

IPCN Keyword Definitions

Access: Factors affecting college enrollment and success, especially for low-income students and members of traditionally underrepresented populations.

Accountability: Assessment and measures of performance and achievement.

Achievement Gap: Measures of differences in performance between student groups.

Admissions: Pertaining to admission to college.

Adult Students: Older adult students in higher education.

Affordability/College Costs: College costs and ability to pay for college.

African Americans: Persons of African descent living in the United States.

American Indians/Alaska Natives: Persons of indigenous descent living in the United States.

Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders: Persons of Asian or Pacific Island descent living in the United States.

Athletes: Students involved in athletics at the collegiate level.

Audio: Audio files.

Bibliographies: Annotated bibliographies on topics related to college access and success.

Borrowing: Information on the implications of student loan debt.

Campus Climate and Diversity: The atmosphere or ambience of a postsecondary institution as reflected in its structures, policies, and practices; the demographics of its student and faculty populations; and the attitudes and values of its students and leaders.

Career and Technical Education (CTE): Encompasses a variety of subject areas designed to prepare students for life-long careers, formerly referred to as Vocational Education.

Career Assessments: Tests that rely on quantitative and qualitative methodologies to help individuals identify and better articulate their unique interests, values, and skills.

Career Development: Assessment, exploration, decision-making, planning, preparation, and pursuit of employment and work.

Career Pathways: A coherent sequence of rigorous academic and technical courses that prepare students for successful completion of state academic standards and support transition to more advanced postsecondary coursework in a related career area of interest.

College Access: Students' ability to continue their education beyond high school at the postsecondary level.

College Access Legislation: Proposed or enacted laws governing areas relevant to college access, particularly for low-income and traditionally underrepresented populations.

College Access Marketing: Marketing strategies and techniques promoting college participation, especially for traditionally underrepresented or underserved students.

College Access Programs: Programs committed to improving college enrollment and success, especially for low-income and traditionally underrepresented populations.

College Planning Parents: Resources for parents and families to help with college exploration, selection, and preparation.

College Planning Students: Resources for current students to help with college exploration, selection, and preparation.

College Rankings: Rankings of colleges according to various criteria.

Community Colleges: Two-year postsecondary institutions.

Comprehensive School Counseling Programs: Systematically implemented programs designed to be developmental, preventative, and remedial, working to guarantee access for all students to school counselors and vice versa to promote students' individuality and provide them with skills to function effectively with others in the school, home, and community.

Correctional Education/Re-entry: Programs related to developmental, secondary, or postsecondary education in correctional facilities and to successful societal re-integration.

Counseling: High school and college counseling and guidance services.

Curriculum: Pre K - 12 courses of study.

Data: Information and statistics related to education and college access.

Demographics: Information related to characteristics of human populations.

Distance Learning: Off-campus coursework, such as online courses and independent study.

Documents: Any resource in the IPCN library that is not a website, presentation, bibliography, or audio file.

Early Childhood Education/School Readiness: Education for children from birth to nine years of age, particularly at the pre-kindergarten and kindergarten levels.

Early/Middle College High Schools: High schools in which students complete college coursework concurrent with the fulfillment of high school graduation requirements.

Earning College Credit in High School: Concurrent enrollment (dual credit) in high school and postsecondary coursework, including AP coursework and Early or Middle College High School enrollment.

Earnings: Referring to the effects of postsecondary education on salary and wages.

Educational Attainment/College Degree Completion: The achievement of certain levels of education, especially the attainment of postsecondary degrees.

Elementary School: Grades K - 5 or K - 6.

Employment and Workforce Development: The effects of college education on careers, the effects of concurrent participation in work and school, and the impact of increased educational attainment, including vocational training, on the employability of individuals and the development of a skilled workforce.

Engagement: Level of student involvement and personal investment in postsecondary education

English Language Learners/LEP/ESL: Students (of any age) in the process of acquiring English language skills and having a first language other than English.

Enrollment: Long-term admission and retention of students in postsecondary institutions.

Evaluation: Assessment of programs and initiatives.

Evidence-based Interventions: Best-practices or interventions supported by research and practice.

Federal TRIO Programs: Information related to six federal educational opportunity outreach programs designed to motivate and support students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Females: Educational issues specific to female students.

Financial Aid: Funding for postsecondary education, such as grants, loans, and scholarships.

First Generation Students: Students who will be the first in their family to attend college.

First Year of College: Persistence, retention, engagement, and success during students' first year of postsecondary education.

Foster Youth: Articles pertaining to students who are or were wards of the state and are pursuing or attempting to pursue postsecondary degrees.

Funding: Financing and financial support of college access programs.

Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered Students: Postsecondary issues related to students' sexual orientation.

