

BREAKING WITH TRADITION:

Investing in Bridge Programs as a Strategy for Success

Community colleges are facing pressure to increase retention and completion rates. Enrollments and funding are declining. Investing in bridge programs is a strategy for success.

A large pool of potential students in adult education programs could become future college students and boost college enrollment.



Many of these students are already on college campuses and could help boost enrollment.

Visionary leaders set goals that include transitioning students from adult education to college-level classes.



**COLLEGE
PRESIDENT**

OUR COLLEGE MUST:

1. Set college completion goals that include adult education
2. Create and expand the transition program model
3. Measure outcomes for ALL students

Investing in innovative transition models—like bridge programs—prepare students for college and careers.



Build academic skills in the context of an industry/career.



Enroll students dually in Adult Ed and college credit.



Blends career and academic basic skills courses.

In addition to supporting students, bridge programs can help colleges generate returns on their investment in terms of enrollment, completion rates, and revenue.

Cost per bridge student to support transitions.

\$500

Revenue generated per bridge student through state reimbursements and tuition.

\$970

\$470

Return on investment.

You can calculate your college's potential return on investment.



**Download our companion worksheet at:
womenemployed.org/InvestingInBridgePrograms**