Fostering Transfer Student Success: Building Belonging on Campus

CPE Student Success Summit 2025
Breakout Session | February 11, 2025
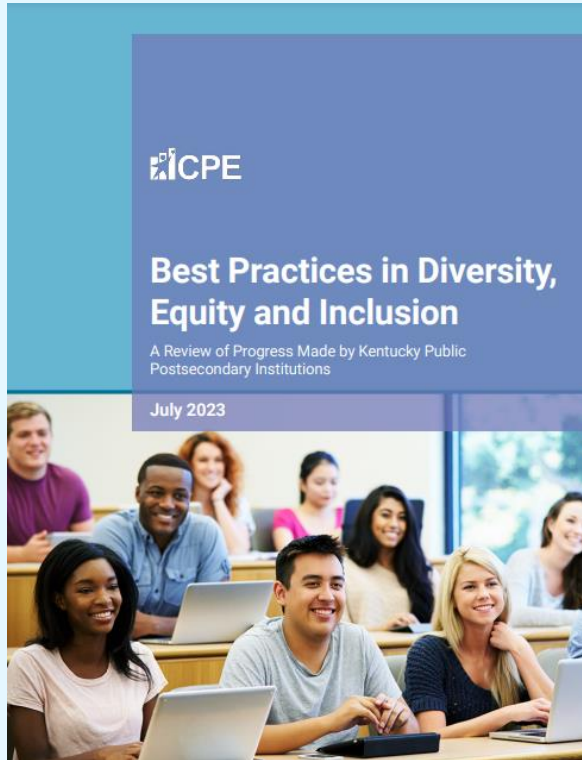
The Kentucky
Student Success
Collaborative

Session Objectives

- **Discover exciting initiatives** at CPE aimed at fostering belonging & supporting transfer students

- **Gain insights** into the challenges transfer students face and celebrate their successes

- **Identify actionable strategies** to bridge gaps and enhance transfer student success

- **Build connections** with 1-2 external contacts to expand your professional network and support ongoing efforts

The Kentucky Student Success **Collaborative**

Access, Engagement and Belonging

Best Practices in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

A Review of Progress Made by Kentucky Public Postsecondary Institutions

July 2023

Recent project areas:

- Promoting AEB Professional Development
- Cultural Competency Credential Certification
- Academic Leadership Development Institute (ALDI)
- Higher EDquity Symposium and Webinars

To learn more about AEB policy & work in KY, visit: https://cpe.ky.gov/ourwork/aeb.html

The Kentucky Student Success **Collaborative**
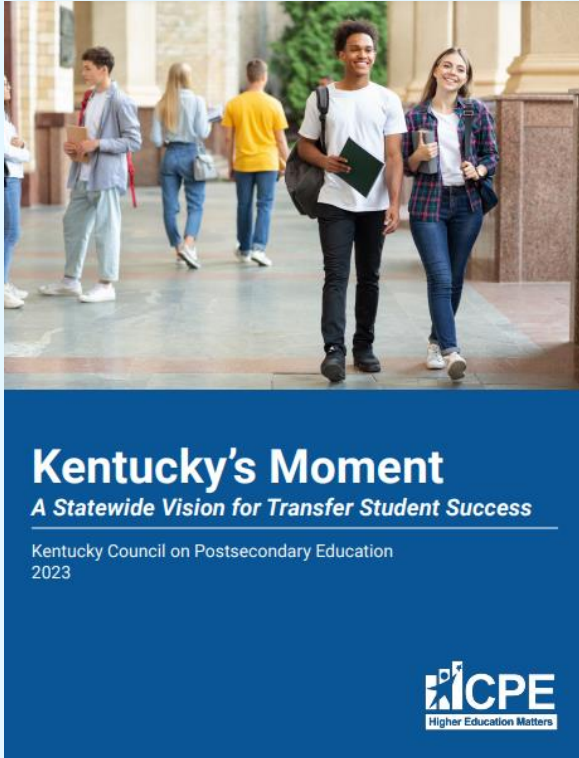
Access, Engagement and Belonging

Access: Providing opportunities for students from varied backgrounds, such as first-generation, adult learners, under-resourced students, underrepresented students, or students with disabilities, access postsecondary education.

Engagement: Policies and practices that increase student engagement during their postsecondary experience.

