

Project Compass

Quality Indicators of Institutional Readiness for Systemic Change

Small Group Discussions

1. What does the term “underserved” mean on your campus?
2. For each of the four indicators below, discuss the opportunities and challenges which exist at your own campus in relation to supporting retention initiatives for underserved students.

Respect for Evidence

Participating institutions will be expected to supply evidence to support each element of their planning year proposal—from the articulation of the problem to the strategies for addressing the problem, including existing institutional strategies.

Leadership on Multiple Levels With a Special Emphasis On Senior Leadership

Participating institutions will be expected to constitute a leadership team of key representatives from a range of institutional units with the collective knowledge base, skills and authority to develop, advise and implement the institutional program.

Institution-Wide Engagement

Participating institutions will be expected to supply an articulated approach to change appropriate for the institutional type and mission which includes key organizational units and stakeholders within the individual institution.

Evidence of Sustainability

As participating institutions use the planning year to identify the problem which they will address and the related strategies for responding to the problem, they will be also be expected to articulate how other institutional resources—outside of the grant funds—will assure that any proposed intervention will be sustained beyond the life of the five-year grant period.

- 3. What questions does your group have about the Project Compass Request for Proposals (RFP) based on your small group’s discussion?**