# **Commonly-Cited Indicators of Students "At Risk" for Attrition**

#### **Demographic** Indicators:

- Low-income family
- First-generation student
- Underrepresented students (≤ 20% of student population) (e.g., ethnic or racial group; national citizenship; gender; transfer students)
- Commuting (vs. living on campus)
- Number of hours per week spent working/employed off campus ( $\geq 20$  hrs. per week)

### Academic Indicators:

- Low standardized admission-test scores
- Low high school grades
- Poor performance in "rigorous" high school courses
- No Math taken beyond Algebra 2 in high school
- Placement in a remedial reading course
- Poor class attendance and/or preparedness during the first three weeks of class
- Low midterm-grades during first term (especially in more than one course)
- Low midterm course grade in a first-year seminar
- Academically demanding first-term schedule (nature of courses; total # of units)
- Number of first-term course withdrawals or incompletes
- Intent to major in an oversubscribed/impacted major
- Not making sufficient progress toward gaining acceptance into the oversubscribed field in which the student intends to major
- Failure to declare a major by the second semester of sophomore year

## Attitudinal Indicators:

- Attending an institution that is not the student's "first choice"
- Answers "no" to question about intention to graduate from the institution
- High scores on at-risk prediction instruments (see p. 2)

## *Early Behavioral* ("Red Flag") Indicators:

- Late acceptance and matriculation
- Admitted with financial need largely unmet or with large anticipated debt by the time of graduation
- Delay or failure to pre-register for next-term classes
- Delay or failure to renew housing agreements
- Delay or failure to reapply for financial aid, work-study, or student housing
- Request copies of transcripts before eligibility to graduate.