

The WSIPP benefit-cost analysis examines, on an apples-to-apples basis, the monetary value of programs or policies to determine whether the benefits from the program exceed its costs. WSIPP's research approach to identifying evidence-based programs and policies has three main steps. First, we determine "what works" (and what does not work) to improve outcomes using a statistical technique called meta-analysis. Second, we calculate whether the benefits of a program exceed its costs. Third, we estimate the risk of investing in a program by testing the sensitivity of our results. For more detail on our methods, see our [Technical Documentation](#).

Current estimates replace old estimates. Numbers will change over time as a result of model inputs and monetization methods.

## Higher Education

| Program name   | Date of last literature review | Total benefits | Taxpayer benefits | Non-taxpayer benefits | Costs     | Benefits minus costs (net present value) | Benefit to cost ratio | Chance benefits will exceed costs |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| College advising provided by counselors (for high school students)   | Dec. 2016                      | \$24,510       | \$5,623           | \$18,888              | (\$329)   | \$24,182                                 | \$74.56               | 100 %                             |
| Dual enrollment (for high school students)                           | Dec. 2016                      | \$20,431       | \$6,175           | \$14,256              | (\$1,509) | \$18,922                                 | \$13.54               | 86 %                              |
| Summer outreach counseling (for high school graduates)               | Dec. 2016                      | \$18,802       | \$4,381           | \$14,421              | (\$96)    | \$18,706                                 | \$195.39              | 90 %                              |
| Performance-based scholarships (for high school students)            | Dec. 2016                      | \$8,457        | \$1,928           | \$6,529               | (\$1,507) | \$6,950                                  | \$5.61                | 74 %                              |
| Text message reminders (for high school graduates)                   | Dec. 2016                      | \$978          | \$49              | \$929                 | (\$7)     | \$971                                    | \$135.71              | 53 %                              |
| College advising provided by peer mentors (for high school students) | Dec. 2016                      | \$1,617        | (\$348)           | \$1,965               | (\$784)   | \$833                                    | \$2.06                | 50 %                              |
| Opening Doors advising in community college                          | Dec. 2016                      | (\$1,377)      | \$303             | (\$1,680)             | (\$811)   | (\$2,188)                                | (\$1.70)              | 22 %                              |

## Other Higher Education topics reviewed:

| Program name  | Date of last literature review | Notes   |
|---|--------------------------------|---|
| Early commitment programs (for middle and high school students) | Dec. 2016                      | <a href="#">Click for meta-analytic results</a>       |
| Merit aid (for college students)                                | Dec. 2016                      | <a href="#">Click for meta-analytic results</a>       |
| Merit aid (for high school students)                            | Dec. 2016                      | <a href="#">Click for meta-analytic results</a>       |
| Performance-based scholarships (for college students)           | Dec. 2016                      | <a href="#">Click for meta-analytic results</a>       |
| Summer bridge (for high school graduates)                       | Dec. 2016                      | <a href="#">Click for meta-analytic results</a>       |
| Text message reminders (for college students)                   | Dec. 2016                      | <a href="#">Click for meta-analytic results</a>       |
| College Recovery Programs                                       | Dec. 2016                      | No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest. |

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