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Thank you for your request to our REL Reference Desk regarding evidence-based information about the predictors of college success for minority students. Ask A REL is a collaborative reference desk service provided by the ten regional educational laboratories (REL) that, by design, functions much in the same way as a technical reference library. It provides references, referrals, and brief responses in the form of citations on research based education questions.

The information below represents the most rigorous research available. Researchers consider the type of methodology and give priority to research reports that employ well described and thorough methods. The resources were also selected based on the date of the publication with a preference for research from the last ten years. Additional criteria for inclusion include the source and funder of the resource.

**Question:** *What are the specific predictors of success for high school minority students entering college? Are there specific predictors of success for African American male high school students entering college?*

### **Search Process**

**Key words and search strings used in the search:** *minority AND success AND college.*  
These terms were sometimes paired with *predict.*

**Search databases and websites:** ERIC (<http://www.eric.ed.gov/>), EBSCO Host, Academic Search Complete (<http://www.ebscohost.com/academic/academic-search-complete>), Google Scholar (<http://scholar.google.com/>)

### **Other References Retrieved:**

Huang, G., Taddese, N., & Walter, E. (2000). *Entry and persistence of women and minorities in college science and engineering education*, NCES 2000–601. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education. National Center for Education Statistics. Retrieved from: <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2000/2000601.pdf>

ACT. (2010). *Mind the gaps: How college readiness narrows achievement gaps in college success*. Iowa City, IA: Author. Retrieved from: <http://www.act.org/research/policymakers/reports/mindthegaps.html>

Center for the Study of Education Policy at Illinois State University. (2005). *Improving chances college success for Low income and minority high school students*. Normal, IL: Author. Retrieved from: <http://centereducationpolicy.illinoisstate.edu/initiatives/collegesuccess/finalreport.pdf>

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- Martinez, M., & Klopott, S. (2005). *The link between high school reform and college access and success for low-income and minority youth*. Washington, DC: American Youth Policy Forum and Pathways to College Network. Retrieved from:  
<http://www.aypf.org/publications/HSReformCollegeAccessandSuccess.pdf>
- Dennis, J. M., Phinney, J. S., & Chuateco, L. I. (2005). The role of motivation, parental support, and peer support in the academic success of ethnic minority first-generation college students. *Journal of College Student Development*, 46, 223-236. doi: 10.1353/csd.2005.0023
- Fischer, M. J. (2007). Settling into campus life: Differences by race/ethnicity in college involvement and outcomes. *The Journal of Higher Education*, 78, 125-161.

### **Referrals**

#### **Organizations:**

National High School Center: <http://www.betterhighschools.org/>

#### ***Institute of Education Sciences Resources (IES):***

Publication search engine available at: <http://ies.ed.gov/pubsearch/>

**Other Federally Funded Resources:** The Center on Innovation and Improvement (<http://www.centerii.org/>); The Center on Instruction (<http://www.centeroninstruction.org/>); The National High School Center (<http://www.betterhighschools.org/>); Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement (<http://www.centerforcsri.org/>); Education Commission of the States (<http://www.ecs.org/>)

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