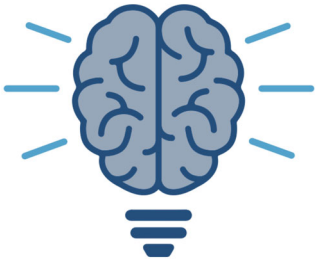
Social-Belonging for College Students

A free, evidence-based program designed to support a sense of belonging on campus to improve engagement, retention, and achievement for students at four-year colleges and universities.

Social-Belonging for College Students was developed with the goal of improving engagement, retention, and achievement for students by supporting a sense of belonging in college. It was developed by leading researchers at the at the Equity Accelerator, and has been rigorously tested and scientifically validated in trials with thousands of students at four-year colleges and universities. Social-Belonging for College Students is now freely available to four-year colleges and universities in the United States.



Short, Simple.

- 20-minute online program.
- Includes short reading passages and a brief reflection exercise.
- Students reflect on passages emphasizing how difficulties in the transition to college are normal and improve with time.



Evidence-Based.

- Rigorously tested with thousands of college students. Findings include:
- **13 percentage point increase** in first-year, full-time enrollment among college-admitted high school seniors at an urban charter network.
- **4 percentage point increase** in first-year, full-time enrollment among Black, Latinx, and first-generation students at a large, public university.
- **.09 increase** in cumulative first-year GPA among Black, Latinx, and first-generation students at a selective, private university.



Easy to Implement.

- Open for participation year-round.
- Incoming first-year students participate over the summer or during new student orientation.
- Takes colleges 2-4 weeks to finalize logistics internally, and less than 60 minutes to register.

Almost all first-year students experience challenges in the transition to college, such as failing a test or feeling like they aren't making friends. For students who are socially disadvantaged in higher education—including students of color, low-income students, and first-generation college students—persistent negative stereotypes and underrepresentation can lead them to wonder if they belong in college, especially when faced with challenges and setbacks. This concern can lead to social and academic withdrawal which, in turn, leads to lower academic achievement and persistence.

The Social-Belonging Program aims to help all students view challenges encountered in the transition to college as normal and improvable so they are more able to remain socially and academically engaged in the face of challenges. It is typically implemented as one component of new student orientation among other activities, and is meant to complement your institution's existing student success efforts. It can also help provide insights into student experiences at your school, which may inform other institutional programs around student achievement, persistence, and well-being.

How the Program Works

1. ***Learn.*** Visit perts.net/social-belonging and review the Program Information Packet.
2. ***Register.*** Complete the registration form and accept the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.
3. ***Set Up Your College.*** Complete the steps in the program portal.
4. ***Participate.*** Students complete the 20-minute online module.
5. ***Track Impact.*** Monitor student participation.

Visit perts.net/social-belonging to get started!