

Research Brief Template

The Research Brief should/could include these elements (2000-2500 words):

A. Key Takeaways:

- Three to five main concepts (bulleted list)

B. Overview (no more than 250 words):

- What's the big issue – why is this important in education?
- Describe or address the complexity of the issue - is there a controversy of some kind? What's the nature of the problem (logistics, human, fiscal)?

C. Discussion (no more than 750 words):

- Present the topic - What does the literature “say” about this topic overall? (Sub-headings are useful for the reader)
- What's the status of the issue within this area in higher education, particularly within the academic advising context (set up transition to next section)?

D. Implications for Academic Advising (no more than 750 words):

- What evidence is needed to clarify things unknown, and to inform action?
- Who needs to be involved?
- Frame the possible strategies under one or more of the theoretical frameworks presented in the literature.
- Recommendations for future study or exploration

E. Reflective Opportunities (no more than 300 words):

- Provide 4 or 5 reflective questions (and/or activities) that each of us should consider for our own practice. These could also be used to lead a discussion on campuses or within academic advising units and departments.

F. Recommendations for Future Study (no more than 200 words)

G. Final Thoughts (no more than 150 words)

H. References and Resources

- Provide a reference list (in APA 7th ed), and any other handouts or links to resources, as appropriate.