

# Unmasking the Impossible Mission:

Aligning the Student Experience to Success

*Reimagine!*





## ■ **Onboarding**

A look at shifts in programming to align with Guided Pathways.

## ■ **Lessons Learned**

A transparent conversation on realizations along the way.

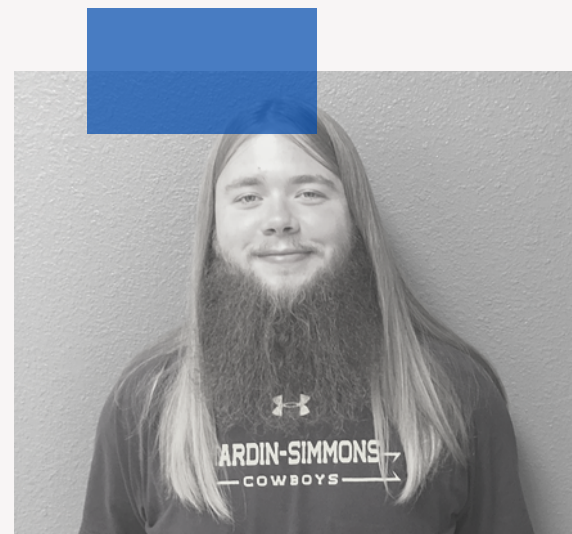
## ■ **Keeping the End in Sight**

Where we go from here.



# Purpose

Improvements can be accomplished within your existing structure if you use the Guided Pathway framework to reimagine your processes, AND all while navigating a pandemic.



# North Star

Keeping the student experience and needs at the forefront while scaling our student success mission college-wide.





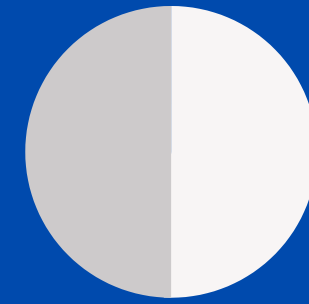
# Vernon College

- Rural (2,400-2,900 enrollment)
- 30% Full-Time, 70% Part-Time
- 67% Female, 33% Male
- Ethnicity
  - 59% White
  - 9% Black/African American
  - 26% Hispanic/Latino
  - 6% Other



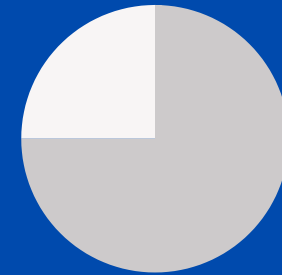
# Student Success: A Journey

A Brief History



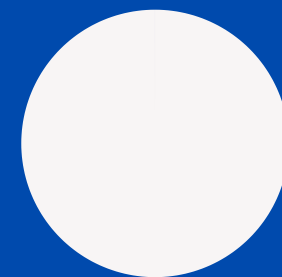
## **Title III Grant 2015-2020**

Success Programming



## **Texas Guided Pathways**

Gap in Time  
Framework - 4 Pillars



## **Student Success Pathway Advising Model April 2020-present**

Caseload Assignments  
Mandatory  
Advisors - Staff & Faculty



# Four Pillars of Guided Pathways



Create clear curricular pathways to employment and further education.



Help students choose and enter their pathway.



Help students stay on their path.



Ensure that learning is happening with intentional outcomes.



# Onboarding

New Student Checklist

New Student Orientation

Peer Mentor Program

Pathways Webpages





**VERNON COLLEGE**  
VERNON · WICHITA FALLS

How to get started at VC!

**APPLY FOR ADMISSION**

- ▶ Apply online at [ApplyTexas.org](http://ApplyTexas.org)
- ▶ Get vaccinated. All students under the age of 22 must receive a vaccination against bacterial meningitis ten days prior to the first day of classes.
- ▶ Send all official transcripts and required documents to:  
**Vernon College, Office of Admissions and Records**  
4400 College Drive • Vernon, TX 76384

**APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE EARLY**

- ▶ Visit [Fafsa.gov](http://Fafsa.gov) to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Vernon College's Federal School Code is 010060.
- ▶ Apply for Vernon College Scholarships before the March 1st deadline at [VernonCollege.edu/Scholarships](http://VernonCollege.edu/Scholarships).

