visit the
Georgia Department of Education School Completion Toolkit