

Supporting Adult Learners Through the Five P Framework (Worksheet)

USING THE FIVE P ADULT LEARNER FRAMEWORK, WORK WITH YOUR ADULT LEARNER SUPPORT TEAMS TO ANSWER THE CRITICAL QUESTIONS BELOW.

Public Messaging (Marketing and Communications)

Public messaging focuses on intentional communications happening at the college to recruit adult learners.

Critical Questions

- What does the college's current communication process look like when marketing to adult learners? How can this process be improved?
- What types of public messaging currently exist at the college that are catered toward recruiting adult learners (i.e. social media, text message, mailers, etc.)?
- Where is public messaging currently viewed/heard to reach adult learners? Where should it be viewed/heard?

Partnerships (Collaboration)

Community colleges foster a number of external partnerships with community entities, employers, and government agencies, and internal partnerships with cross-institutional teams and departmental collaborations.

Critical Questions

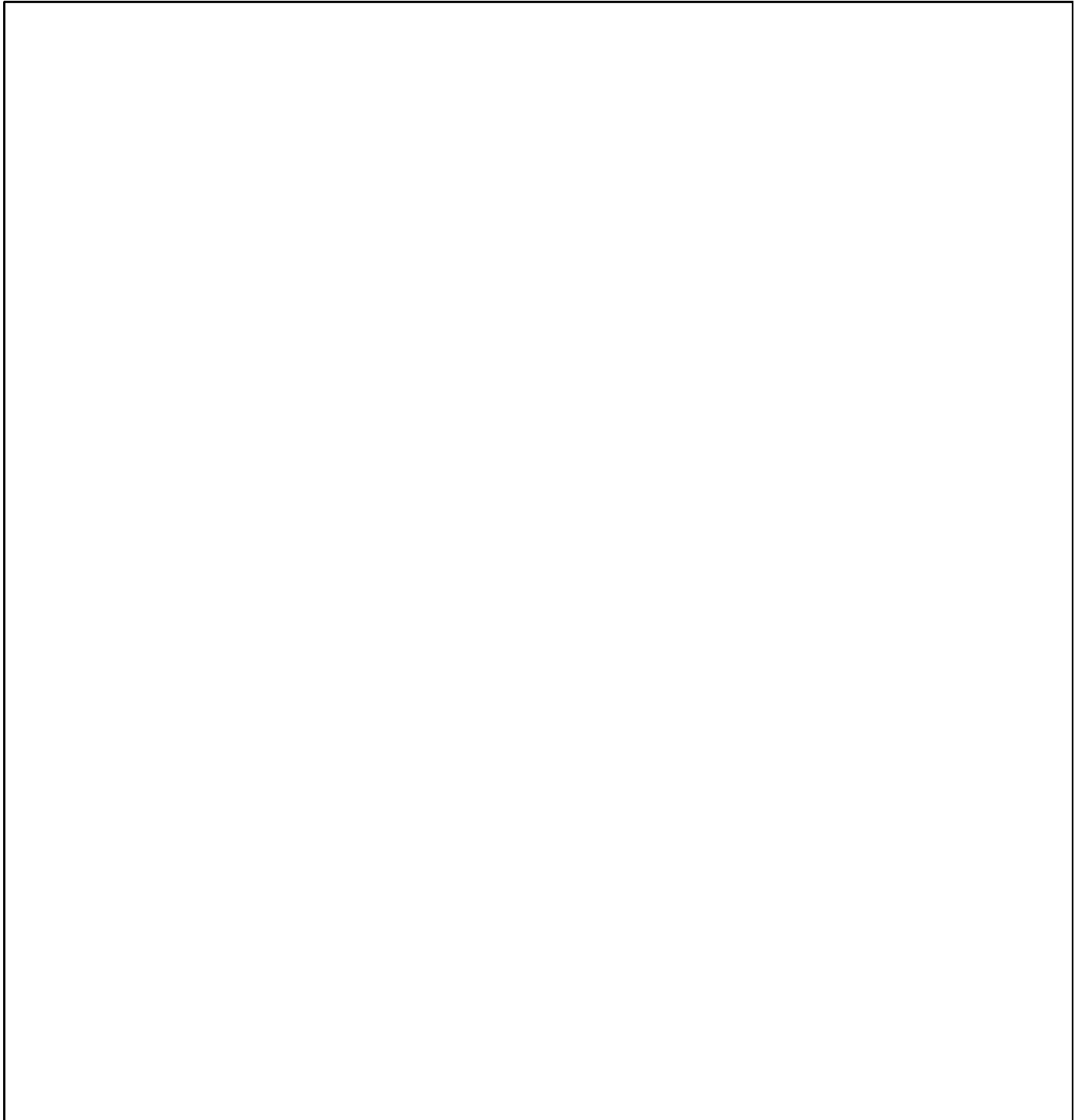
- What external partnerships exist that support adult learner success at the college? What external partnerships do you hope to build in the future?
- How will your team foster internal teamwork and buy-in from faculty and staff at the college to support adult learners?

