

LEAP TAMPA BAY INITIATIVES

LEAP Tampa Bay College Access Network is a collaboration of more than 50 community partners committed to changing lives by connecting residents to education and training beyond high school. Our primary goal is to have 60% of working age adults holding a post-secondary education or workforce training credential by the Year 2025. As of 2019 data, our two-county region stands at 55.2% (*Florida College Access Network – via U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2019; and Lumina Foundation Stronger Nation Report*). Work groups include Communications, Data, and Resource Development to align messaging, key performance indicators, and funding with the initiatives referenced below.

COMPLETE TAMPA BAY – Free Coaching for Adults Returning to School

- More than 330,000 adults in Hillsborough & Pinellas have some college, but no credential*
- Offering support with applications, credit transfer, financial aid, etc. for students stopped out from partner schools, HCC, SPC & USF, as well as local technical colleges
- Initial outreaches to more than 15,000 stopped-out students:
 - Initial engagement rates up to 4x higher than state-wide coaching efforts
 - 68% of those engaged moved beyond first step with Coach
 - 75% are students of color; 58% low income
- Partnering with Urban Leagues of Hillsborough and Pinellas County for student support and local peer tutoring with Knack Tutoring.

**American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, 2019*

COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTERS – In-School Support for the Next Step

- Modeled after a successful, volunteer-led center at Robinson High in Hillsborough; LEAP was a catalyst for pilots at Largo High and Armwood High in 2018-19
- Pinellas County Schools and Pinellas Education Foundation have built out at eight more schools
- Early indicators of impact show strong gains in financial aid applications at schools with College and Career Centers, with 2/3 of the schools showing 5-12 percentage points above district average

FUSE SCHOLARSHIPS – Supporting Students from State College to USF

- \$3 million Fuse Scholarship Fund was established by LEAP partners, led by a matching gift from Helios Education Foundation and lead gift from USAB Foundation (now Valley Bank)
- \$2.1 million awarded to 383 students at HCC, SPC, PHSC and USF as of Fall 2020
- Early impacts at State Colleges show Fuse students completing their AA in as little as half the time of other AA seekers, saving valuable time and money for the student

CAREER READINESS – Aligning Skills to meet Student & Employer Needs

- Aligning language and competencies around essential (“soft”) skill assets; mapping delivery so educators and business can connect how students acquire and demonstrate such skills

CAREER EXPLORATION – Helping Students in Selecting Their Educational Path

- Twelve local business partners working collaboratively to inspire students to explore career pathways by creating alignment between business, education and community efforts more effectively linking workforce needs to the talent growing in our community