#### every learner everywhere EVERY LEARNER EVERYWHERE: HELPING INSTITUTIONS USE NEW TECHNOLOGY TO INNOVATE TEACHING AND LEARNING

## WHAT IS EVERY LEARNER EVERYWHERE?

Every Learner Everywhere is a network of 12 partner organizations focused on providing a comprehensive, coordinated approach to help colleges and universities take advantage of the rapidly evolving digital learning landscape. Our mission is to help institutions use new technology to innovate teaching and learning, with the ultimate goal of improving student outcomes especially those of first-generation college students, low-income students, and students of color.

Every Learner Everywhere was launched in 2017 through the generous support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Our network is interested in a wide range of digital learning topics relating to teaching, learning, and institutional transformation. However, our first initiative focuses on providing resources and technical assistance to help two- and four-year institutions effectively use adaptive learning technology to improve student outcomes.

While no technology is a cure-all for educational inequities, there are promising practices developing around the use of adaptive tools that empower faculty, enhance student engagement, and create more personalized learning experiences. However, for institutions to use these new tools effectively, we believe they need access to high-quality resources, support from their peers, and input from experts in the field. This is what Every Learner Everywhere aims to provide.

# Our Initial Focus: Helping Institutions Use Adaptive Courseware

During the first phase of our work, our partners are focused on supporting a limited cohort of public colleges and universities as they implement adaptive courseware in first-year, foundational courses, which have been identified as vital for student retention and success. Our mission is to provide resources and coaching to help institutions:

- Select the adaptive solutions that best meet their needs.
- Align the adaptive courseware initiative with larger institutional goals.
- Collect and analyze data to track the success of their initiatives.
- Redesign courses to allow for new teaching and learning opportunities and high-impact instructional practices.



- Move from smaller pilots to scaled initiatives.
- Connect with other institutions and practitioners to share best practices.

Every Learner Everywhere will start by working with institutions in three states—Texas, Ohio, and Florida and then expand nationwide with plans to reach at least 200 institutions by 2022. Our network's investment will allow us to engage in a continuous process of developing, improving, and delivering high-quality, field-tested resources and training.

## WHAT IS ADAPTIVE LEARNING TECHNOLOGY?

Adaptive learning technology provides students with a more personalized and nonlinear approach to instruction in college courses. Adaptive courseware makes learning more student-centric by allowing students to move through a customized path of course material based on their skills and knowledge. Additionally, adaptive platforms equip instructors with new kinds of student data and empower them to redesign their course structures to better meet the needs of different learners.

## How Is Adaptive Technology Changing the Student Experience?

When students use adaptive courseware, it monitors



their interactions and responses and provides customized instruction and remediation based on their

individual needs. Unlike a traditional textbook, adaptive courseware can help students identify their gaps in knowledge and then point them to content or activities that might help address those gaps. This can be especially helpful for students who arrive at a course without the expected prerequisite learning. Many institutions are also finding that adaptive platforms allow students to engage independently in more robust learning activities, such as simulations and self-assessments that provide immediate feedback.

#### How Is Adaptive Technology Empowering Instructors?

Adaptive learning technology provides instructors with new kinds of data beyond traditional end-of-term assessment scores so they can better understand *what* each student is learning and *how* they are learning it. Many adaptive platforms allow instructors to see a more complete picture of their students, including real-time study habits, engagement with course material, and patterns of errors. That information allows college instructors to design more targeted instruction and remediation.

Additionally, if students are using adaptive courseware to learn more of the course material independently, it empowers instructors to customize the way they use their class time in the support of learning outcomes. Many instructors have redesigned their courses to incorporate evidence-based high-impact practices.

#### LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR WORK

As our network expands in the coming years, we will be looking for new opportunities for collaboration. To get in touch or to learn more about our work, visit *everylearnereverywhere.org* or email us at *everylearner@wiche.edu*.

