

UCHICAGO



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ECONOMY  
LAB

Science in Service  
of Cities.



July 11, 2022

# Supporting Community College Student Success: Evidence from a Randomized Controlled Trial

College Changes Everything Conference 2022



Science in Service  
of Cities.

# Meet the Panel

**Lisa Castillo Richmond**



Partnership for  
College Completion

**Aneesh Sohoni**



One Million Degrees

**Kelly Hallberg**



UChicago  
Inclusive  
Economy Lab

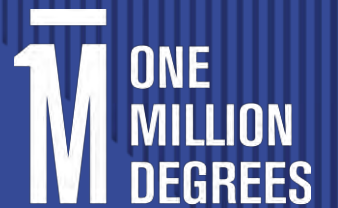
**Veronica Herrero**



City Colleges of  
Chicago



# One Million Degrees



A single degree.  
A world of opportunity.



One Million Degrees provides tools, resources, and guidance that put community college students on an accelerated career path to economic mobility.

One Million Degrees (OMD) is the only organization of its kind in Illinois, and one of very few in the country, providing these needed supports to historically overlooked high-potential community college scholars, helping them succeed in school, work, and life.

We offer the support that empowers scholars to transform their lives and those around them for generations.

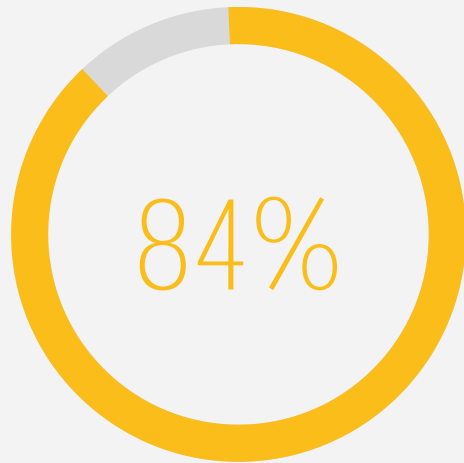
SUPPORT THAT  
EMPOWERS SCHOLARS

WHO IS OMD?

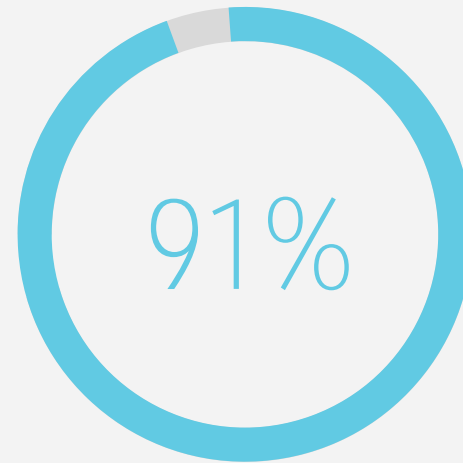


# WHO WE SERVE

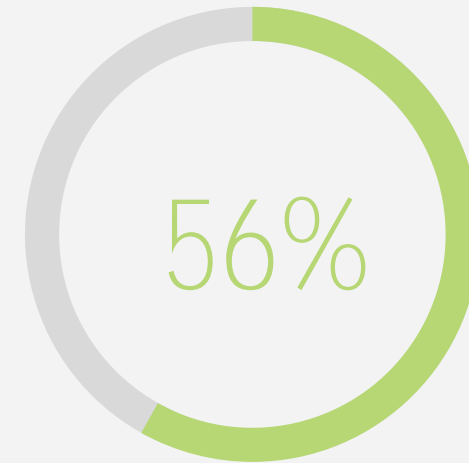
OMD QUICK FACTS



Black or LatinX



From Historically  
Underserved  
Communities



First-Generation  
Students



# OUR PROVEN OMD MODEL

OMD provides community college students with an opportunity for goal-setting, accountability, and community through our Comprehensive Scholar Development Model.



