

**DCCCD Incentive Funding
Retention Awards
Executive Summary**

Seed Awards:

**SNAP! (StrengthsQuest Nurturing Academic Performance)
Northlake College**

Award Principal Coordinators: Sherry R. Boyd, Sonya Hopkins-Barnes and Toni Seeton

“Students thrive best in an environment that enables them to discover their strengths by listening to who they really are and want to be and do in life, reflecting and talking to others about their goals and personal values in life, and taking action, i.e., becoming engaged in college by practicing and developing their talents and strength.” --Larry Braskamp

SNAP! uses StrengthsQuest and mentoring as intervention tools to retain students who have previously withdrawn from their full course load and are returning to continue their college education, particularly students who drop in the spring semester and return in the fall, and second semester First-Time-in-College students who drop classes in the fall and return in the spring. Using SNAP, students will be supplied with their “Top Five Strengths,” the knowledge of which will aid them in effectively and successfully accomplishing their academic pursuits. Faculty and staff participants, utilizing SNAP, will act as mentors for students in the identified cohort. Pilot coordinators and Gallup Education will facilitate the training of faculty and staff in how to utilize the Strengths Development Framework in the classroom and in advising.