

# May Helena Plumb, PhD (she/her)

*Curriculum Vitae: Student Success in Higher Education*

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## Experience

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Research Associate, Trellis Strategies, 2025–Present

Research Analyst, Trellis Strategies, 2024

Data Specialist, Trellis Strategies, 2023–2024

## Education

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Ph.D. in Linguistics, University of Texas at Austin, 2024

M.A. in Linguistics, University of Texas at Austin, 2020

B.A. in Linguistics, Haverford College (Tri-College Program), 2016

## Reports & Briefs

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Fletcher, Carla, Allyson Corentt, May Helena Plumb & Bryan Ashton (Apr. 2025). *Student Financial Wellness Survey: Fall 2024 Results*. SFWS Report. Trellis Strategies. <https://www.trellisstrategies.org/research-studies/student-financial-wellness-survey-fall-2024-results/>.

Plumb, May Helena (Mar. 2025a). *Parenting students: What they need and what institutions can do*. Spotlight Research Brief. Trellis Strategies. <https://www.trellisstrategies.org/research-studies/parenting-students-what-they-need-and-what-institutions-can-do/>.

Plumb, May Helena & Paige Erin Wheeler (Feb. 2025). *Pillars of Support: Results from an Evaluation of the Parenting Students Project at Austin Community College*. Research Report. Trellis Strategies. <https://www.trellisstrategies.org/research-studies/pillars-of-support-results-from-an-evaluation-of-the-parenting-students-project-at-austin-community-college/>.

Fletcher, Carla, Allyson Cornett, May Helena Plumb & Paige Erin Wheeler (Oct. 2024). *Experiences of Hispanic students at Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities institutions in Texas*. SFWS Report. Trellis Strategies. <https://www.trellisstrategies.org/research-studies/student-financial-wellness-survey-fall-2023-report-experiences-of-hispanic-students-at-hispanic-association-of-colleges-and-universities-institutions-in-texas/>.

- Plumb, May Helena (Sept. 2024b). *The road to success for transfer students: Best practices and innovative approaches to transfer pathways*. Student Success Toolkit. Trellis Strategies. <https://www.trellisstrategies.org/research-studies/the-road-to-success-for-transfer-students-best-practices-and-innovative-approaches-to-transfer-pathways/>.
- Plumb, May Helena (Aug. 2024c). *How the modern learner perceives the value of college*. Spotlight Research Brief. Trellis Strategies. <https://www.trellisstrategies.org/research-studies/how-the-modern-learner-perceives-the-value-of-college/>.
- Fletcher, Carla, Allyson Cornett, May Helena Plumb & Ryan Pyka (Apr. 2024). *Parenting students at Texas Community Colleges*. SFWS Report. Trellis Strategies. <https://www.trellisstrategies.org/research-studies/student-financial-wellness-survey-fall-2023-report/>.
- Plumb, May Helena (Mar. 2024d). *Connecting college students with public benefits programs*. Student Success Toolkit. Trellis Strategies. <https://www.trellisstrategies.org/research-studies/connecting-college-students-with-public-benefits-programs/>.
- Plumb, May Helena (Jan. 2024f). *Increasing enrollment through inter-office coordination and student support*. Student Success Toolkit. Trellis Strategies. <https://www.trellisstrategies.org/research-studies/increasing-enrollment-through-inter-office-coordination-and-student-support/>.
- Plumb, May Helena & Amy Cruz (Dec. 2023). *Best practices for communicating enrollment financial aid requirements*. Student Success Toolkit. Trellis Strategies. <https://www.trellisstrategies.org/research-studies/best-practices-for-communicating-enrollment-and-financial-aid-requirements/>.
- Plumb, May Helena (Nov. 2023a). *Improving student success through basic needs centers*. Student Success Toolkit. Trellis Strategies. <https://www.trellisstrategies.org/research-studies/improving-student-success-through-basic-needs-centers/>.

## Talks & Webinars

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- Plumb, May Helena & Allyson Cornett (Feb. 2025). **“Pillars of support”: Results from an evaluation of the Parenting Students Project at Austin Community College**. Invited talk at New America.
- Plumb, May Helena (Nov. 2023b). **Improving student success through basic needs centers**. Webinar at Trellis Strategies.

## Research Blogs

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- Plumb, May Helena (Feb. 2025b). **“Pillars of support” from the Parenting Students Project**. Trellis Strategies. <https://www.trellisstrategies.org/pillars-of-support-from-the-parenting-students-project/>.

Plumb, May Helena (Nov. 2024a). **How the modern learner perceives the value of college.** Trellis Strategies. <https://www.trellisstrategies.org/how-the-modern-learner-perceives-the-value-of-college/>.

Plumb, May Helena (Feb. 2024e). **Connecting college students with public benefits programs.** Trellis Strategies. <https://www.trellisstrategies.org/increase-enrollment-in-higher-ed-with-inter-office-coordination/>.

Plumb, May Helena (Jan. 2024g). **Roadmaps, not roadblocks: Increasing enrollment yield through inter-office coordination.** Trellis Strategies. <https://www.trellisstrategies.org/connecting-college-students-with-public-benefits-programs/>.