Defining College Readiness from the Inside Out:
First-Generation College Student Perspectives*

Category 1
College Readiness Skills and Abilities

1. Academic skills: reading, writing, math, technology, communication
   1a. Academic skills: study skills
   2. Time management
   3. Goal focus
   4. Self-advocacy

Category 2
Background Factors and Life Experiences

5. Family factors
6. Work experience and career influences
7. Financial concerns
8. College preparation

Category 3
Nontraditional Student Self-Concept

9. Identity as a college student
10. Understanding the college system, college standards and the culture of college

What should be the scope of “early assessment”?

*Source: Adapted from Community College Review, 9/22/05 (Fall 2005). Study by Kathleen L. Byrd and Ginger MacDonald
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