**GET STARTED ON THE RIGHT PATH**

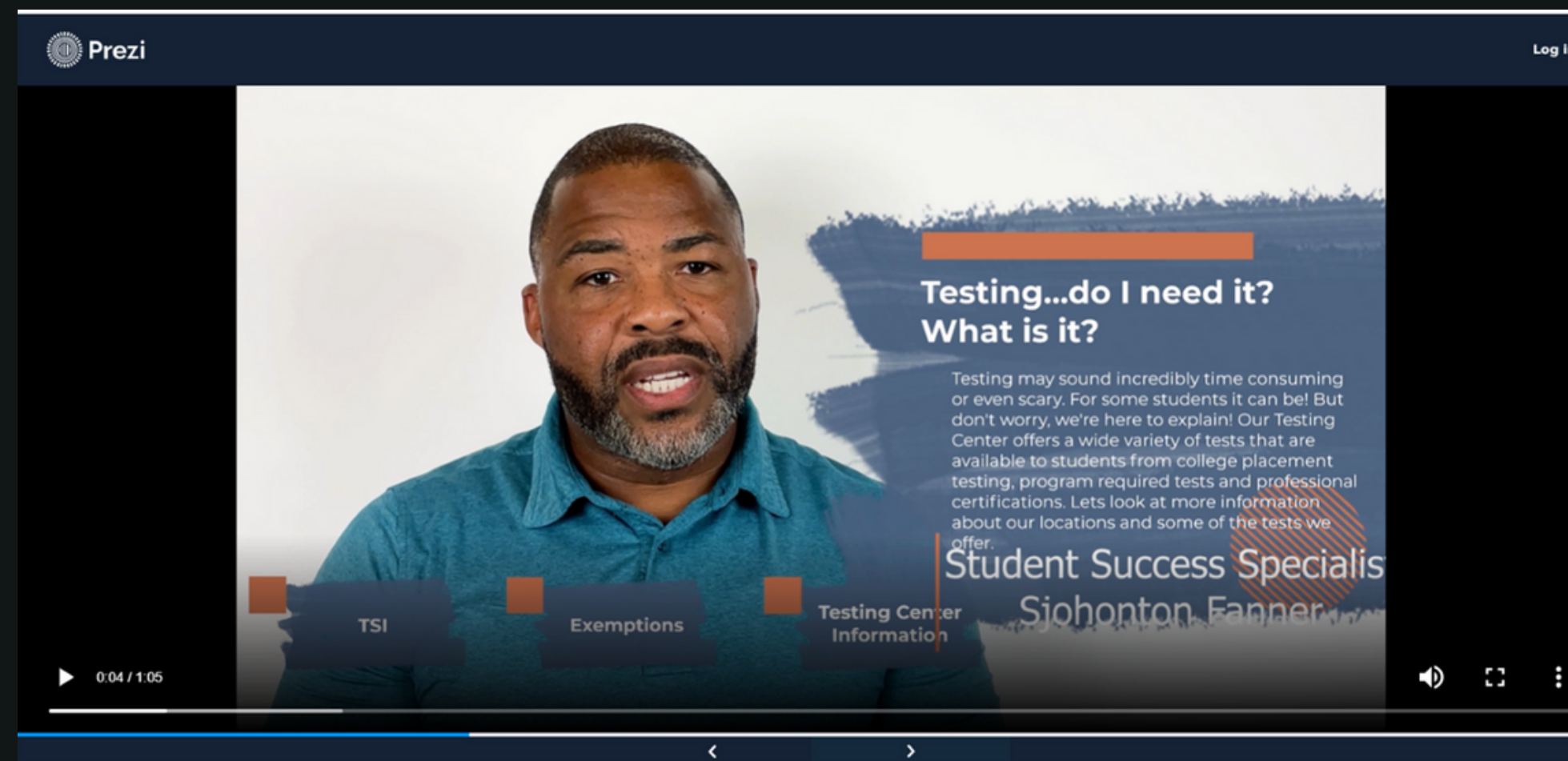
- ▶ Attend New Student Orientation. Call Vernon College to sign up for an upcoming orientation session.
- ▶ Schedule an appointment with an advisor or a counselor to discuss your goals.
- ▶ Schedule a time to take the TSI Assessment if necessary. Please call Vernon College for more information or to make an appointment for testing.
- ▶ Complete the Housing Application if you are planning to live on campus (Vernon Campus only).
- ▶ Contact our PASS Department to arrange any ADA Accommodations for physical, learning or psychiatric disabilities (certain documentation will be required).