High School: Secondary education, usually grades 9 - 12.

High School Dropouts: Students who failed to complete high school.

High School Graduation: The completion of high school.

Homeschooled Students: School-age students educated at home.

Indiana: College access-related information pertaining specifically to the state of Indiana.

Indiana College Access Organizations: Organizations promoting college access in Indiana.

Initiatives: Projects related to the improvement of college access and success, particularly for low-income and underrepresented students.

Institutional Improvement: Strategies or suggestions for the improvement of postsecondary institutions.

International Students: Issues related to students attending U.S. postsecondary institutions whose permanent country of residence is other than the United States.

International Perspectives: Articles describing international higher education programs.

Interventions: Program specifically geared toward the improvement of prospects for college access and success for low-income and/or traditionally underrepresented students.

Latinos/Hispanics: Persons of Latin-American or Hispanic descent living in the United States.

Lifelong Learning: A continuum of the learning process that takes place at formal and informal levels- from preschool through postsecondary education and job training- utilizing modalities such as distance learning and conventional learning.

Literacy: Refers to competency in reading and writing, including the critical and effective use of these in peoples' lives, and the use of language (oral and written) for all purposes.

Loan Forgiveness Programs: Opportunities to earn student loan cancellation/forgiveness.

Low-Income Students: Resources for low income students as well as information about income and its implications on educational attainment.

Males: Educational issues related to males in higher education, including the male achievement gap.

Mentoring: Information on education and career-related mentoring programs.

Merit-based Aid: Financial aid based on criteria other than financial need.

Middle School: The middle grades, typically grades 6-8.

Minority/Race/Ethnicity: Referring to students from underrepresented racial or ethnic groups.

National College Access Organizations: National organizations dedicated to improving college access and success for low-income and traditionally underrepresented student populations.

National Perspectives: Reports that look at issues across the country rather than from a single state or region.

Need-based Aid: Funding for college based on financial need and not other criteria.

Non-traditional Students: Students who have been out of formal schooling for 5 or more years or have life experiences that are different from traditional-aged students, who are typically age 24 or younger.

Online Journals: Online, education-related journals.

Opportunity: The creation of possible access to postsecondary education.

P-16 (Pre K - Grade 16) Alignment and Initiatives: Referring to an educational system consisting of preschool through grade 16 (the fourth year of college).

Parent Involvement: Resources to assist counselors and educators in engaging parents and families in the college planning process.

Parents: Resources for the parents of pre-college or college-age students.

Participation: Participation of students in postsecondary education.

Pell Grants: Resources related to this federal grant program for undergraduate students.

Persistence/Retention: The maintenance of enrollment in postsecondary education.

Policy: Education related policies.

Preparation/College Readiness: Academic and anticipatory preparation for college.

Presentations: Typically power point presentations concerning educational topics.

Private Colleges: Referring to private colleges and universities.

Professional Organizations: Professional associations for persons in counseling and education professions.

Publications in Spanish: Materials published in the Spanish language.

Remediation/Developmental Education: Remedial education at the postsecondary level.

Rural: High schools and school districts in rural areas.

Scholarships: Resources regarding college scholarships.

School Reform: Pre K through Grade 12 educational reform in schools.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM): Initiatives designed to promote course-taking and career development in these subject areas.

Selectivity: Admissions standards for postsecondary institutions.

Senior Year of High School: Initiatives relevant to improving the experiences for students in their final year of secondary education.

Small Schools Initiatives: Promote small school enrollments to enable teachers to develop meaningful relationships with a group of students over time, and to allow greater customization of learning.

Social/Economic Benefits/Economic Development: Benefits to individuals, society, and the economy derived from engagement in and completion of postsecondary education.

Standards: Academic and professional measures of success.

State Report Generators: Tools providing access to state-specific college access, preparation, and participation data.

States: Resources, information, and statistics pertaining to specific states.

Student Success: Educational achievement and degree attainment of students in secondary and postsecondary education.

Students with Disabilities: Information related to education, college access, and success for students with disabilities.

Teaching: Information related to teaching practices in the classroom.

Technology: Pertaining to the use of technology in postsecondary education.

Testing/Assessments: Evaluation and assessment of student achievement at the secondary level.

Transfer: Transfer between two-year and four-year postsecondary institutions.

Transition: Movement from high school to college.

Tuition: The costs of postsecondary education.

Undocumented Immigrant/Immigrant/Migrant Students: Students who are undocumented immigrants, have parents who are undocumented immigrants, are documented immigrants, or are the dependant children of migrant workers.

Urban: Secondary education schools and school districts located in urban areas.

Veterans: Persons who have served in the armed forces of the United States.

Websites: Websites related to college preparation, access, and success.