



Student Selection.

Eligibility. Student eligibility is firmly based on the following criteria. An eligible student: is between 16 and 20 years old; has dropped out or is on the verge of dropping out of high school; is behind in credits for age and grade level; has a GPA of 2.0 or below (or exhibits other risk factors); lives in an eligible district; has expressed the goal of earning a diploma; and reads at an 8th grade level or higher.

Assessment. Students are selected through an intensive intake and evaluation process. Student reading, writing, grammar, math, and affective skills are assessed prior to their acceptance. Network-approved selection tools and guidelines are used to assess a student's chance for success while maintaining the Gateway mission.

Referral. The program serves as a clearinghouse for reconnecting youth to education. Those students not selected are counseled to a better option. These options may include GED, ESL/ELL, K – 12 or college alternatives, and community-based programs.

Matriculation. New students begin each college term (including summer if possible).

Evidence at start-up

- Recruitment materials are created and dispersed (e.g., intake schedule, brochure, website).
- K – 12 and community stakeholders understand eligibility criteria and are making referrals.
- Referral lists have been created to connect students not selected for GtC to other options.
- The appropriate numbers of students have been selected per agreed-upon goals.
- Team members help incoming students understand the value and honor of earning a scholarship; program acceptance is a tool for building student esteem and efficacy.

Evidence of mature implementation

- Continuation students regularly participate in intake sessions.
- Program has steady referral sources; word of mouth referrals grow.
- Other school districts are interested in partnering; service area expands.