AN INTRODUCTION TO THE ACCESSLEX INSTITUTE℠

Overview of Initiatives and Priorities

Tiffane Cochran, Director of Research
Friday, June 9, 2017
Our Work

• Offers **on-campus and online loan repayment and financial education programming and resources** to help students and alumni manage their finances

• Provides **professional development opportunities for school administrators** working to improve financial education at their institutions
Our Work

• Understanding and reducing barriers that impede access to law school, particularly for historically underrepresented groups;
• Identifying strategies and policies to increase law school affordability; and,
• Strengthening the value of legal education.
Our Work

- Research and Data
- Policy Analysis and Advocacy
- Grantmaking
RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS TO DATE
Exploring the Role of Institutional Research in Graduate and Professional Education
By Tiffany Contreras

Background
The AccessLex Center for Legal Education Investment™, with support from the AccessLex Institute, conducted a study to learn more about the interactions between the institutional research community and graduate and professional schools. Specifically, the Center sought to understand the role and influence of institutional research in the development and implementation of institutional strategies and policies that promote graduate and professional education at law schools.

Methodology
The investigation for institutional research included data from a survey conducted by the Center to study the impact of institutional research on the graduate and professional education landscape.

Survey Respondents
The survey was sent to members of the American Law School Association (ALSA) and included questions related to the impact of institutional research on graduate and professional education at law schools.

Results
- Institutional research plays a crucial role in the development and implementation of institutional strategies and policies that promote graduate and professional education at law schools.
- The role of institutional research is influenced by various factors, including the level of institutional support and the focus of the research.
- The survey results indicate that institutional research is increasingly recognized as a valuable asset in the graduate and professional education landscape.

Conclusion
Institutional research is an essential component of graduate and professional education at law schools. The findings of this study highlight the need for continued investment in institutional research to support the development of effective strategies and policies that promote graduate and professional education.

From the Bachelor's to the Bar
Using College Completion Data to Assess the Law School Pipeline
By Tiffany Contreras

Background
The AccessLex Center for Legal Education Investment™, with support from the AccessLex Institute, conducted a study to explore the factors that influence college completion rates among law school applicants. The study included a review of data from the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) and other relevant sources.

Methodology
The investigation included data from the LSAC and other sources to assess the factors that influence college completion rates among law school applicants.

Results
- Factors such as academic preparation, financial aid, and institutional support significantly influence college completion rates among law school applicants.
- The study found that students who complete their bachelor's degrees at institutions with high graduation rates are more likely to complete their law degrees.
- The investigation also highlighted the importance of early intervention programs to support students who are at risk of dropping out.

Conclusion
The findings of this study emphasize the need for institutions to invest in early intervention programs and support systems to promote college completion rates among law school applicants.

AccessLex Institute
Commissioned Research

Loan Counseling for Graduate and Professional Students
THE NEED FOR EXPANDED FINANCIAL LITERACY EDUCATION
By Patricia Steele, Ph.D. and Chad Anderson
MARCH 2016

A Framework for Thinking About Law School Affordability
By Sandy Baum, Ph.D.
DECEMBER 2015

Diversity Pipeline Programs in Legal Education
CONTEXT, RESEARCH AND A PATH FORWARD
By Alisa Cunningham and Patricia Steele, Ph.D.
MAY 2015
Commissioned Research

Life After Law School
A Pilot Study Examining Long-Term Outcomes Associated with Graduating Law School and the Value of Legal Education

Who Goes to Graduate School and Who Succeeds?
By Sandy Baum, Ph.D., and Patricia Steele, Ph.D.

January 2017
RESOURCES FOR RESEARCHERS
AccessLex Grants for Research

Unsolicited Grant Program

• Awards up to $125,000 to projects and research focused on our research and funding priorities
• Two application cycles annually:
  • January 1-31
  • July 1-31

AccessLex/AIR Research and Dissertation Fellows Program

• Awards up to $25,000 to doctoral students and up to $50,000 to scholars and practitioners for research aligned with our funding priorities
• Applications accepted once per year in late fall
Data Tools

Analytix
by AccessLex™

Actionable data for legal education.

http://analytix.accesslex.org
STAY IN TOUCH!
Where to Follow Us

• Website: AccessLex.org

• SSRN Research Paper Series

• LinkedIn: AccessLex Institute

• Twitter: @AccessLexInst
THANK YOU

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