

The Beacon Concept

Student Success Services for Incoming Students



The BEACON Concept

What is BEACON?

BEACON is a *student success model* that provides a *support team* of individuals from *key divisions* within the institution who have a *common goal* of promoting student success and college completion through *promising practices*.

The BEACON Concept:

- Assist students with finding the correct path to college (guiding the at-risk student)
- Moves from a “*right-to-fail*” to “*right-to-succeed*” model
- Exhibits a paradigm shift that is “learning-centered and student-focused”



The BEACON Concept

- **Purpose is to enhance the academic and support resources available to students** in the program, thereby increasing the likelihood of successful completion of college graduation goals.
- **Utilizes the intrusive counseling model that is action-oriented and implements proactive processes to engage students, identify barriers and implement interventions *prior* to student asking for assistance, while building relationships with the student at the same time.**
- **Consists of Student Success Team:** Professional Counselor, Peer Coach and Faculty Mentor. (Navigational Guides)
- The **professional counselor and the student works collectively** to address concerns and share the responsibility for student academic success. (mutual responsibility agreement/contract)



The BEACON Student Success Team

BEACON relies a *student success support team* in implementing its student success model.

This team serves as the “*navigational guides*” for student success.

Student Success Support Team includes:

1. Professional Counselors
2. Faculty Mentors
3. Peer Coaches



The BEACON Student Success Team

Professional Counselor's Role and Responsibilities

- Conduct initial counseling session
- Intrusive counseling; ensuring the student is attending class, attending academic skills center as required; address any concerns from faculty
- Meet with students twice per month; however number of times can be adjusted
- Assigned to a College 101 class to provide assistance, build rapport and schedule appointments
- With the student, develop a Plan of Study. Also provide informal workshops on: time management, academic planning, goal setting, self-advocacy and personal/social issues



The BEACON Student Success Team

Faculty Mentor's Role and Responsibilities

- Teach the College 101 course
- Collaborate with professional counselors and peer coaches to engage student in their academic progress and promote student success
- Develop learning communities that promote cohort-based instruction
- Implement early warning procedures in the COL 101 courses and provides progress reports to students and professional counselors
- Acts as a liaison and/or facilitator for students by providing guidance and support for addressing student concerns or questions for other faculty



The BEACON Student Success Team

Peer Coach's Role and Responsibilities

- Establish initial contact with potential student. Responsible for guiding the student through the entire admissions process from inquiry, to application, to enrollment.
- Assigned to College 101 courses to assist with in-class activities, establish rapport with students and to provide updates or potential concerns to professional counselors
- Act as a liaison between students and counselor/faculty
- Conduct campus tours
- Provide assistance to new students as needed and/or requested



The BEACON Student's Commitment

Beacon Student's Role and Responsibilities

- Complete all pre-college assessments
- Complete any financial aid verifications needed to ensure aid is ready to pay out
- Sign a Beacon Contract demonstrating their commitment to the program and student success
- Attend all required Beacon meetings with counselor
- Successfully complete College 101
- Maintain a 2.0 grade point average



The BEACON Benefits

Benefits to the Student

- More confident
- Academic and counseling support
- Assistance from the professionals (financial aid, career services and advising)
- Classroom environment and activities that engage the student and promotes student success
- Faculty, professional counselor, and peer coach collaborate and work as a support team for the student

