

Washington and Student Success Center Guided Pathways



College students are more likely to attain their educational goals if they choose a program and develop an academic plan early on, have a clear road map of the courses they need to complete a credential, and receive support to help them stay on track. Washington state's guided pathways framework integrates these and other equity-centered, evidence-based initiatives into college infrastructure so they define every student's college experience.

The Washington State Student Success Center (WASSC) helps colleges implement guided pathways so more students earn credentials, transfer to four-year institutions with junior status, and attain jobs with value in the labor market. The work Washington has undertaken in the past decade and WASSC's ongoing efforts all fit within the guided pathways framework.

PLANNING

ESSENTIAL CONDITIONS

- Facilitate the CCRC Scale of Adoption Assessment with WA state equity items
- Manage the WASSC-developed pathways data dashboard
- Provide professional development in key areas, including equity, holistic student support, financial stability, adaptive leadership, and faculty teaching and learning
- Incorporate change management resources into colleges' improvement efforts
- Identify best practices and evaluate implementation
- Lead the Guided Pathways Advisory Council

PREPARATION/AWARENESS

- Host implementation cohort retreats twice a year
- Host Teaching and Learning Institutes for faculty twice a year
- Develop aligned and coherent messaging about colleges' experiences and successes

SUSTAINABILITY

- Advocate for effective state and federal policies
- Work with colleges to institute policies that facilitate guided pathways
- Develop and execute a learning agenda that will help colleges sustain momentum for improvement efforts

EARLY OUTCOMES

Measure key performance indicators, including:

- Enrollment in an Area of Study course within first term
- Selection of meta-major/Area of Study within first two terms
- Completion of major-related, college-level math and English courses within first year
- Number of college credits earned in the program of study in first year
 - Persistence from fall to fall
 - Equity in outcomes across race, gender, and economic status

Revisit conditions, sustainability, and implementation.
Continuously improve pathways by building on equity-minded elements that work and adjusting or discarding elements that are not serving all students well.

EVALUATION

IMPLEMENTATION

CLARIFY THE PATHS

- Support colleges' efforts to:
 - » Map career and educational pathways
 - » Host math pathways communities of practice
- Host guided pathways Student Success Institutes
- » Convene colleges adopting co-requisite programming

HELP STUDENTS GET ON A PATH

- Support colleges' efforts to:
 - » Integrate accelerated learning (AP, IB, dual credit, etc.) into guided pathways
 - » Integrate Basic Skills and developmental education into guided pathways
 - » Develop first-year experience courses
 - » Use multiple measures to place students

- Host the Financial Stability Summit

HELP STUDENTS STAY ON THEIR PATH

- Support colleges' efforts to:
 - » Redesign advising
 - » Integrate new technologies into pathways efforts

ENSURE STUDENTS ARE LEARNING

- Support colleges' efforts to:
 - » Develop an aligned K-20 pathway
 - » Engage employers in designing learning outcomes
 - » Engage faculty in TILT 2,1,1