

Greater Edgenuity Courseware Use Is Associated with Higher Standardized Test Scores and Higher Graduation Rates

Graduation Solutions, LLC, is an online dropout recovery program that enrolls about 1,800 students across the state of Arizona. Open to students ages 16 to 21, the program is designed to offer students who have been disengaged from high school for at least 30 days a chance to earn a diploma. The school uses Edgenuity Courseware for its entire curriculum delivery system.

GRADUATION SOLUTIONS ENROLLMENT: 1,800

Program Goal:	Graduation
Avg. days from start to graduation:	300
Avg. course enrollments per student:	5.3
Avg. credits earned per year:	3.0

Graduation Solutions is the brainchild of Jim Lee, Founder and CEO, who wanted to come up with a more efficient way to help students earn a high school diploma, rather than a GED, after dropping out of high school. While the goal is to build a fully competency-based online program where students progress only if they demonstrate mastery of lessons, students are expected to complete one course every two months. To support this process, teachers, program administrations, and mentors regularly interact with students virtually.

Promoting Student Success

Executive Director Stephanie Munro believes that Edgenuity's personalized online content and flexibility have propelled student outcomes. "Students are at the heart of Graduation Solutions, and the Edgenuity platform allows us to put each student's individualized needs first," Munro says. "The solution allows for course customization to meet students where they are at." All students are expected to meet minimum monthly progress requirements. These thresholds can be adjusted to meet the needs of students with IEP and 504 designations. Students who are repeating a course receive bespoke content. In this case students are presented with a lesson quiz before each lesson. If they pass with greater than 70 percent, they can skip the material that they have already mastered and focus in on the content where they need additional instruction. This feature enables students to work only on content in which they need additional instruction and practice.

In addition, rigorous courses are empowering for students. "Edgenuity courses are well-structured and make sense to students. Students can track their own progress and take control of their learning. When students own their learning, they have a better chance of succeeding," notes Adam Dregely, Director of Exceptional Student Services.

Parents, teachers, administrators, and the students themselves have access to student performance data on Edgenuity 24/7, making it highly unlikely for any student to fall through the cracks. Moreover, full-time, paid mentors check the Dashboard within the Edgenuity Learning Management System (LMS) to track student progress, check for course completions, and give credit for work-based learning (manual credit for work experience). The mentors help hold students accountable, spend more time getting to know each student, and ensure that students' academic and emotional needs are met.

Edgenuity Powering Success

Data from 2017 to 2018 show that Edgenuity Courseware is having a positive influence on student graduation rates. For example, every additional Edgenuity mathematics and reading course taken increased the odds of a student graduating by more than 1.12.

Data also show a strong relationship between Edgenuity Courseware and outcomes on the the AzMERIT state test.

- For every additional hour spent in Courseware, there was a 0.66-point increase in AzMERIT ELA scores.
- For every additional 1 percent course progress, there was a 1.37-point increase in AzMERIT Algebra 1 scores.
- For every additional 1 percent course progress, there was a 0.56-point increase in AzMERIT Algebra 2 scores.
- For every additional 1 percent per day course progress, there was a 7.93-point increase in AzMERIT Geometry scores.

Additionally, 447 students graduated from Graduation Solutions with a high school diploma, setting them up for success in their next step, whether academically or professionally.