Vernon College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award Associate Degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 800-471-4300 for questions about the accreditation of Vernon College.

Updated 2017

# Checklist

- Get Started
  - Apply
  - FAFSA, Scholarships, Veteran Affairs
  - Major, Career Services
- Testing
  - Texas Success Initiative (TSI)
  - Exemptions
- Orientation
- Register
  - Advising
  - Books
  - Payment
  - Accommodations



Prezi Log In

**Testing...do I need it? What is it?**

Testing may sound incredibly time consuming or even scary. For some students it can be! But don't worry, we're here to explain! Our Testing Center offers a wide variety of tests that are available to students from college placement testing, program required tests and professional certifications. Lets look at more information about our locations and some of the tests we offer.

Student Success Specialist  
Sjohnton Fanner

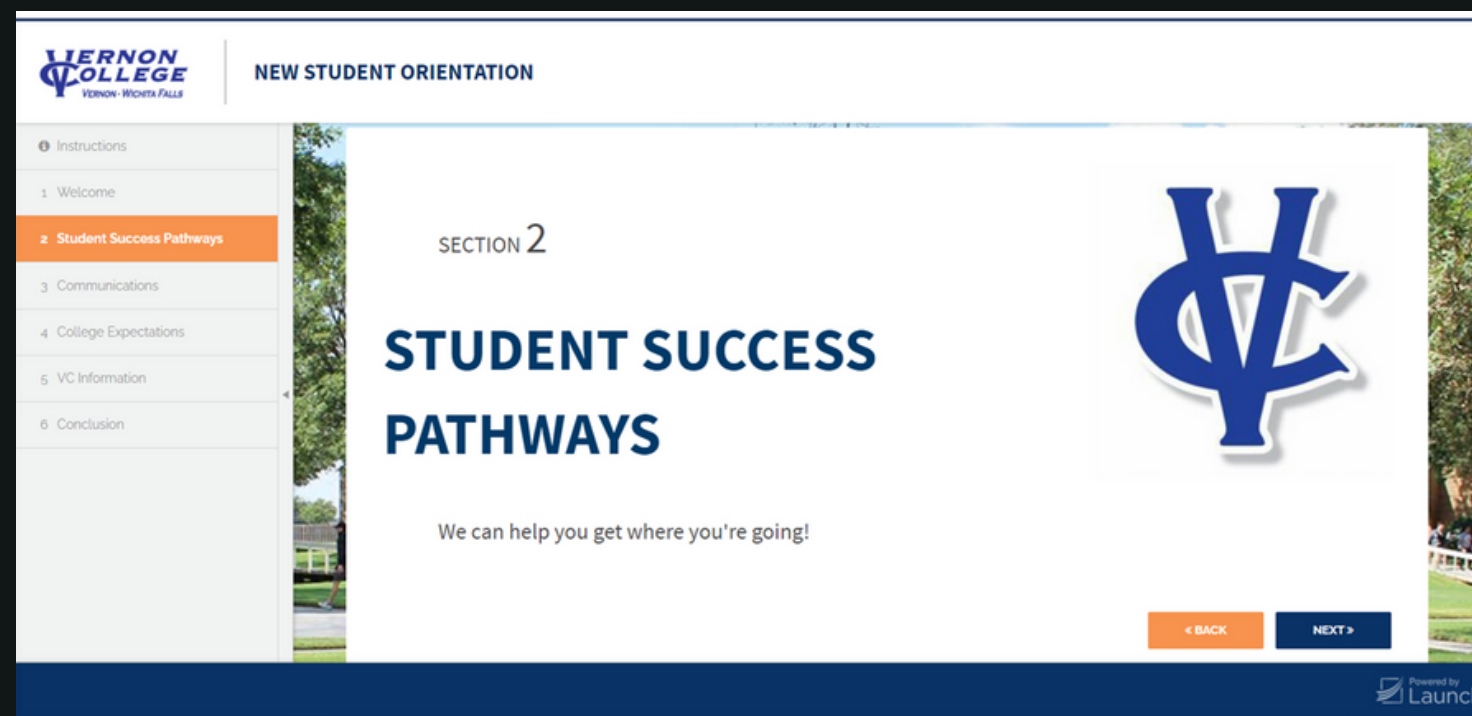
TSI Exemptions Testing Center Information

