

Diploma On! Program

An Overview of Metrics from School Year 2018-19

Background

The purpose of Diploma On! is to re-engage students who have dropped out of school within our member districts and ultimately increase the graduation rate in Hennepin County. Staff from the program obtains contact information for students from identified referral staff within each district, normally after a 15-day drop. Next, they contact the student and/or caregiver to establish a relationship and attempt to reduce the barriers that are preventing them from going to school with the goal of reenrolling the student in a program/school that fits their needs.

Since its inception in spring 2012, Diploma On! at least 92 of students referred to the program have successfully completed their GED or received their high school diploma. The following information summarizes some of the key data collected by program staff about the students who have been referred to the program.

Referrals

Diploma On! has received 1,315 total referrals over the past eight school years. Beginning last school year, program staff began tracking repeat referrals so they would be able to count how many of their current students had been served by the program in the past. As of May 6, 2019, 82% of the students had never been referred to the program in the past (Figure 1).

1. Number of referrals by school year

	# of referrals	% of new referrals
School Year 2011-12	37	N/A
School Year 2012-13	109	N/A
School Year 2013-14	90	N/A
School Year 2014-15	70	N/A
School Year 2015-16	48	N/A
School Year 2016-17	272	N/A
School Year 2017-18	335	87%
School Year 2018-19	354	82%
Total	1,315	

Note. Data collection processes changed in school year 2016-17 allowing the reporting of internal referrals. Therefore, the number of students increased over the past couple of years because the program reported on both external and internal referrals, unlike previous years.

School Year 2018-19 student demographics and information through June 6, 2019

In the 2018-19 school year, 354 referrals were received. As noted above, some of the referrals represent students who have been served by the program in the past, so the counts represent the counts of all referrals received, not individual students (note, totals in the following tables may be over 100% because of rounding).

2. Current Individualized Education Program (IEP)

	#	%
No	272	77%
Yes	49	14%
Missing/Unknown	9	3%

3. Barriers to staying in school (may have multiple reasons)

	#	%
Mental health	68	19%
Chemical health	33	9%
Transportation issues	31	9%
Unstable housing	30	9%

4. Student resident school district

	#	%
Bloomington	18	5%
Brooklyn Center	14	4%
Eden Prairie	28	8%
Hopkins	35	10%
Minneapolis	37	10%
Osseo	90	25%
Richfield	17	5%
Robbinsdale	46	13%
St. Louis Park	14	4%
Wayzata	11	3%
Other	44	12%

5. Most recent school/program student enrolled in

	#	%
Park Center Senior High	53	15%
South Education Center Academy	47	13%
Gateway to College	42	12%
North Education Center Academy	34	10%
West Alternative	31	9%
Hopkins High School	20	6%
Robbinsdale Cooper High School	18	5%
Brooklyn Center Academy	15	4%
Maple Grove High School	12	3%
Highview Alternative Learning Center	10	3%
Osseo Area Learning Center	10	3%
Other	62	18%

6. Current grade in school (graduation standard year)

	#	%
6-8	2	<1%
9	31	9%
10	43	12%
11	69	19%
12	119	34%
12+	89	25%
GED or Transitional	1	<1%

7. Referral source

	#	%
Social worker	186	53%
School counselor	56	16%
Admin Assistant	45	13%
Promise Fellow	43	12%
Other	15	4%
Truancy worker	9	3%

8. Has student been expelled from school in the past?

	#	%
No	176	50%
Yes	4	1%
Missing/Unknown	173	49%

9. Current English Learner

	#	%
No	287	81%
Yes	33	9%
Missing/Unknown	34	10%

At the time the data were pulled for this report, nearly half of the students were in “continued outreach” which means that a DO! case coordinator has not been able to connect with the student or family, but is still attempting to reach them.

10. Current status of student on caseload

	#	%
Continued outreach	153	43%
Re-enrolled (without case management)	63	18%
Re-enrolled (with case management)	49	14%
Continued case management	41	12%
Repeat	18	5%
Referred to alternative program	10	3%
Graduated/GED attainment	12	3%
Closed	9	3%
Missing/Unknown	1	<1%

Definitions for Figure 10:

Continued outreach: The assigned DO! case coordinator has been unable to connect with the student or family, but is continuing to attempt contact through various methods.

Re-enrolled without case management: The student, family, or school has reported that the student is actively enrolled and attending an educational program, but has denied ongoing case management at this time.

Re-enrolled with case management: The student, family, or school has reported that the student is actively enrolled and attending an educational program, and is still receiving ongoing case management from DO!

Continued case management: The student is not actively enrolled or attending an educational program, but is receiving ongoing case management from DO! to address educational barriers and find an appropriate program.

Repeat: The student has been referred to DO! at least one other time in the current school year.

Referred to alternative program: The student, family, or school has requested information about other educational programs, but has denied ongoing case management at this time.

Graduated/GED attainment: The student, family, or school have reported that the student either graduated with a high school diploma, or passed all GED tests.

Closed: The student, family, or school has firmly denied services for the student at this time and in the future OR the student has reported that they have moved out of the area.