Belonging: Policies and practices that foster an environment or campus climate where all members of the campus community feel they are connected and valued, and where the sharing of differing perspectives is encouraged and supported.

https://cpe.ky.gov/ourwork/aeb.html

The Kentucky Student Success **Collaborative**

4

Transfer Strategy

Kentucky's Moment
A Statewide Vision for Transfer Student Success

Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education
2023

CPE Higher Education Matters

Current project areas:

- Transfer Data Dashboard
- Student Voice Research
- Community of Practice & Professional Development
- Network Improvement Communities (NICs)
- Statewide Transfer Pathways

To learn more about Transfer policy & work in KY, visit:
https://cpe.ky.gov/ourwork/transfer.html

The Kentucky Student Success **Collaborative**

Transfer Strategy

Aiken-Wisniewski (2012) identified several categories of transfer:

Vertical: Transfer from a two- to a four-year institution
Lateral: Transfer between two-year institutions or four-year institutions
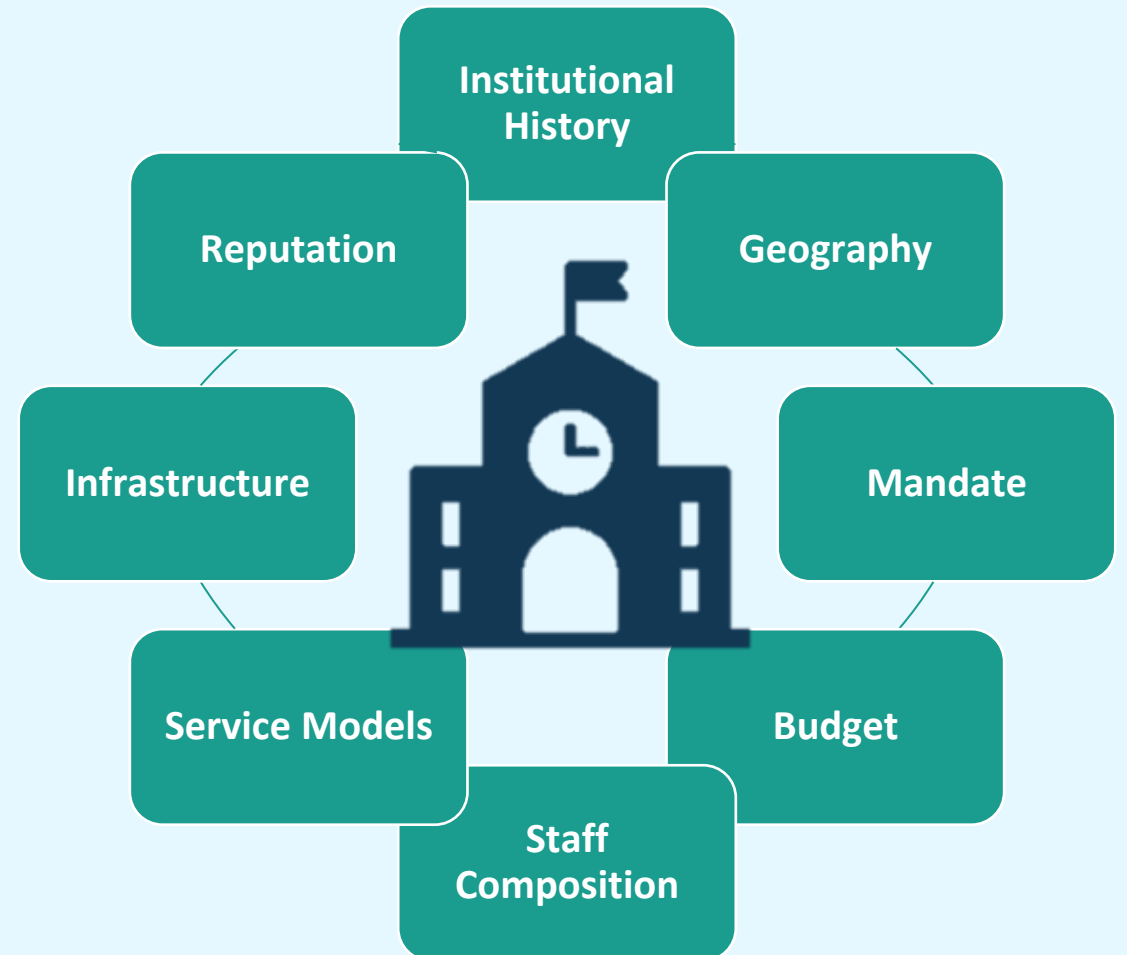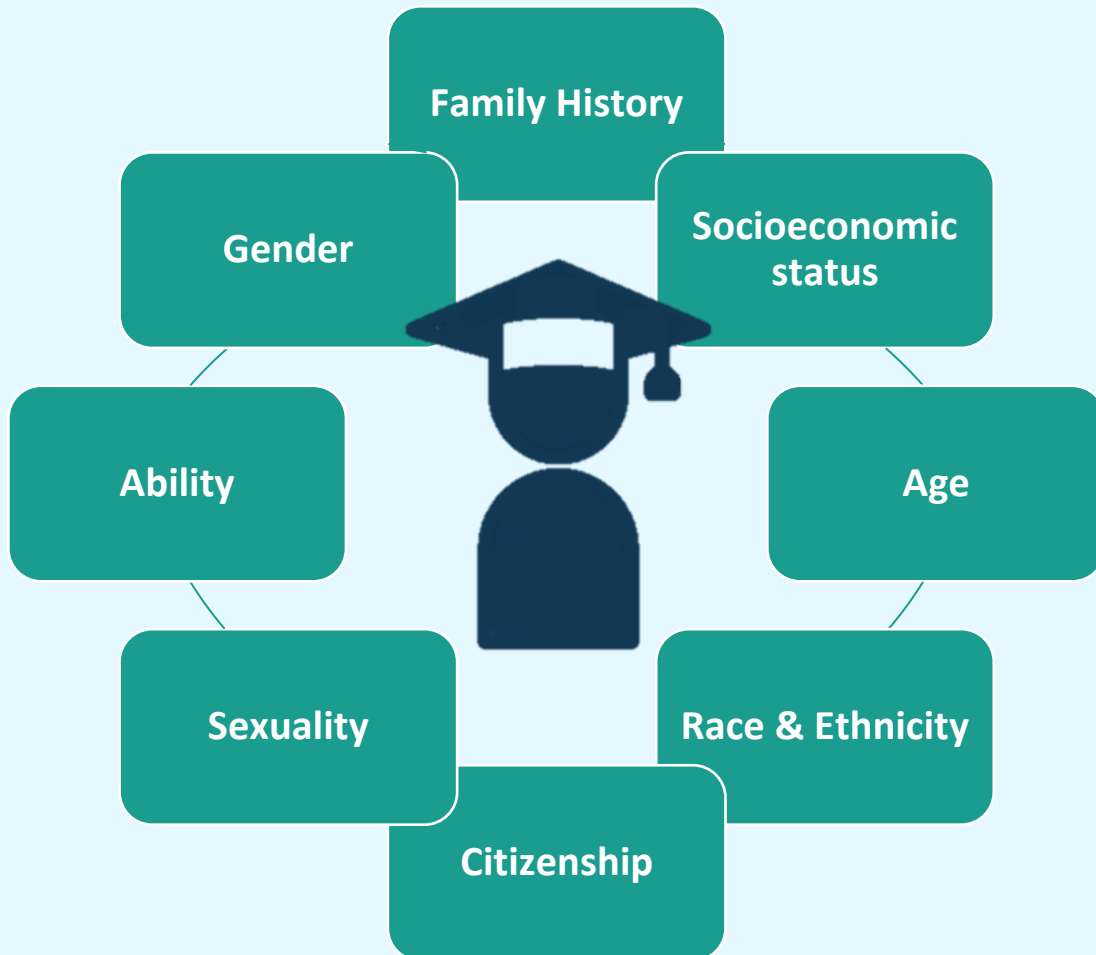**Reverse:** Transfer from a four- to a year institution
Swirler: Movement between multiple institutions (see also McGuire & Belcheir, 2013)
Thwarted: Students who are unable to enter institutions or experience problems transferring credits because of the absence of articulation agreements

