



# MAP-Works®

## Making Achievement Possible

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### **What is MAP-Works?**

MAP-Works is a comprehensive student retention and success program. MAP-Works identifies at-risk students early in the term, allowing immediate support and intervention and then provides the infrastructure to manage those critical outreach efforts on campus. The MAP-Works retention platform is built on a core concept supported by research and experience: *That successful retention is driven by the early, systematic, and comprehensive identification of student issues.*

### **Why is Murray State University using MAP-Works?**

MSU is using MAP-Works because of the amount of information it gives, and how we can use it. The results of the MAP-Works surveys will allow us to identify at-risk students across five different success markers: *Academic, Socio-Emotional, Performance & Expectations, Behaviors & Activities, Homesickness, and Test Anxiety*. These success markers are comprised of sixteen separate factors. The resulting information will allow us to design interventions that are specific to each student.

### **MAP-Works – What's in it for me?**

- A. MAP-Works will make your student interactions easier, rather than more complicated. Here's why:
  - a. When you submit academic updates (either by request or of your own volition), you can do so for one student or for your entire class on one screen before you hit the "submit" button.
  - b. When you submit a referral (formerly called a Retention Alert), you will be able to see what happened as a result of this referral.
  - c. Making referrals is a simple, streamlined process. You can find the students you would like to refer for help either by looking at the high-risk students on your home page or by going directly to the referral page and typing in the first few letters of the student's name. Either way, it is a fast, simple, and streamlined way to get help for the students you believe might be at risk of failure or leaving school.
  - d. Rather than trying to turn advisors into counselors, MAP-Works makes it easy to connect struggling students to campus resources (e.g., Counseling Services, Student Support Services, Office of Multicultural Affairs, Resident Hall Directors, etc.).
  - e. Rather than having to figure out where to refer students who need help, MAP-Works allows faculty and advisors to select, "*I don't know*" which will send the referral directly to the Director of Retention, who will then connect the student to the appropriate resource.
- B. Advisors at other MAP-Works universities tell us that the proactive intervention which happens when referrals are made reduces the amount of time and frustration faculty and advisors experience when working with underachieving students.
- C. MAP-Works has a huge database that can be accessed (with permission) by faculty who wish to conduct research on student success.
- D. MAP-works will help you help your students succeed. What could be better than that?

## **Who will use MAP-Works?**

### A. STUDENTS

- a. For this first year, only the following students will be surveyed: full-time, degree-seeking undergraduate students with fewer than 25 hours of academic credit.
  - i. Why only these students? For one main reason: It allows us to keep the initial implementation of MAP-Works focused on a targeted and manageable group of first-year students.
  - ii. It is our intention to include more students next year when we are all more familiar and comfortable with MAP-Works.
- b. All MSU undergraduate students (except high school students and faculty/staff using university waivers) will be uploaded into MAP-Works. This will allow us to do two main things:
  - i. Replace the current Retention Alert system. Referrals (action items) and Academic Updates (informational items) can be made quickly, easily, and accurately. MAP-Works Referrals enable shared communication among everyone, whether they are faculty or staff, who is connected to the student.
  - ii. Run various reports and analyses. Chairs, Deans, Directors, Coordinators and others across campus will be able to conduct analyses of aggregated data from students in their own areas. This will enable these units to better know their own students, to develop more tailored retention strategies, and to make data-based requests for new funds and programs.

### B. FACULTY/STAFF

- a. Those teaching a course will have the ability to make quick, easy, and accurate referrals and academic updates. An advantage that the MAP-Works Referral system has over the old Retention Alerts system is that instructors who make referrals will be able to track the brief comments and notes made by those to whom the students were sent for help.
- b. Deans, Chairs, and Academic Advisors will be able to receive and make referrals, read public (but not private) comments made by those working with the student, and access their students' survey results.

### ***Specific questions or concerns should be directed to:***

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