

Research Evaluation of Student U

Comprehensive Support and Student Success: Can Out of School Time Make a Difference?

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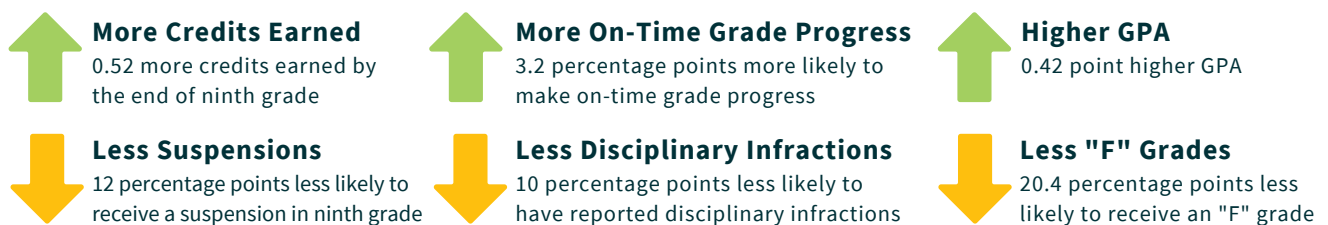
Student U and Duke University partnered as informal Research-Practice partners starting in the summer of 2016 and was published in a peer-reviewed publication in Education Finance and Policy in 2021.

WHAT DID THIS STUDY DO?

An external researcher from Duke University's Sanford School of Public Policy completed an evaluation of Student U's impact on the academic and non-academic outcomes of Student U students. This was a systematic, quantitative study to compare educational outcomes of Student U students versus observationally similar students. The study relied on admissions lotteries which are very close to a randomized controlled trial. Utilizing a control group created by Student U's admissions lottery, the researcher concluded causal impact on short and medium-term student outcomes.

WHAT DID THE STUDY FIND ABOUT STUDENT U PARTICIPATION?

Student U participation led to increased academic success in early high school and had the largest effects on students who entered the program with test scores below the median. These early outcomes are likely to change the trajectory of students in high school and into postsecondary.



WHAT WAS THE CONCLUSION?

The results from this paper suggest that Student U's comprehensive services delivered outside of the regular school day have the potential to improve the educational outcomes of disadvantaged students outside of the regular school day.



Likely Graduation From High School

Likelihood of high school graduation within 5 years of entering ninth grade



Early High School Success

Students will have enough credits to transition to 10th grade AND no suspension