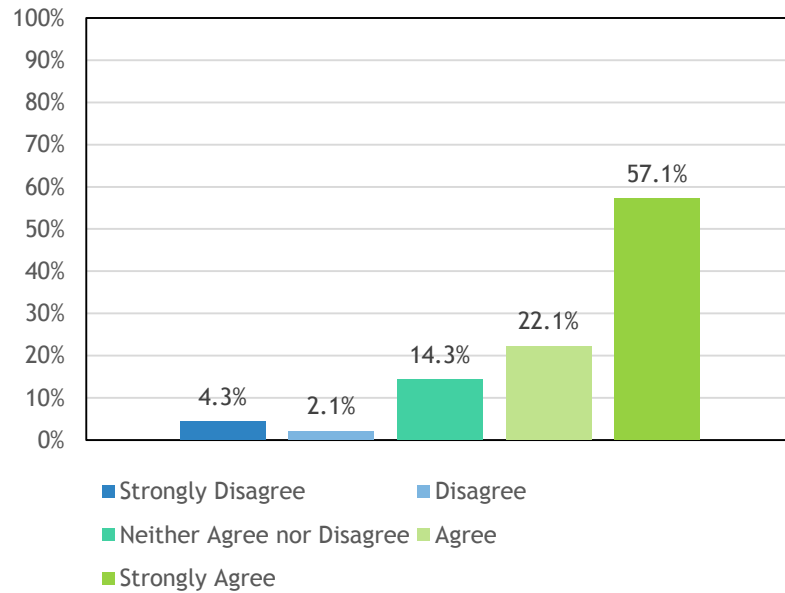
Benefits to Mountwest

- Stronger/better prepared student
- Financial aid verified and ready for disbursement
- Student referral source
- Increased retention rate

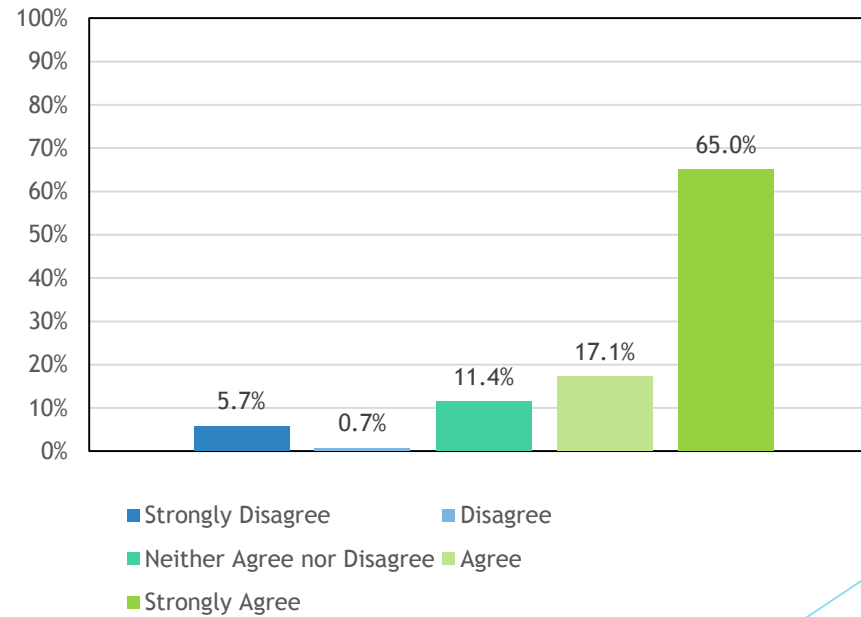


The BEACON *First-Time* Retention

Being in the Beacon program has helped me.