0:04 / 1:05





# Orientation



- Welcome
- Student Success Pathways
  - Pathways (Metamajors), Concentration, Major
  - Degrees/Certificates
  - Career Coach - Interest Inventory
- Communications
- College Expectations
  - Advising
  - Success Sessions (Options)
- VC Information
  - Catalog, Resources
- Conclusion



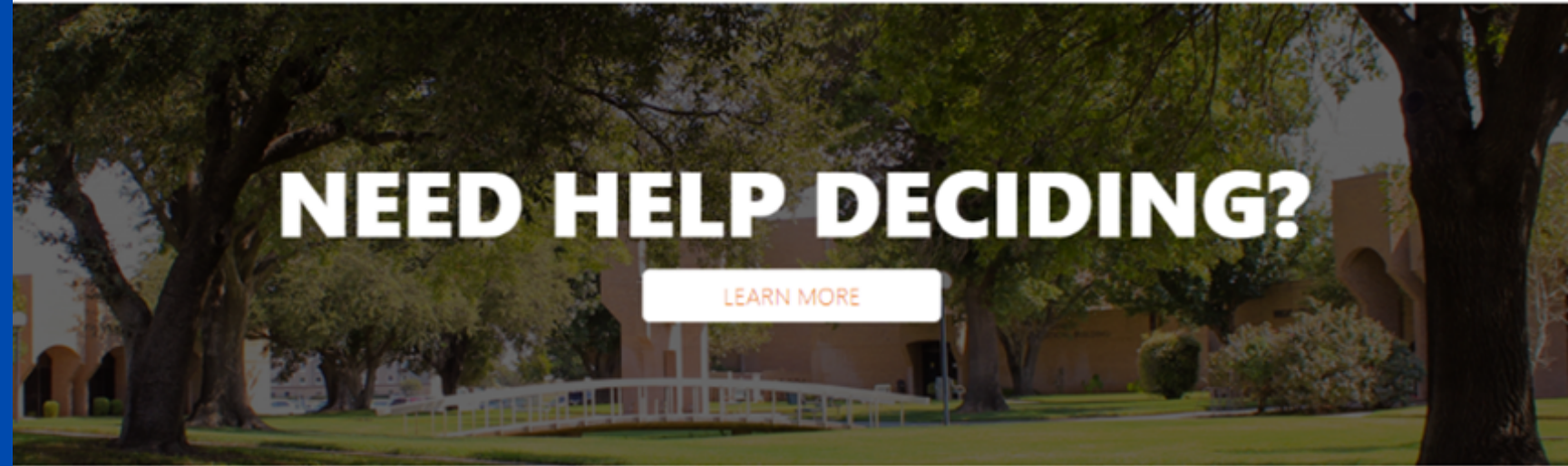
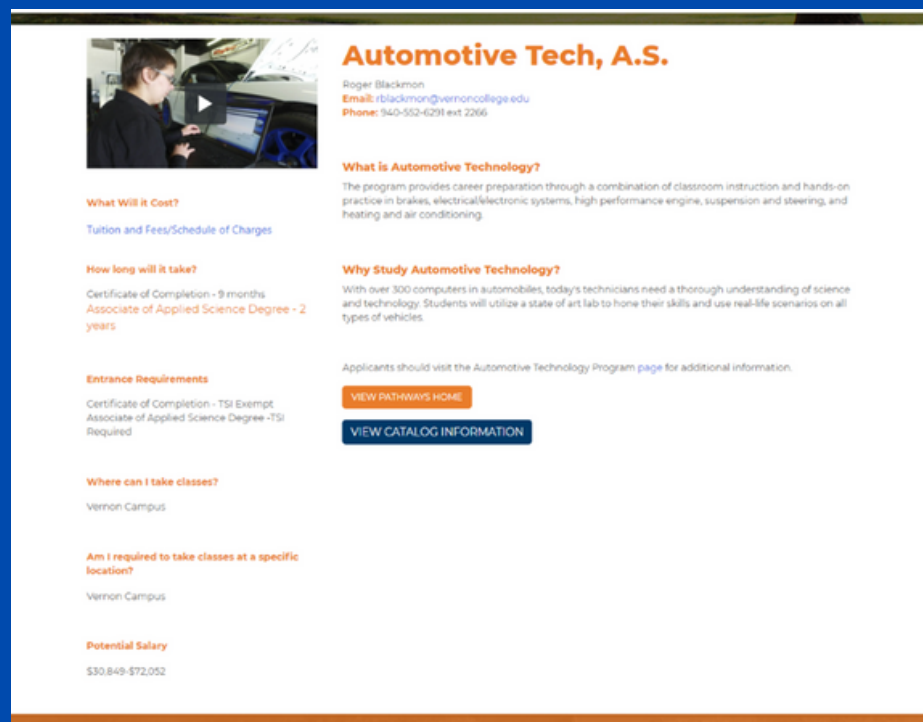
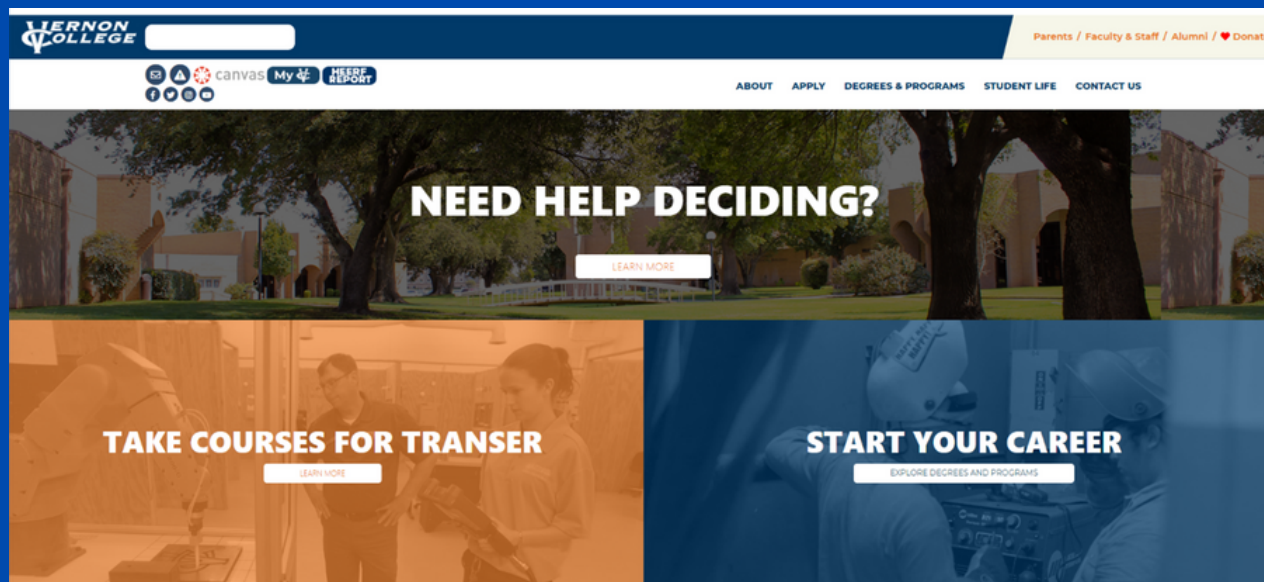