Relationship-based support from staff **that's customized and proactive**



Performance-based financial support driven by clear, frequent feedback



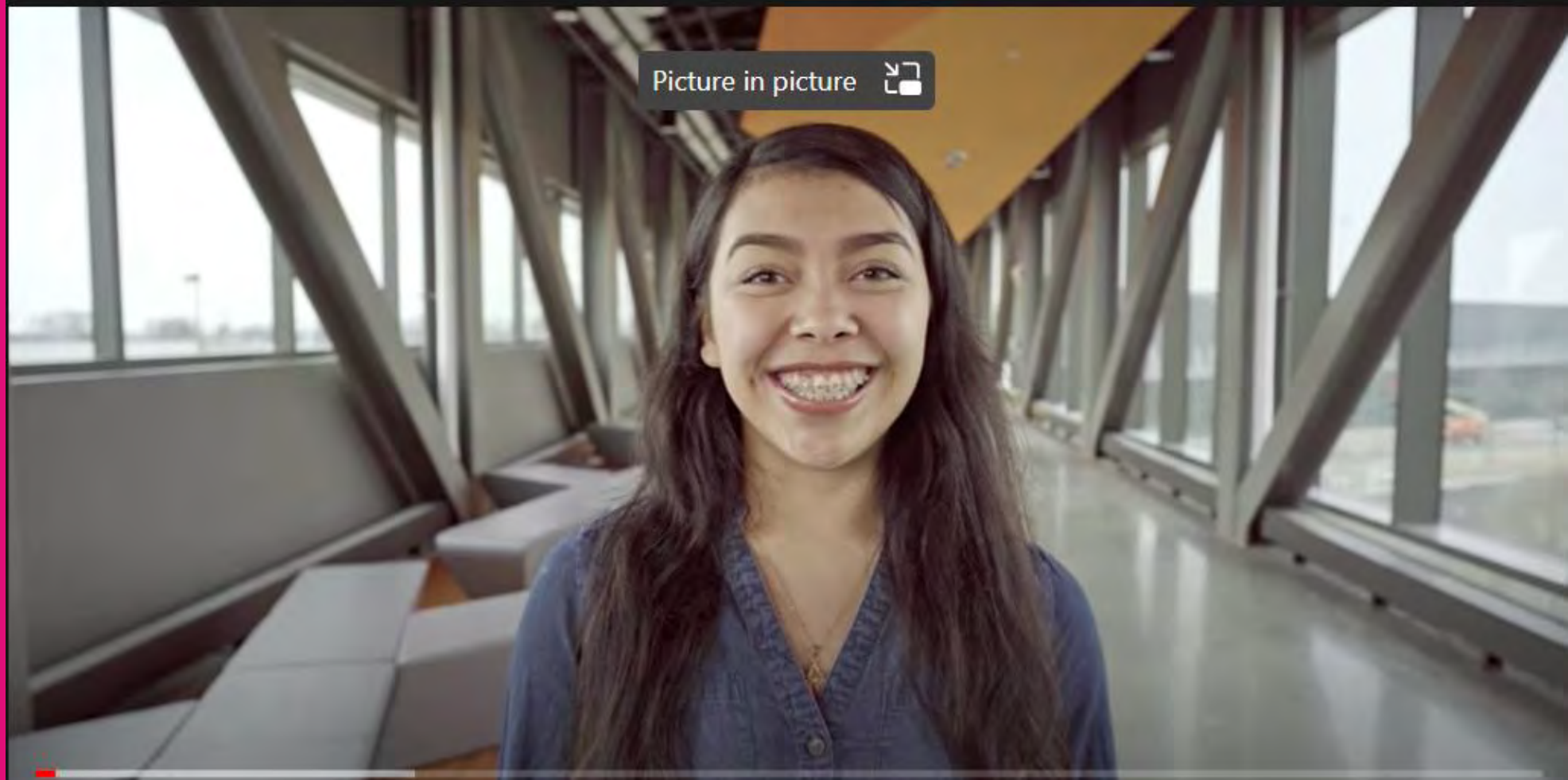
Intentional community-building with volunteer coaches and peer groups



