

# Users Guide to the National Dropout Prevention Center Model Programs Database

The Model Programs Database, brought to you by the National Dropout Prevention Center and EdisonLearning, is a searchable database of research-based programs and information. The database is available for schools, organizations, and other programs to review for opportunities to implement specific model programs, to enhance existing programs, or for inspiration on creating new initiatives for dropout prevention, intervention, or reentry/recovery.

## Inside the Database

Program planners in schools and organizations can preview the database for interventions and activities to implement or enhance their existing program. There are numerous options to search the database for a model program.

### Preview the Database

- Search database A-Z
- Search by program description
- Search by program strategies
- Search by ratings
- Search by selecting various criteria to narrow your findings

## Program Information

Information that can be gathered from the database includes:

- Contact information for the program
- Year of implementation
- Overview of program
- Method(s) of data collection and evaluation
- Funding costs and resources
- Required staffing, target groups of students, and locality
- Risk factors and protective factors targeted
- Effective strategies utilized or other program descriptors

The National Dropout Prevention Center manages the Model Programs Database for dropout prevention. We strive to keep information current and relevant for school and community leaders involved in developing interventions. Visit the Model Programs Database Web page at [www.dropoutprevention.org/modelprograms](http://www.dropoutprevention.org/modelprograms)

### Program Nominations

Individuals or program contacts may nominate programs to be included in the database by visiting the Web page and following these steps:

- Click “Nominate a Program”
- Fill out the information on the form and submit

Please provide links or verifiable information on evidence of effectiveness. Once your form is submitted, the information will be forwarded and rated according to the rating scale as to its evidence of effectiveness based on information provided.

For more information, contact:  
National Dropout Prevention Center/Network  
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Clemson, SC 29631



NATIONAL  
DROPOUT  
PREVENTION  
CENTER/NETWORK



[www.dropoutprevention.org](http://www.dropoutprevention.org)  
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# Rating System

## Dimensions

NDPC model programs are rated based on the research or evaluation made available by the program. The rating scale for the programs selected for the database is based on the evaluation literature of specific prevention, intervention, and recovery programs. The overall rating is derived from three summary dimensions of program effectiveness.

### Ratings Dimensions

- Years of program existence
- Evaluation design
- Empirical evidence demonstrating the prevention or reduction of dropouts or the improvement in graduation rates and/or significant impact on dropout-related risk factors

## Rating Levels

### STRONG EVIDENCE OF EFFECTIVENESS

These programs have existed for three years or more. They were evaluated using an experimental or strong quasi-experimental design conducted by an external evaluation team and have strong empirical evidence demonstrating program effectiveness in reducing dropout and/or increasing graduation rates and/or having significant impact on dropout-related risk factors.

### MODERATE EVIDENCE OF EFFECTIVENESS

These programs have been in existence for three years or more. They were evaluated using a quasi-experimental design conducted by an external or internal evaluation team and have adequate empirical evidence demonstrating program effectiveness in reducing dropout and/or increasing graduation rates and/or having significant impact on dropout-related risk factors.

### LIMITED EVIDENCE OF EFFECTIVENESS

These programs may be relatively new. They were evaluated using a limited evaluation design conducted by an external or internal evaluation team. They have promising empirical evidence demonstrating program effectiveness in reducing dropout and/or increasing graduation rates and/or having significant impact on dropout-related risk factors that requires confirmation using more appropriate experimental techniques.

### INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE OF EFFECTIVENESS

These programs require additional information before a rating category is determined.

All program and evaluation information is provided by the program's contact person. The National Dropout Prevention Center facilitates review of the information periodically for edits, updates, and decisions as required to ensure the accuracy and quality of the information provided.