# Peer Mentors

The purpose of the Peer Mentor Program is to promote successful onboarding, improved academic success, persistence, and completion of students.



# Webpages



## NEED HELP DECIDING?

LEARN MORE

### Automotive Technology

Degree Type: Level 1 Certificate  
Location: Vernon Campus

LEARN MORE

### Barber

Degree Type: Level 1 Certificate  
Location: Skills Training Center

LEARN MORE

### Business Management

Degree Type: Level 1 Certificate  
Location: Century City Center

LEARN MORE

### Certified Nurse Aide (CNA)

Degree Type: Level 1 Certificate  
Location: Vernon Campus, Century City Center

LEARN MORE

### Certified Medication Aid (CMA)

Degree Type: Level 1 Certificate  
Location: Century City Center

LEARN MORE

### Child Development Associate (CDA)

Degree Type: Level 1 Certificate  
Location: Century City Center

LEARN MORE

Creating clear curricular pathways to employment and further education



# Menti.com

Where are the  
18-28 year  
olds?



# Lessons Learned

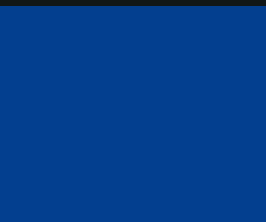
Technology

Existing Programming

Pandemic

Equity

Communications Strategy





# Realizations

Momentum Building & Sustaining  
Collaboration  
Student Voices

## **Technology/Existing Programming**

How can this be leveraged?

## **Pandemic**

You mean Covid helped?

## **Perception**

Thoughts/Reservations vs.  
Reality

## **Assessment**

Enrollment decline  
Is this making an impact?



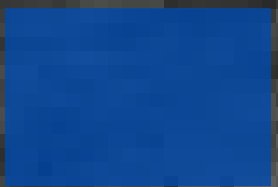


## **Equity**

- Access
- Enrollment
- Approach/Model
- NAPE (National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity)

## **Communication Strategy**

- Multiple Modes
- Utilize Technology
- Intentional Outreach
- Consistency



## **Approach**

Student Success Pathway Advising  
Model

## **Development**

Student Success Advisors  
Student Success Specialists

## **Relationship Building**

Transfer  
College-Wide

# Keeping End in Sight





# Approach



## **Differentiated Coaching**

Taking multiple approaches to content, process, and product while keeping student readiness, interest, and learning needs at the forefront.



# Development

## Foundational Topics

- Adult Learning Theory
- Motivational Theory
- Motivational Interviewing
- Transtheoretical Change Model
- Holistic Advising
- Appreciative Advising
- Asset Based vs. Deficit Based
- Healing Centered Coaching