Opportunities to learn, practice, and apply workplace skills

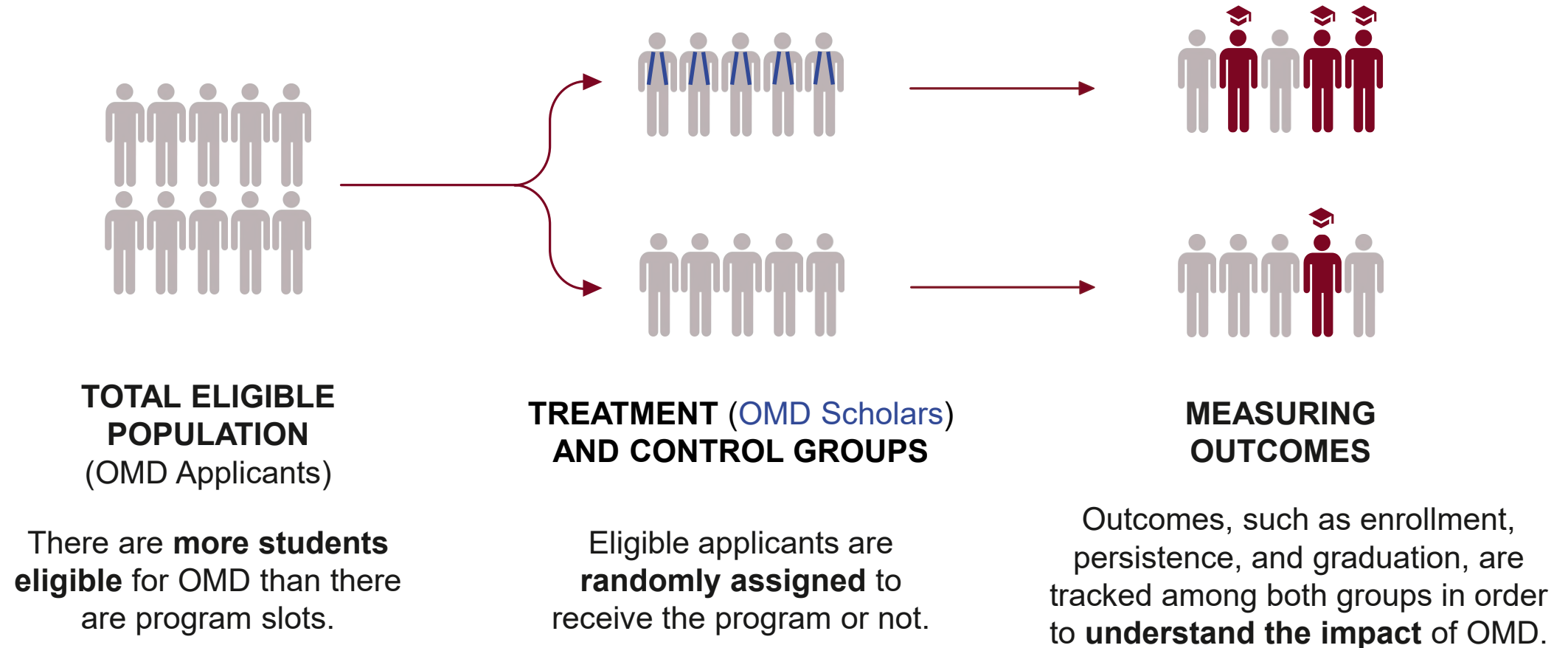


# OMD SCHOLARS AND ALUMNI





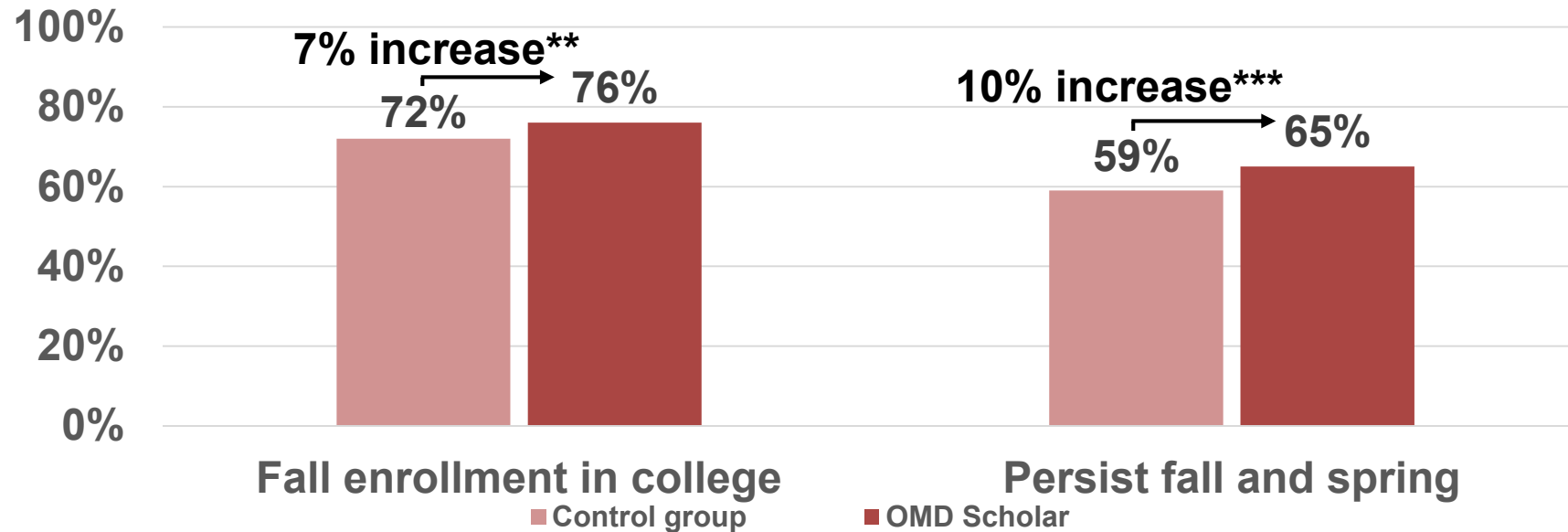
# Randomized controlled trial (RCT) design