Poisel, M. A., & Joseph, S. (Ed.). (2018). *Building transfer student pathways for college and career success.* Columbia, SC University of South Carolina, National Resource Center for The First-Year Experience & Students in Transition and the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students.

The Kentucky Student Success **Collaborative**

Transfer Strategy

Family History

Socioeconomic status

Gender

Ability

Age

Sexuality

Race & Ethnicity

Citizenship

Institutional History

Reputation

Geography

Infrastructure

Mandate

Service Models

Budget

Staff Composition

Welcome, panel members!

Reflecting on our Time Together...

Head: What is something new I've learned today? How am I thinking about things differently?

Heart: How do I feel about what we've discussed? Anything that was particularly convicting?

Feet: What is something I can do to take action and apply what I've learned?

The Kentucky Student Success **Collaborative**

Key Takeaways

- Be the reason transferring is seamless for students- if you can't answer their question, refer them to someone who can.

- Embrace the community that you have been given. Do your part to make it better and be the reason that someone does the same.

- Transfer students are excited to explore the new opportunities available to them. Inspire them to embrace their potential and remind them of the exciting possibilities ahead!

The Kentucky Student Success **Collaborative**

Upcoming Engagements

Community Discussion Series
College Source

Transfer Community of Practice
Kentucky Student Success Collaborative

The Kentucky
Student Success
Collaborative

Let's stay connected!

↗ **Dawn Offutt**
Executive Director
Access, Engagement and Belonging
Council on Postsecondary Education
dawn.offutt@ky.gov

↗ **Stephanie Cheung**
Associate Director
Transfer Strategy
Kentucky Student Success Collaborative
stephanie.cheung@ky.gov