Supporting Adult Learners Through COVID19 and Beyond: A Panel Conversation with Adult Learner Advising Specialists

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Data On Adult Learners Pre-COVID19

- 1 in 2 adult learners consider online options when researching programs
- 49.6% of 1,000 adult learners said they would change their plans and consider going back to school if tuition was more affordable
- 61% of adult learners say career or financial factors are their primary reason for enrolling
- Family and work-related commitments are the top enrollment barrier for adult learners
Data On Adult Learners Pre-COVID19

Top factors preventing interested adult students from enrolling:

- 39% Cost of attending
- 23% Current family responsibilities
- 21.6% Professional or work related responsibilities
- 9% Other
- 5.2% Required prerequisites
- 1.5% Past academic performance
34.4% of perspective adult learners said that COVID-19 had changed their plans to pursue additional education.

70% of participants reported that the pandemic had negatively impacted their current or future employment outlook.
Data On Adult Learners Pre-COVID19

● Women with children are more likely to report symptoms of anxiety and/or depressive disorder than men with children (49% vs. 40%).

● During the pandemic, adults in households with job loss or lower incomes report higher rates of symptoms of mental illness than those without job or income loss (53% vs. 32%).

● The pandemic has disproportionately affected the health of communities of color.
  ○ Non-Hispanic Black adults (48%) and Hispanic or Latino adults (46%) are more likely to report symptoms of anxiety and/or depressive disorder than Non-Hispanic White adults (41%).
Resources: Articles

- The Resiliency of Adult Learners, Academic Advising Today, 2014
- Advising IS teaching: Providing adult learners with strategies for self-advocating, Lisa G. Peck and Jennifer Varney, Clearinghouse article, 2009
- Implementing Intrusive Advising Principles for Adult Learners in Online Programs, by Beth Giroir and Jeremy Schwehm, Clearinghouse article, 2014
- [https://meridian.allenpress.com/nacada-journal/article/40/1/64/436943/Advising-Adult-Learners-During-the-Transition-to](https://meridian.allenpress.com/nacada-journal/article/40/1/64/436943/Advising-Adult-Learners-During-the-Transition-to)
- Teaching Across Generations
- The Returning Adult Learner: Advising Strategies to Support Their Degree Completion Efforts
- Motivating Factors for Adult Learners in Higher Education
Resources: Books

- *Pathway to Success: A Comprehensive Guide for the Nontraditional Learner*, Ellen C. Miller
- *Radical Candor: Be a Kick-Ass Boss Without Losing Your Humanity*, Scott, Kim
- *100 things every adult college student ought to know: A self-orientation guide with definitions, customs, procedures, and advice to assist adults in adjusting to the start of college*, Hardin, Carlette Jackson
- *Teaching and Supporting Adult Learners (Further Education)*, Jackie Scruton & Belinda Ferguson
- *The Adult Learner: The definitive classic in adult education and human resource development*, Malcolm S. Knowles
- *Planning Programs for Adult Learners: A Practical Guide*, Sandra Ratcliff Daffron & Rosemary S. Caffarella
Resources: Websites

- https://clep.collegeboard.org/
- https://www.dantes.doded.mil/
- EAB Adult Learner Survey
- EAB: Adult Student Marketing Blog
- Common Factors: A Meta-Model of Academic Advising
- Campus Grotto
- Fresh Ideas to Help Adult Learners Succeed
- NACADA Adult Learning Resources via Clearinghouse Advising Adult Learners Community Resources
- Southern Regional Education Board
- Adult Learning by eLearning Industry
- The End of the Remedial Course
- NACADA Adult Learners Advising Community site
Resources: Misc.

Misc:

• *EAB Adult Learner Survey*

• *Alpha Sigma Lambda academic honor society for adult learners*

• *Adult Learning Theories Every Instructional Designer Must Know*

• *Schlossberg's Theory*

• *The Adult Learning Theory - Andragogy - of Malcolm Knowles*

• *3 Adult Learning Theories Every E-Learning Designer Must Know*

• *Student Veterans of America*