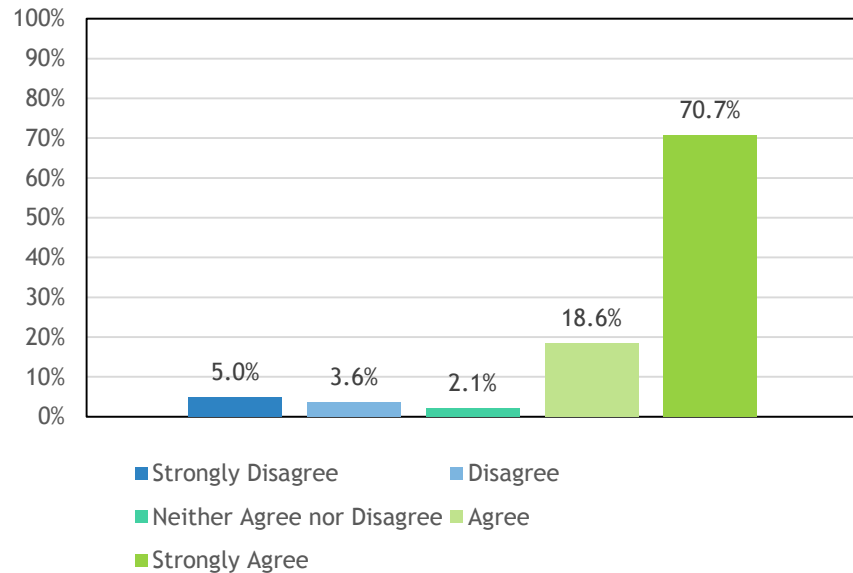


Being in the Beacon program is a special opportunity.

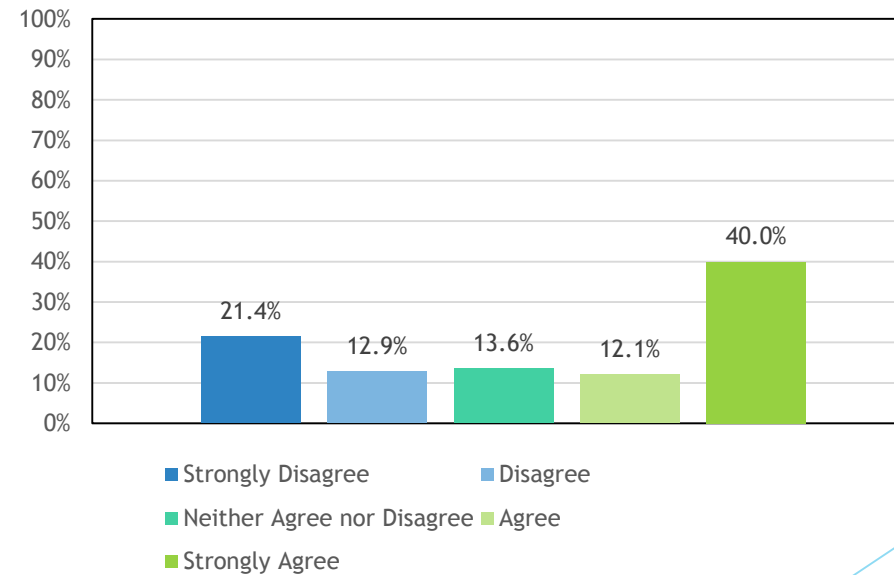


The BEACON *First-Time* Retention

I have met with a counselor more than once.

