

LEVERAGING DATA ON A BUDGET

REMINDEES



PRIORITIZE PLANNING

Planning is as important as execution. It can be tempting to rush or skip the planning process, but having a plan of how to use data to identify and understand a problem allows for opportunities to develop the optimal and least expensive solutions.



KEEP IT SIMPLE

Don't try to boil the ocean. Aim for the simplest possible solution that solves the problem. Stay laser focused, and don't try to solve every problem at once. Scope creep can result in increased cost and complexity, both of which can reduce the value and impact of your efforts.

SEEK GOOD OVER PERFECT

Don't let perfect be the enemy of good! In situations where you are addressing a problem for which nothing is currently in place, something is often better than nothing. Transformation is an incremental process. Small, consistent steps result in big impact.

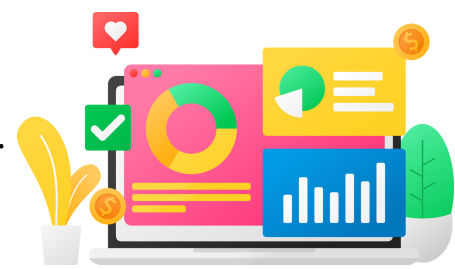


KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE

Before investing in new technologies, take an inventory of what technology your institution already has. Your institution may already have licenses for data analytics and visualization tools. Leveraging existing tools is almost always the path of least resistance.

GET IT FOR FREE

Open-source data resources can be incredibly powerful. Find someone on your team willing to learn some coding. There are countless open-source options to accomplish almost anything. Data tools and resources are abundant, well-documented, and completely free to use.



SEIZE THE DAY

The best time to initiate the development of new or stronger data systems and practices is now. Identify like-minded colleagues. Follow the steps above. Cultivate leadership buy-in. Experience the power of data-driven programs and their impact on student success.

