State of Education Pathway at Bakersfield College

Due to significant growth and momentum point progress, the state of the Bakersfield College Education Pathway is strong. From fall 2017 to fall 2018, the first-time student headcount for the Education Pathway increased by almost 60%. The increase is particularly significant for Hispanic/Latinx students, with the number of first-time Hispanic/Latinx students increasing from 196 in fall 2017 to 317 in fall 2018, an increase of almost 62%. As we have increased our number of students overall, we have also focused upon supporting their momentum point achievement. Over the last year, we increased the number of first-time students attempting 15+ units in their first semester by 2% (from 10% in fall 2017 to 12% in fall 2018). We also increased the number of first-time students completing transfer-level English and Math in their first year by 1%.

Education Pathway: 5 Year Trend, Disaggregated by Demographics

Through targeted outreach efforts, including two conferences, the Education Pathway increased the number of first-time students by nearly 60% (see graph below).

The growth in Hispanic/Latinx students is reflective of BC’s overall student population.
The fastest growing age group in the Education Pathway is composed of students aged 19 or younger. This is consistent with the overall student growth pattern at Bakersfield College.

![First-Time Student Headcount for Education Pathway, by Age Group](image)

### Education Pathway Momentum Points

The Education Pathway includes two job skills certificates which do not require students to complete 15 units. Therefore, this graph may underreport the percentage of students in the pathway who both need and attempt 15 units.

![First-Time Education Students Attempting 15+ Units in Their First Term](image)

Despite recent pathway communications and events aimed at increasing momentum point achievement, the percentage of students attempting 30+ units in their first year has remained relatively
consistent over the last five years. This trend may reflect the significant number of students in the pathway electing to earn certificates which require less than 30 units.

The Education Pathway collaborated with the Math department to significantly increase the number of Math B4A sections offered in Spring, 2019. These gains will not be captured until the next State of the College report.

Actions Taken to Advance the Momentum Points

Members of the Education Pathway Completion Coaching Community employed several strategies to increase new student enrollment (getting students on the path) and support continued student success (keeping students on the path). These activities included:

- Two Conferences funded by Education Futures: The BCSW Let’s Teach Conference for high school students on November 2, 2019 and the Let’s Teach Conference on March 29, 2019
• Publication of a monthly pathway newsletter
• Three to four graduation and transfer planning workshops each semester
• A new education-pathway specific section of STDV B2: Lifelong Learning and Career Planning
• Monthly huddles on the BC campus to connect students with working professionals and provide advising support
• Separate commencement celebrations for students earning degrees in Early Childhood Education and Elementary Teacher Education
• Collaboration with the BC Math department to increase the number of Math B4A sections offered

Looking Ahead at the Next 3 Years

The Education Pathway will continue its active support of student learning and preparation for careers in the field of education by continuing and expanding upon the new activities held in 2018-19. The graduation ceremonies for Child Development and Education were held separately for the first time in 2019, creating a new tradition for pathway graduates. Further, the pathway will continue to organize the monthly newsletter, graduation/transfer workshops, and monthly huddles to provide students with timely and relevant information about important college deadlines and graduation requirements. New projects are also planned. The Education department designed new courses for educational paraprofessionals to meet strong local need, and the initial certificate is planned to expand into a stackable certificate model that will enable working paraprofessionals to increase their salaries and make progress toward the completion of an associate’s degree. The Child Development department will grow its new transitional Kindergarten (TK) certificate program to enable working elementary school teachers to earn the required 24 child development units to move into the TK level classroom. Both departments are expanding their online offerings to enable broader student access.

In addition, the Education Pathway will continue to focus its efforts upon monitoring and promoting momentum point completion, with a particular focus upon increasing the number of students completing 30 units in the first-year.