allows us to measure the causal impact of OMD



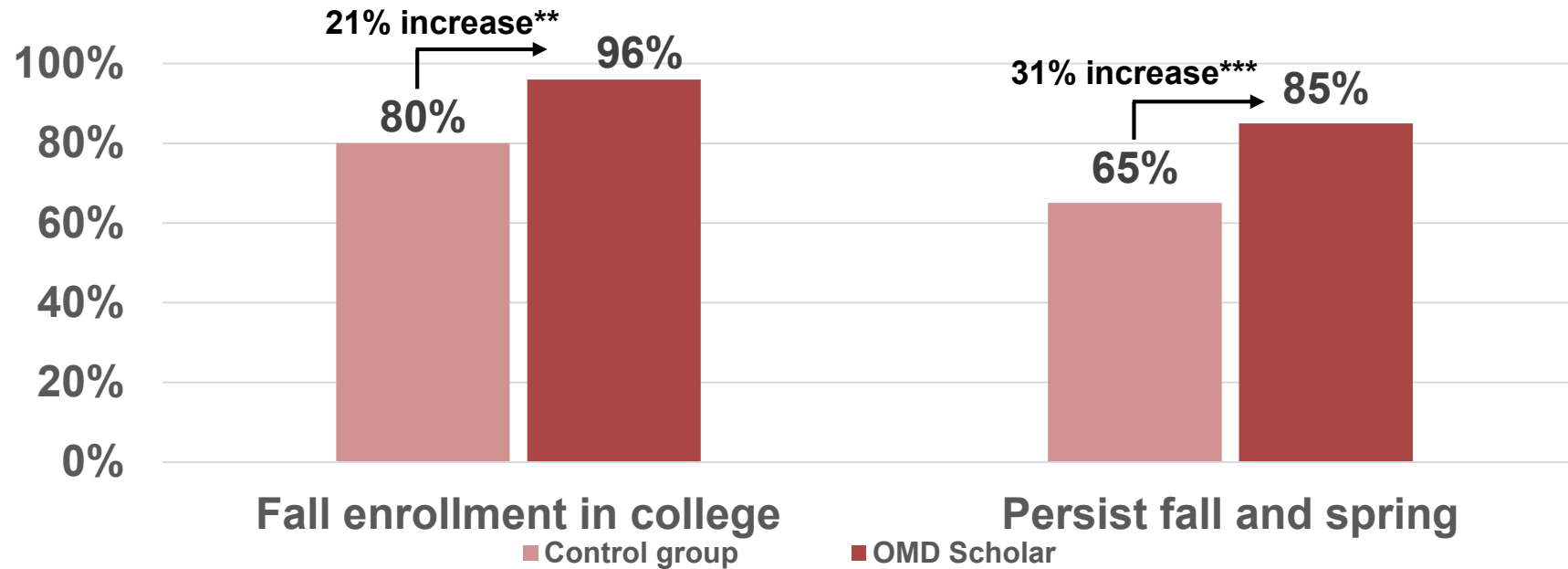
**By randomizing participation, we can attribute outcomes to the program, rather than participants' characteristics**

