



At Home in College Overview



In February 2009, At Home in College (AHC) began working with over three hundred high school seniors and GED students from seven New York City public high schools and two CUNY GED programs. Students received a transition English course, a transition math course, and a College Access and Success Workshop. In addition, each school developed a college-going culture team - consisting of high school faculty, staff, and administrators- who met for a 30-hour workshop where they developed a common understanding of college-going culture, looked at structures and practices in their school that communicate this culture, and examined postsecondary outcomes for their students. As a result of these meetings, teams developed and implemented an action plan that focused on strengthening the structures in their school and improving one or more elements of their school's college-going culture.

Results:

1. CUNY Application and Placement Exam Rates

Eighty-seven percent of students enrolled in At Home in College applied to CUNY, and, of these, 97% completed the CUNY Placement Exam. These results can be attributed to a variety of factors, including providing fee waivers for the CUNY application and developing a cohort testing model that allowed students to take the CUNY Placement Exam with their classmates during the school day.

2. CUNY Placement Exam Scores

Both high school and GED students saw noticeable gains on the CUNY Placement Exam which will result in less developmental course-taking when students enroll in CUNY.

- For high school students, **writing pass rates were 25.7 percentage points higher and the math 2 pass rates were 18.5 percentage points higher** than the pass rate for 2008 graduates of AHC schools who entered CUNY associate degree programs.
- For CUNY Prep (GED) students, **writing pass rates were 46.1 percentage points higher and math 2 pass rates were 12.7 percentage points higher** than the pass rate for CUNY Prep graduates who enrolled in CUNY between Fall 2004 and Fall 2008.
- For College Transition Program (GED) students, **writing pass rates were 44.9 percentage points higher and math 2 pass rates were 37.1 percentage points higher** than the pass rate for 2008 graduates of GED programs who entered CUNY associate degree programs.

3. Enrollment in Postsecondary Institutions

Of the 226 high school students enrolled in AHC, 190 (84%) graduated high school. Of these graduates, 143 (75%) enrolled in a postsecondary institution. It is important to note that there were no significant gaps in terms of college enrollment. 74 percent of African-American students and 75 percent of Latino students enrolled in postsecondary institutions, which is higher than national averages. In addition, of these high school students who enrolled in college, 77 (54%) were male.