



Transportation as a Social Determinant of Student Success

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Who we are



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Transportation in higher education:

How do students get to campus?

- Public transportation
- Personal vehicle
- Biking or walking
- Some combination of the above

How do students move around on campus?

- University-run transit
- Location of parking

Transportation needs and resources can **vary widely across contexts**, and transportation can **affect a range of student outcomes** (e.g., Community College League of California, 2021; Coutts et. al, 2018; Leveson et al., 2013; Nelson et al., 2016; Taylor & Mitra, 2021)

U.S. Congress proposed the **PATH to College Act** in 2021 (Gravelly, 2021)

Transportation as Barriers to Student Success

- Transportation Costs for Residential and Commuter Students
- Location and Access to Transportation Options
- Scheduling and Reliability Issues for Students
- Transportation Barriers for Marginalized Student Populations

(West, 2021)

Commuter students

- Students who do not live in on-campus housing while attending an institution of higher education
- Depending on the institution type, commuting students are often the majority; however, their experience is considered atypical and non-normative (Weiss & Vaccaro, 2014)
- Recent study on the student perception of commute as a barrier
 - 61% of commuting students report commute is a barrier to campus participations and 30% report it as a barrier to academic success (Taylor & Mitra, 2021)

The need for Colorado specific research

1. Longitudinal study of high school students (upper levels)
 - a. Plans with respect to college attendance
 - b. Anticipated role of transportation
 - c. Follow up to understand correlation with long-term student success
2. Cross-institutional study of college students (all levels)
 - a. Current role of transportation
 - b. What is working and what is not
 - c. Where and how to improve



Questions?

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