# Enrollment and Persistence Outcomes

# Offering a spot in OMD increased enrollment and persistence in college for the entire applicant pool

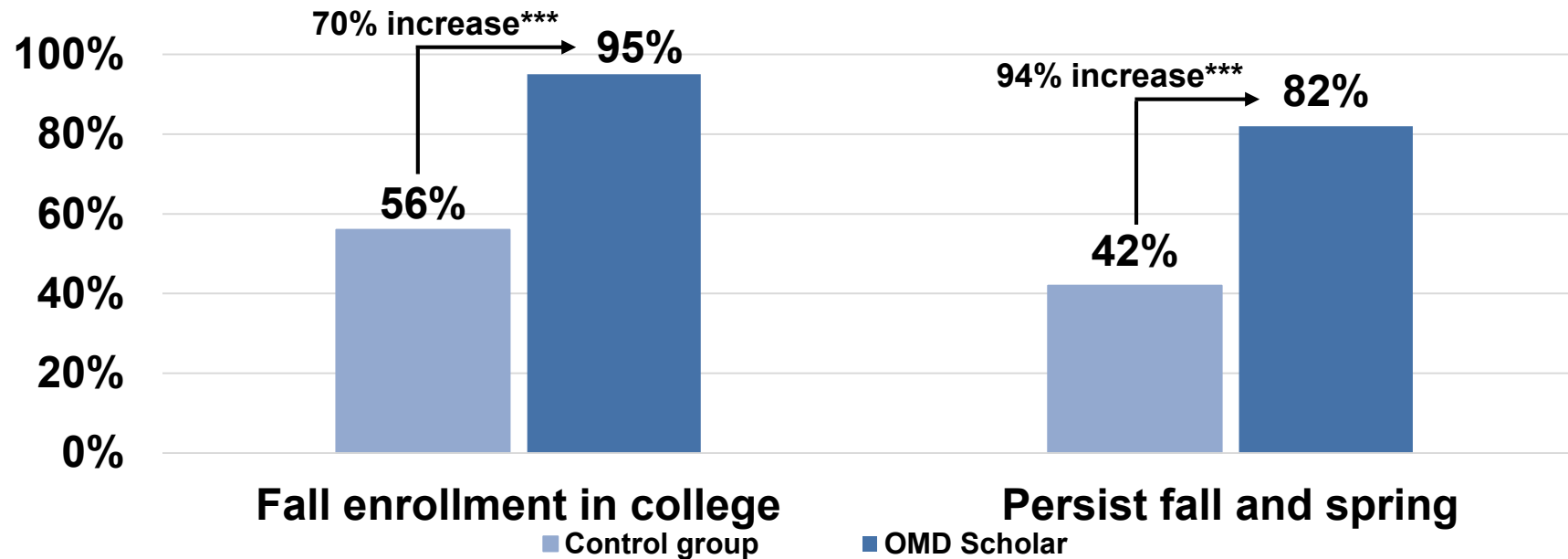


# After adjusting for take-up, the program's impact on enrollment and persistence is even greater



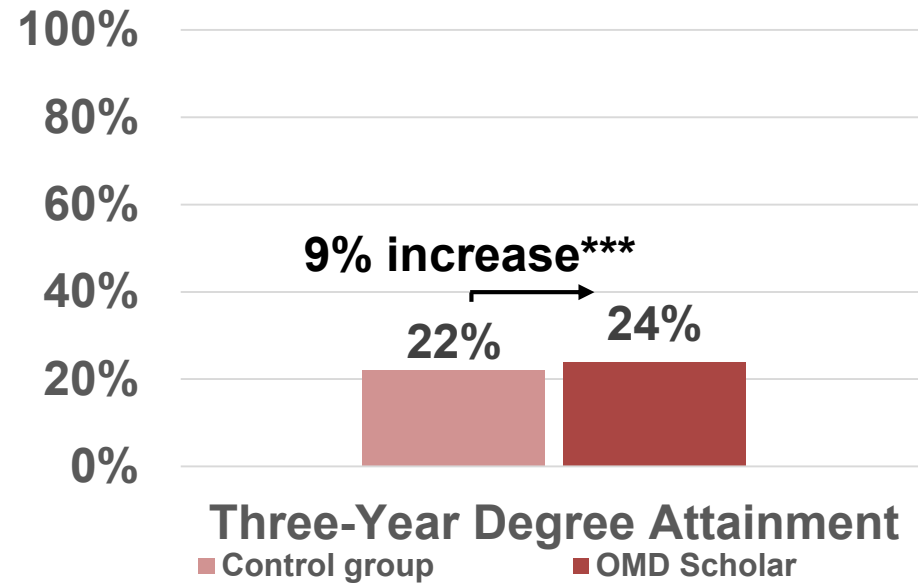


# Scholars who apply before enrolling in college see the largest enrollment, persistence benefits

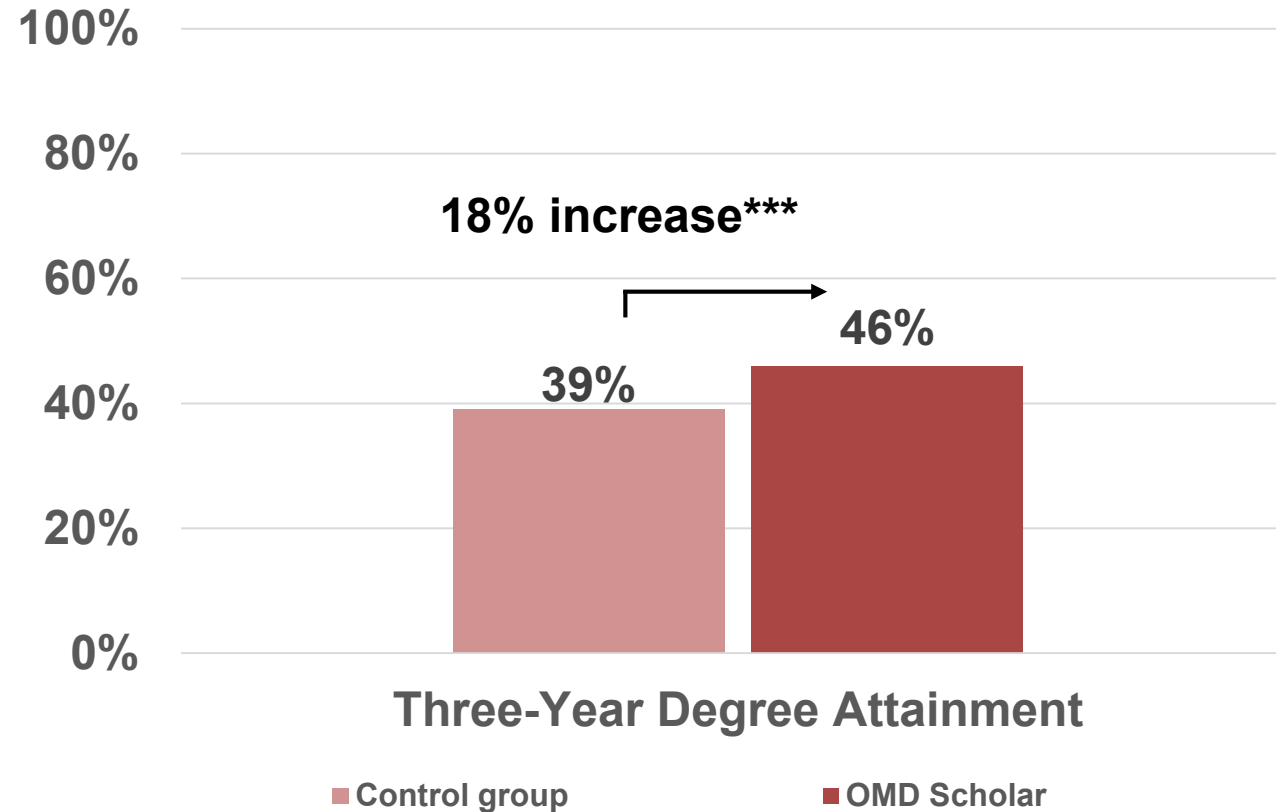


