

## CARD SORT MAP

### Social Supports

Research suggests that a lack of awareness surrounding the college transition can negatively impact students' ability to transfer successfully, particularly for seniors who are first-generation college students (Ricks & Warren, 2021). These students have fewer peers and family members who can provide insights and emotional support through the process (Ober et al., 2020).

### Seeing Themselves as College Material

Students recognize that college will be more rigorous, less structured, and require more personal responsibility from them. They need opportunities to identify and show themselves that they have the organizational, self-regulation, time management and study skills that will help them succeed (Ober et al., 2020; Ricks & Warren, 2021).

### Financial Guidance

Students and their families spend a lot of time the summer before enrolling into college questioning the financial aspects and if it really pays off for them (Ober et al., 2020). Without financial guidance, students may quickly become overwhelmed and discouraged (Herbaut & Geven, 2019). Providing financial aid information and counseling can assist students in developing a clear understanding of the cost of college and successfully navigating the financial aid process (Ricks & Warren, 2021).

### Policies and Procedures

Course registration, applying for scholarships, and getting involved in campus life are topics often cited as confusing and complicated, creating barriers to students making the transition into college (Ricks & Warren, 2021). Increasing students' college knowledge regarding navigating the admissions process, completing applications, and submitting financial aid forms supports college enrollment of first-generation high school seniors (Ober et al., 2020).

Herbaut, E., & Geven, K. M. (2019). What works to reduce inequalities in higher education? A systematic review of the (quasi-)experimental literature on outreach and financial aid. St. Louis: Federal Reserve Bank of St Louis.

Ober, T. M., Ahn, J., Ali, A., Homer, B. D., Moner, A., Azam, A., & Ramos, N. (2020). A mixed-methods analysis of mechanisms to support college enrollment among low-income high school students. *Translational Issues in Psychological Science*, 6(2), 118.

Ricks, J. R., & Warren, J. M. (2021). Transitioning to College: Experiences of Successful First-Generation College Students. *Journal of Educational Research and Practice*, 11(1), 1-15.