



project finish line

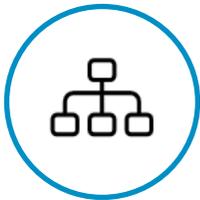
# Supporting Students Encountering Financial Barriers

## Via Completion Coaches:



### 1. Who leverage formal and informal early alert systems.

For example, financial aid offices can supply Coaches with lists of students who are at risk of exhausting financial aid before completing their degree or certificate.



### 2. Who take inventory of available internal and external funding.

Keeping up-to-speed with eligibility requirements for each funding source is key to triaging student needs.



### 3. Who avoid duplicating existing services.

Coaches look for “service gaps” and/or ways to partner with existing support services.



### 4. Who partner with foundations and other donors.

Mutually beneficial partnerships can be formed and/or strengthened when near-completers are supported and

## Via Completion Grants:



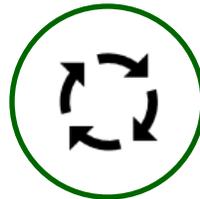
### 1. That are made widely known to students and colleagues.

Students (and colleagues) benefit by knowing what funding exists and how to go about requesting support.



### 2. That respond quickly to student needs.

It takes investments in human resources and a working structure to respond quickly to student requests.



### 3. Where staff track outcomes, reflect on trends, and implement improvements.

Each student served represents an opportunity to reflect on the process, act on feedback, and make improvements for the future.



### 4. That share both their successes and their needs.

When partnering with foundations and other donors, successful programs share accomplishments as well as unmet need

## Links to helpful resources:

Great Lakes Education Philanthropy. (2016). 2012-2015 Emergency Grant Closing Report and Best Practices. <https://community.mygreatlakes.org/community/strategy/scaling/emergency-grant-2012.html>.

MDRC. (2007). Emergency Financial Aid for Community College Students: Implementation and Early Lessons from the Dreamkeepers and Angel Fund Programs. Ajose, L., MacGregor, C., Yan, L. <https://www.mdrc.org/publication/emergency-financial-aid-community-college-students>.

Wisconsin HOPE Lab. (2015). Investing in Student Completion: Overcoming Financial Barriers to Retention Through Small-Dollar Grants and Emergency-Aid Programs. Dechelet, K. & Goldrick-Rab, S. <https://wihopelab.com/publications/>.

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## Questions/Comments:

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