# New graduation results

# Offering a spot in OMD increased associate's degree attainment across the entire applicant pool

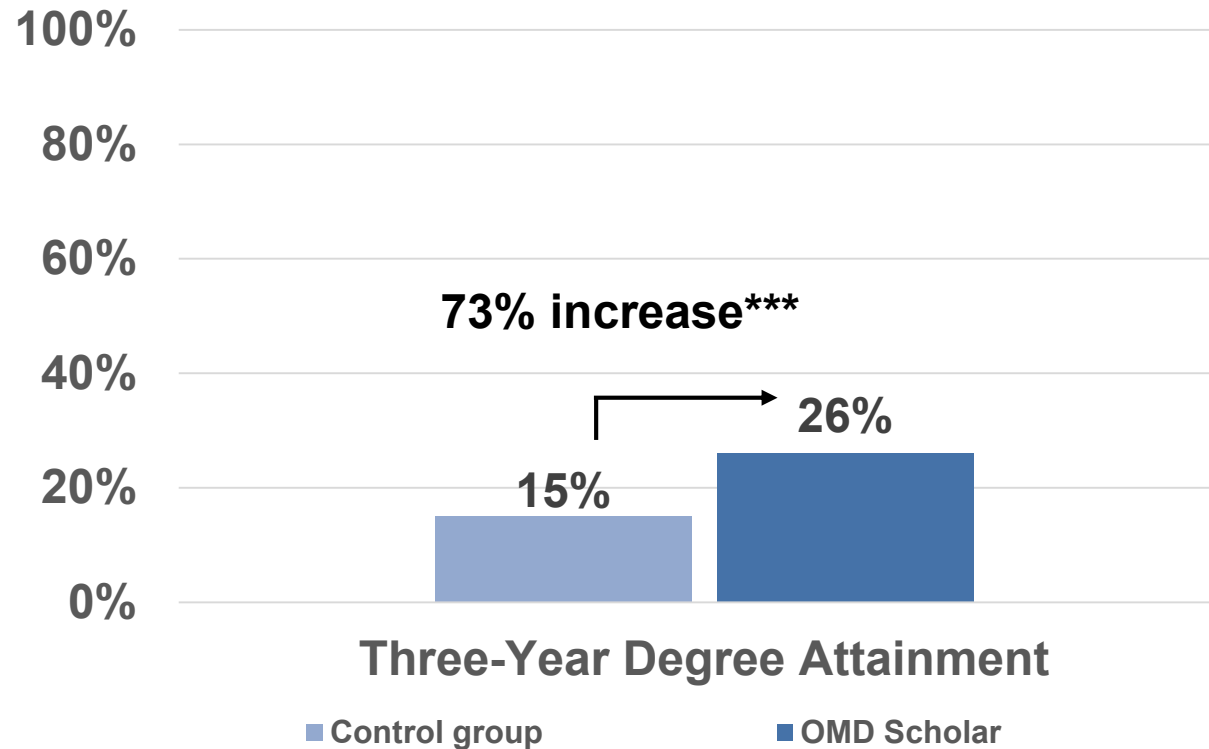


# After adjusting for take-up, the program's impact on associate's degree attainment is greater





# Scholars who apply before enrolling in college see the largest benefits to associate's degree attainment



# Summarizing and Contextualizing Findings

# Summary

- Participating in the OMD program led to large and statistically significant **increases enrollment and persistence** in college
- One Million Degrees **increased associate's degree attainment** for the entire applicant pool by 9 percent
  - After adjusting for take-up, Scholars see an 18 percent boost to associate's degree completion rates
- Program impacts continue to be almost entirely **driven by Scholars who applied to OMD before enrolling in college**
- The **comprehensive nature** of the program appears to be central to program impacts

# WAYS TO GET INVOLVED WITH ONE MILLION DEGREES

COACH A SCHOLAR OR APPRENTICE

PROVIDE TRAINING OR PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT TO STUDENTS

SUPPORT AND ATTEND OUR ANNUAL GALA