Processes (Shifting the Approach)

Community colleges can no longer take a one-size-fits-all approach to serve students. It's essential to shift existing processes to meet the needs of adult learners and reduce barriers to their success.

Critical Questions

- What shifts in processes and practices are necessary to re-engage adult learners?
- What opportunities are there to engage adult learners early/pre-enrollment?

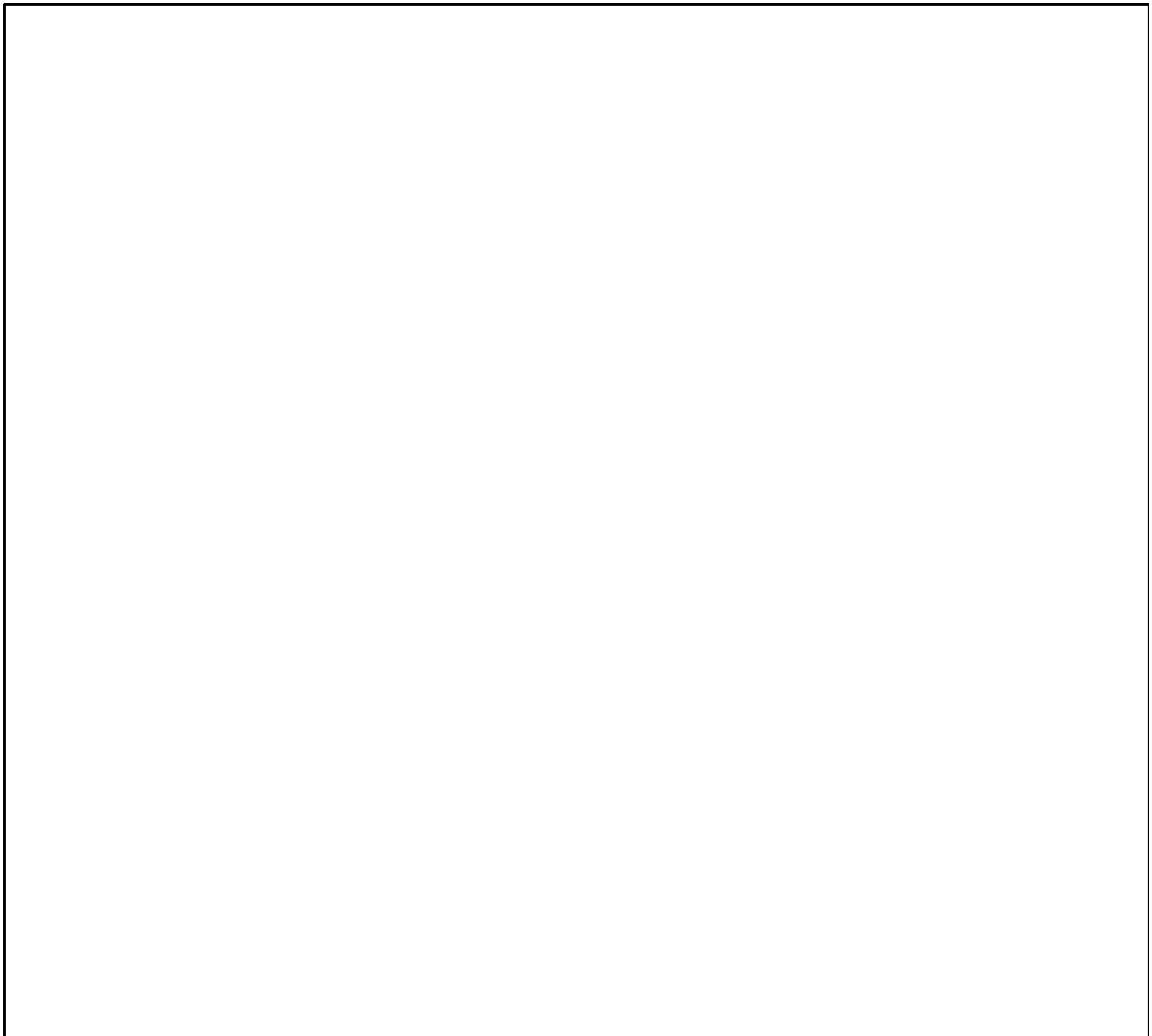


Pathways (Academic and Career Advising)

Colleges are building academic and career pathways for students to decrease their time-to-degree and guide them on career options available to them.

