

## Equitable Education

Building a Framework for Success in Higher Education

Our Success in Higher Education Framework is comprised of three building blocks that can help institutions take a holistic view of every learner's needs as they work to implement initiatives and empower them to truly pave the way for Equitable Education. **1. Access and Achievement**—referring to the student's ability to be admitted, have the financial support and required materials for, and excel academically in higher ed.

**2. Being and Belonging**—focusing on the students' beliefs that they can be themselves and are a valued member of the institution's community.

**3.** Cause and Career—recognizing the student's need to find and pursue their purpose while also being prepared for the real world.

We've created a list of questions to help you evaluate where your institution stands against our framework. They are designed to guide you toward a starting point for new initiatives, and to that end, are as simple as ABC.



## **Access and Achievement**

Is your institution making consistent and measurable strides to make access to education available to as many students as possible?

- Are administrators and faculty empowered to make accommodations for students with different academic or lifestyle needs? Is that ability publicized?
- Is every student provided with a learning path that allows them to reach graduation in a timely fashion?
- Are programs that give students easy, immediate, and low-cost access to course materials adequately leveraged?
- Is your institution working on increasing access to education for diverse groups of students?

## **Being and Belonging**

Is accommodation being made for students who have limited time or resources to participate in extracurricular activities?

- Is the diversity of the faculty and administration reflective of the diversity of the student population?
- Are different cultural perspectives and norms equally promoted and respected?
- Are opportunities for formal and informal networking and community building being fostered?
- Do the course materials reflect the diverse range of achievements and experiences of both the student and instructor populations?





## **Cause and Career**

Is there enough flexibility in academic programs that can help students explore non-traditional careers?

- Are students trained in how to identify—and potentially monetize—their passion projects?
- Are internships, career counseling, and employment plans mandatory components of the curriculum?
- Are students given a set of realistic expectations of compensation levels for jobs related to various majors in a timely enough fashion, so they can make informed career decisions?
- Are students' job skills and availabilities highlighted to employers, and are connections to them actively fostered?

Find out how we're working to achieve success for all in higher education at <u>mheducation.ca</u> »