

Tutor.com: Improving College and Career Readiness Through State and Public Libraries

A Gap in College Readiness

The National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education estimates that “approximately half of the students entering the less-selective four-year institutions are not ready for college,” despite most having completed a college-preparatory curriculum in high school¹. While these students have earned their high school diploma and passed required testing, they are missing the critical thinking skills in math, reading and writing that are essential for success in college-level coursework.

Effects of College Readiness Gap

For students entering college or university unprepared, the cost of education increases while the probability of earning a degree decreases. This places a financial burden not only on the students and families, but also on the higher education institutions and, for those funded publicly, on the taxpayer. In addition, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the wage gap between a person who attended but did not complete college and a person who earned a Bachelor’s degree is fifty-four percent (54%)², resulting in a profound impact on the potential tax base of the community.

Filling in the College Readiness Gap

To be successful in both the higher education environment and the workforce, an individual must have pre-requisite knowledge, critical thinking skills and a desire to continue learning. Tutor.com, a service of The Princeton Review, helps learners of all ages meet these criteria and more. Our Human Centered Learning methodology in the classroom help students in all grade levels better understand and think through the concepts behind their assignments, preparing them to apply critical thinking skills during testing and in real-life applications. This results in better grades, higher test scores and a greater probability of persistence and success once they enter college.

Making the College Dream a Reality

In January 2017, Tutor.com added SAT/ACT Essentials to all library programs. SAT/ACT Essentials is a robust, online, self-paced test preparation course designed and powered by The Princeton Review. The Tutor.com with SAT/ACT Essentials now allows libraries to offer an unparalleled resource to their communities. Merging the superior tutoring and professional WriteTutor coaching from Tutor.com with the proven test preparation and expert advice from The Princeton Review creates a powerful and personalized portal for college-bound students.

A High Return on Investment

With the Tutor.com Learning Suite with SAT/ACT Essentials, libraries can help students achieve their dream of attending and successfully completing college. When purchased and implemented through State Libraries, the cost of this vital educational service is approximately 11¢ per person across the state. On average, nationwide, Tutor.com would have a 100% return on taxpayer investment if by providing it, less than 2% of college freshman had to take one less 3-credit hour course such as remedial algebra.

Tutor.com At a Glance

On-demand, online homework help, tutoring & test prep

Over 3,600 fully-vetted expert tutors

K-12th Grade + College + Adult Learner + Job Seeker

Over 40 academic and career-related subjects

- Math
- Science
- Language Arts
- Social Studies
- Foreign Language
- Standardized Test Prep
- Microsoft Office®
- Job Search Assistance

Over 14 million sessions served to date

- 1.2 million served in 2016
- 96% of students say Tutor.com helps them complete their homework, raise their confidence and improve their grades.*
- 4 out of 5 Princeton Review students get into their top-choice school.**

Available through over 2,300 educational institutions nationwide including state libraries, public libraries, colleges & universities and K12 schools. Also the selected provider of online tutoring of the U.S. military and Coast Guard.

¹ National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, “Beyond the Rhetoric: Improving College Readiness Through Coherent State Policy. 2010.

² Bureau of Labor Statistics, Median weekly earnings by educational attainment in 2014.

*Based on 2016 survey of students of Princeton Review/Tutor.com. **Based on a 2015 Princeton Review survey of parents of students enrolled in 4-year colleges. Test names are the registered trademarks of their respective owners. Microsoft Office is a registered trademark of Microsoft Corp. The Princeton Review is not affiliated with Princeton University.