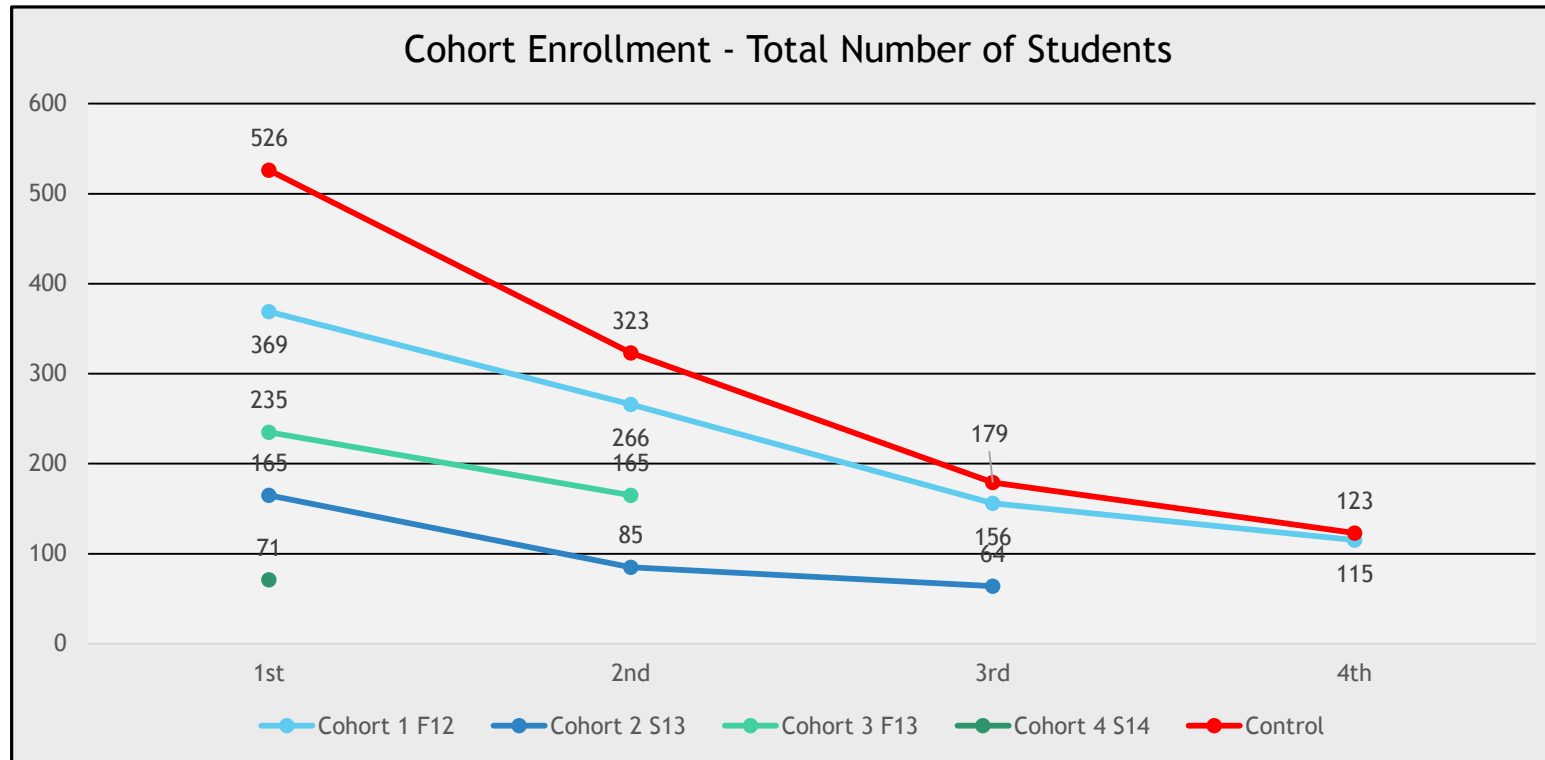


I have met with my peer coach outside of College 101.