Critical Questions

- What does academic advising look like at the college for adult learners? How is this similar or different compared to students right out of high school?
- What does career advising look like at the college for adult learners? How is this similar or different compared to students right out of high school?
- How does the college connect continuing education/workforce development and curricular pathways?

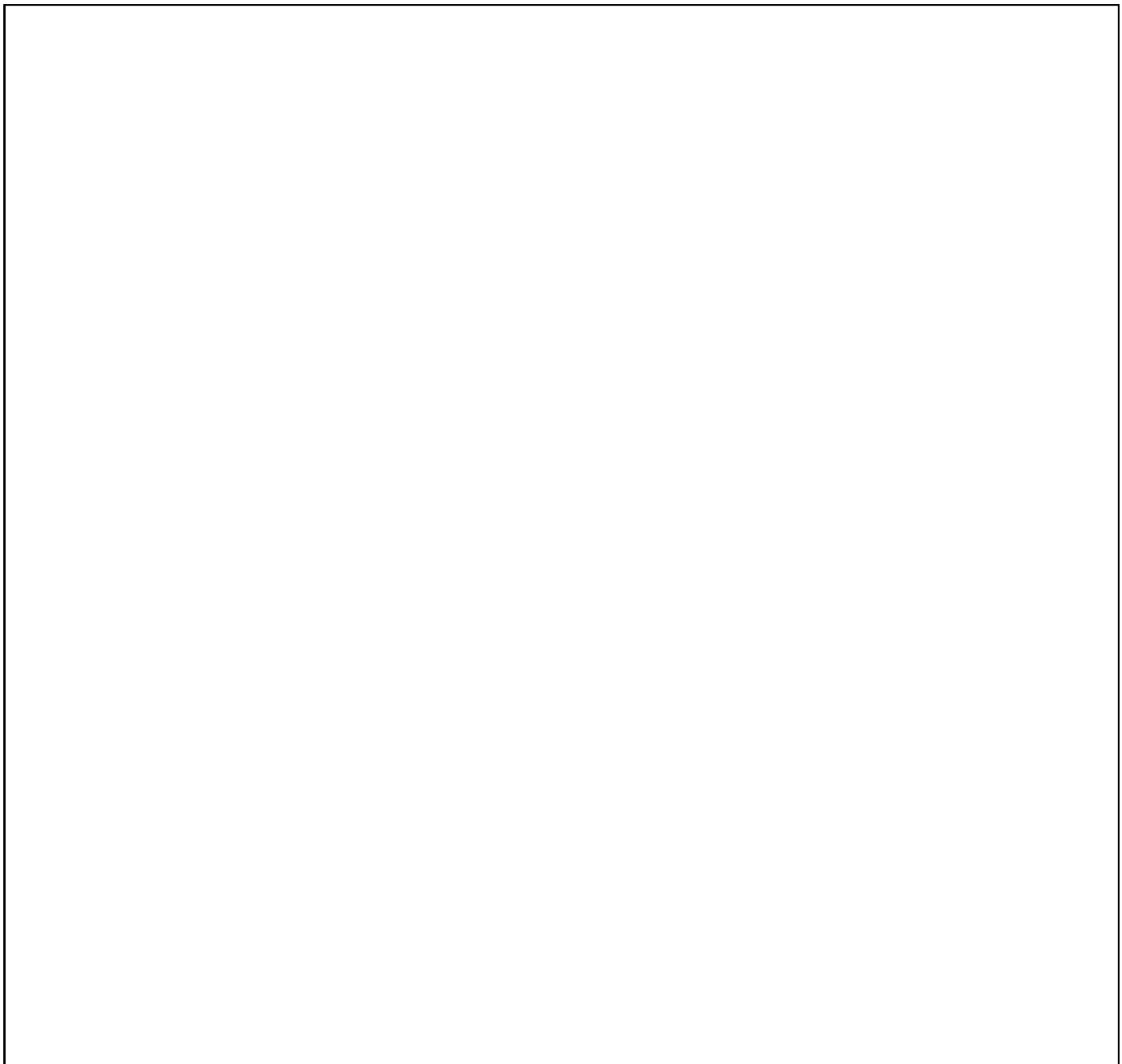


Proximity (to Access and Completion)

Adult learners face a myriad of barriers when deciding to return to college. Improving access to college and helping adult learners see the light at the end of the tunnel after they receive their credential or degree can help reduce these barriers.

Critical Questions

- How can the college address issues around access for adult learners?
- How can the college remove barriers to recruit and re-engage adult learners?
- What innovative ways can the college reduce time-to-degree for adult learners?



Next Steps

Based on what you have learned today, what are some immediate next steps your college can take to further support adult learners?