

# CTC Placement Recommendations in Response to Covid-19

These recommendations were compiled by a coalition of organizations in the Road Map region, with the intent to give guidance to local Community and Technical Colleges in creating placement policies which can help mitigate the impacts felt by students in our region as a result of the Covid-19 health crisis and the resulting school closures.

## VALUE #1: EQUITY

**Center equity by eliminating barriers to college access and providing scaffolds of support that acknowledge the disparate impact Covid-19 has had on students. Otherwise, we risk an entire cohort of seniors being misplaced and relegated to developmental education.**

- *Prioritize cumulative GPA for ENGL Placement and GPA and course completion for MATH placement. GPA provides a more comprehensive assessment of a students' ability over a course of time, rather than a single grade or test ([Source](#)) and is inclusive of a variety of grading scenarios in secondary education.*
  - *Ex. 2.5 GPA + PASS Algebra 2 = Non-Stem College Math*
  - *Ex. 3.0 GPA + Pass Pre-calc = Stem Math*
- *Expand HS transcript policies to all districts. Students will be displaced and shouldn't be penalized.*
- *Remove testing fees or provide a waiver process for students financially impacted by Covid-19.*
- *Extend expiration dates for students who could utilize 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> grade math.*
- *Utilize Smarter Balanced Assessment.*

## VALUE #2: TRUST

**Trust students. Develop policies and practices that demonstrate belief in students' ability to successfully self-advocate, provided they are given the necessary guidance. Understand the need for holistic assessment approaches, and recognition of students' ability not being solely measured in grades or test scores.**

- *Have flexible policies for required placement documents.*
  - *Ex: accept unofficial transcripts, allow students to show grades on student portal or phone.*
  - *Ex. Allow students to self-report, if obtaining **proof** becomes a barrier. \*Empirical Data show students' self-reported GPA to be highly correlated to actual GPA ([Source](#)).*
- *Utilize Directed Self Placement practices wherever possible.*

## VALUE #3: SUPPORT

**Ensure that students are successful and pass the courses they are placed into by providing individualized supports.**

- *Embed advising into the placement process to assist in the determination of the students appropriate starting point. Individual conversations with students will be critical to fully understanding placement needs.*
- *In cases of borderline placement, provide options of courses with additional support: Corequisites, Plus courses, linked college success courses.*

## VALUE #4: BUILD

**Strengthen student centered approaches, with the intention of building practices that will live beyond this current health crisis.**

- *Develop a timely feedback process with advisors and placement staff to ensure any new practices or policies are appropriately addressing needs of the student, being mindful of unintended impacts. Empower frontline staff to utilize professional judgement in order to be responsive to new, unforeseen scenarios, centering the student's experience.*

Questions? Contact [psccn@psesd.org](mailto:psccn@psesd.org)

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