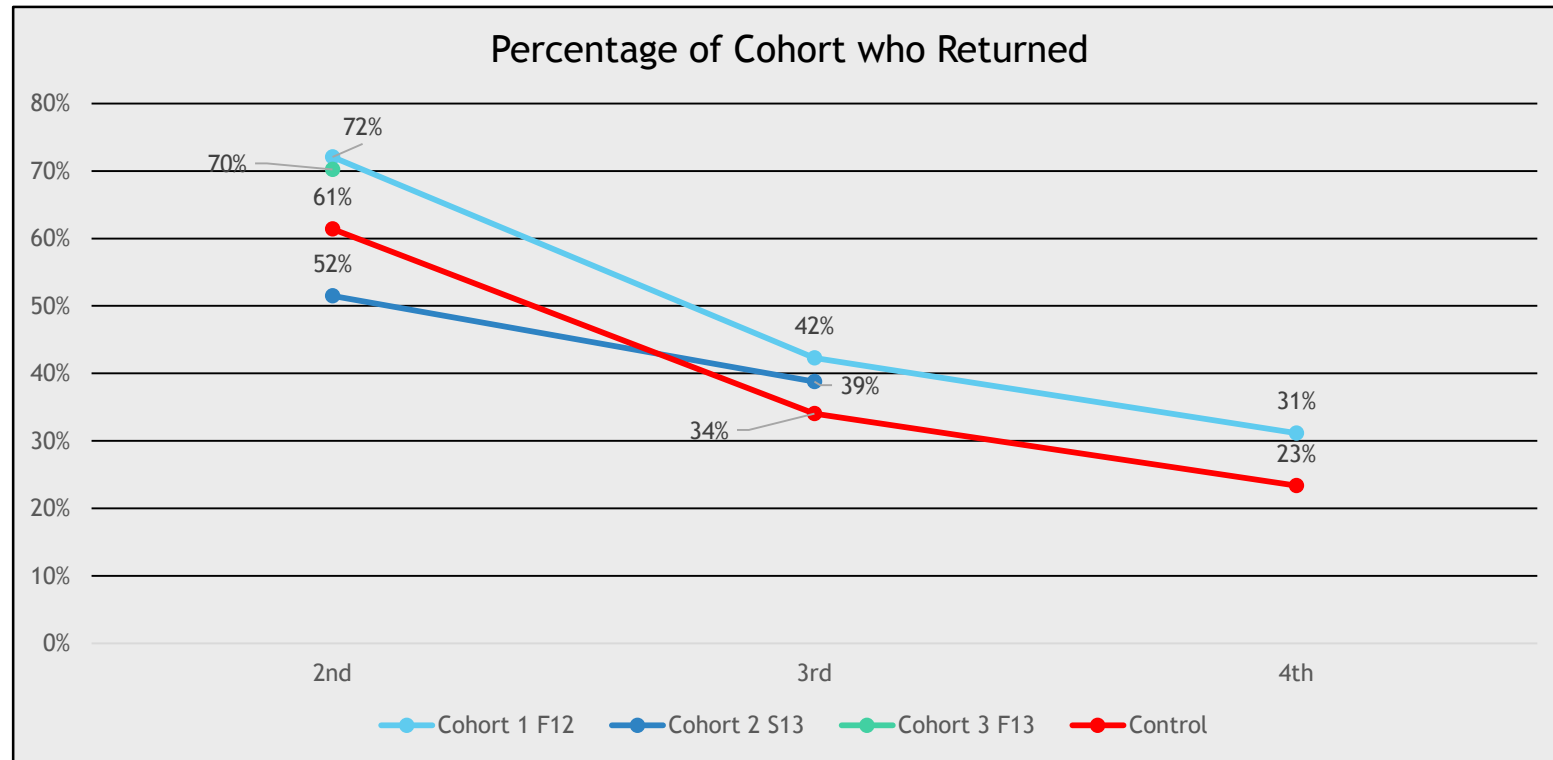
The BEACON *First-Time* Retention

This graph shows the total retention numbers in the Beacon program by Term. In Cohort 1 (Fall 2012), one student passed away and 21 students graduated, so these students were not included in the retention counts.



The BEACON *First-Time* Retention

This graph shows the percentage of the students in each cohort who were retained in their 2nd, 3rd, and 4th subsequent semesters.



Counselor Contact Information

Counselor	Majors	Email	Telephone Number
Kat Ford	Allied Health, Military and Veterans	fordk@mctc.edu	304.710.3387
Veella Grooms	E-Z Start Coordinator and IT Fast Track, BTG Statewide Trainer	grooms@mctc.edu	304.710.3386
Jennifer Judge	Transportation, Non-Traditional Students, Early Entry, Non-Degree and Transient Students	judge@mctc.edu	304.710.3366
Jill Kelley	Allied Health and Disabilities Counselor	kelleyj@mctc.edu	304.710.3368
Jena Melvin	Liberal Arts and Students transferring from Mountwest	minik@mctc.edu	304.710.3367
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