



Institutional Effectiveness Plan

Success Story

Automating the Graduation Process

The Office of Degree and Certificate Completion

January 2017



About the Office of Degree and Certificate Completion

The Office of Degree and Certificate Completion at South Texas College (STC) works to accelerate student success. This is accomplished by utilizing actionable data to track student progress along success point milestones, mapping student pathways to degree and certificate completion, and providing a seamless process to degree certification for all STC students.

Featured Goal

Provide a seamless process to degree certification for all eligible graduating students - The completion of the degree plan determines graduation eligibility. Eligible students are automatically awarded degrees and certificates without the need of a separate application. Awards are posted in the official students' transcripts and reported via state Coordinating Board Management reports. This process expedites an automated process to degree certification for all eligible graduating students.

Strategies

The Office of Degree and Certificate Completion collaborated with STC's Information Technology Department to extract degree audit data from DegreeWorks. This data is used to identify students who are enrolled in their last semester prior to completing their degree or certificate course requirements.

- The Office of Student Records and Registrar utilized ARGOS as their reporting tool to acquire the most up-to-date degree audits of students that have satisfied at least 98% of their degree completion requirements.
- DegreeWorks allows the identification of students that have met their degree requirements.
- Eligible candidates are easily populated with a graduation application in BANNER.
- Thus, students who have met their degree requirements are automatically certified without needing to submit an graduation application.

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness & Assessment

iea.southtexascollege.edu
(956) 872 3809





Institutional Effectiveness Plan

Success Story

Automating the Graduation Process The Office of Degree and Certificate Completion

January 2017

Results

- * As a result of utilizing DegreeWorks data to identify prospective graduates, the Office of Degree and Certificate Completion was able to reduce the time required to certify all of STC's graduates by more than 50%.
- * The automation of the graduate application process has resulted in zero students being denied their degree due to premature application.
- * The ability to identify graduates early in the semester has led to improved logistical planning for South Texas College's Graduation Ceremonies each semester.



Recommendations

- * Continue to support academic and nonacademic departments by conducting accurate degree completion audits
- * Effectively track students' progress toward graduation, and provide guidance and support to students as they work toward degree completion
- * Collaborate with faculty and staff involved in the graduation process
- * Automate previously-identified paper forms into electronic services to improve efficiency
- * Remain well informed of best practice trends, institutional goals, and stakeholders' needs and interests



The Office of Institutional Effectiveness & Assessment
A Unit of the Information Services & Planning Division

iea.southtexascollege.edu
(956) 872 3809