**A DEVELOPMENTAL, DYNAMIC, SYSTEMS  
APPROACH TO STUDENT SUCCESS AND RETENTION.**

Allows for Flexibility, Adaptability, Innovation



# Relationships



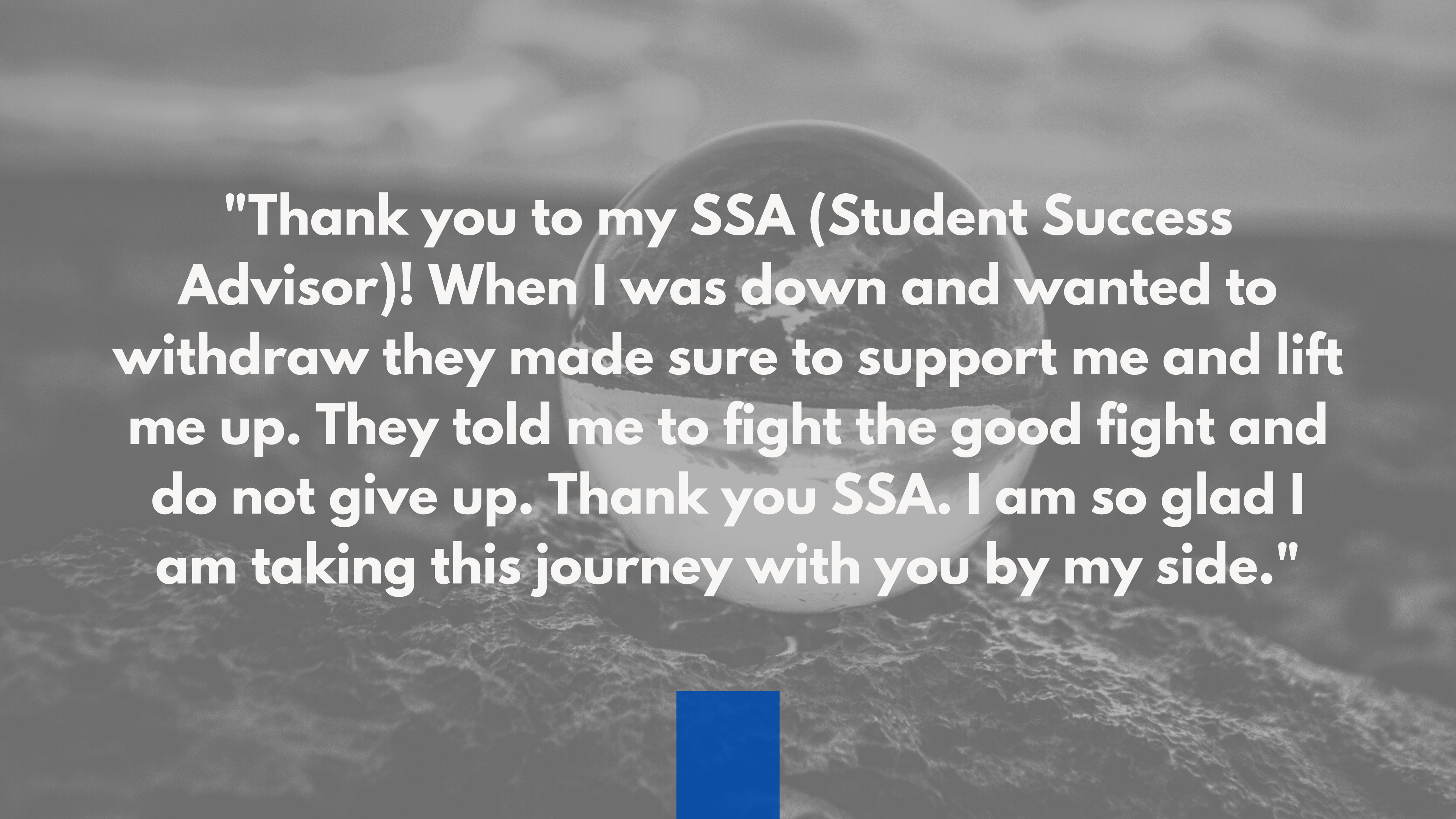
**University Partners**

Transfer Pathways

**Vernon College**

Biology / Nursing /

Student Success



**"Thank you to my SSA (Student Success Advisor)! When I was down and wanted to withdraw they made sure to support me and lift me up. They told me to fight the good fight and do not give up. Thank you SSA. I am so glad I am taking this journey with you by my side."**