



Bottom Line

Leveling the Playing Field in College Completion

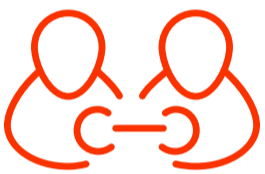
Randomized Control Trial (RCT)

In 2014, Bottom Line decided to put our model to the most rigorous test: a randomized controlled trial (RCT). Researchers Andrew Barr (Texas A&M) and Ben Castleman (UVA) are tracking the results of two groups of students from the 2015 and 2016 graduating classes from Boston and Worcester, Massachusetts and New York City. One group was offered the opportunity to join Bottom Line as high school seniors and the other was not. The study is assessing Bottom Line's impact on college enrollment, persistence and, ultimately, college graduation.

Summary of Findings from the RCT so far

"We find that students randomly offered Bottom Line advising are substantially more likely to earn a bachelor's degree within 5-6 years of high school."

Relative to the control group, **Bottom Line students are...**



2.8x

More likely to say advising staff was "very important" to college process



13%

More likely to enroll in a four-year institution



23%

More likely to earn a bachelor's degree within **four** years after high school

16%

More likely to earn a bachelor's degree within **five** years after high school

The researchers find that Bottom Line's impacts are **"consistent across time, advisor, and student characteristics."**

Read the Full Report

The Bottom Line on College Advising:
Large increases in Degree Attainment

Andrew Barr & Ben Castleman
<https://bit.ly/BottomLineRCT>



Special Thanks

Special thanks to the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation and the Laura and John Arnold Foundation for supporting this RCT study.



About Bottom Line

For nearly twenty-five years, Bottom Line has been fighting for educational equity by ensuring that the right to a quality college education is accessible to the many, not just the few. Our vision is to create a far-reaching ripple effect, launched by the transformative power of a college degree and a mobilizing first career. For degree-aspiring students from first-generation and low-income backgrounds, Bottom Line is a relentless ally who partners with them to get in, graduate, and go far.

