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## **WWC** **QUICK Review**

### “Late Interventions Matter Too: The Case of College Coaching in New Hampshire”

#### What is the study about?

The study examined whether providing college application coaching to high school seniors increased postsecondary enrollment. The program was aimed at students who were considering applying to college but who had made little or no progress in the application process, and who had a tenth grade test score high enough to warrant applying to college.

Study authors randomly assigned approximately 950 students from 12 New Hampshire high schools to receive the coaching program or be in the control group. The coaching program was implemented by volunteer college students, and provided in-person assistance with completing college application and financial aid forms, money to cover application fees, and a \$100 cash incentive to participants for completing the college application process.

#### What did the study report?

Overall, students receiving the intervention had postsecondary enrollment rates that were four percentage points higher than students in the control group (43% versus 39%), but this difference was not statistically significant. However, study authors reported a statistically significant interaction between student gender and program participation: Women who participated in the program enrolled in postsecondary education at a rate that was 12 percentage points higher than women in the

#### The New Quick Review

In March 2012, the WWC began using a new format for quick reviews to allow for a faster release. When a more complete review is conducted for the study described here, this information will be updated.

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#### Handy Definitions

- ▼ *quick review*
- ▼ *study rating*
- ▼ *meets WWC evidence standards without reservations*
- ▼ *meets WWC evidence standards with reservations*
- ▼ *does not meet WWC evidence standards*

control condition (63% versus 51%). For men, the enrollment rates were essentially equal in the intervention and the control conditions.

See the *full glossary* ►

## How does the WWC rate this study?

The portion of the study that estimates the impact of the coaching program on college enrollment meets WWC evidence standards without reservations because it is a randomized controlled trial with no attrition. A more thorough review (forthcoming) will determine whether the follow-up findings for enrollment and the analyses of the impact of the program on enrollment for first-generation college students meet WWC evidence standards.

## Citation

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