



Center for Community College Student Engagement Pathways Materials

About the Center

The Center for Community College Student Engagement (the Center) is an umbrella organization for survey research (Community College Survey of Student Engagement, Community College Faculty Survey of Student Engagement, and Survey of Entering Student Engagement), focus group work, and related services for colleges interested in improving educational quality through strengthened student engagement and student success.

The Center and Guided Pathways

The Center's role in the pathways work includes coordinating the logistics for the 1.0 and California Guided Pathways Institutes (modeled after the institute prototype that the Center created), developing Pathways Toolkits and Pathways Modules to collect data on students' pathways-related experiences, and capturing the student voice from Pathways focus groups to share first-hand how students are experiencing pathways. With its long history of compiling and analyzing community college student and faculty engagement data, the Center is the key Pathways partner to focus on Pillar Four (teaching and learning) in the Guided Pathways Model.

For the Center's Pathways tools, visit
<http://www.ccsse.org/center/initiatives/pathways/tools/>

The Center's materials fall under three Pathways pillars: Help students get on a path, help students stay on their path, and ensure students are learning.

1. Pathways Toolkits

The following tools include items from Center surveys (*CCSSE* 2017-Present, *CCSSE* 2005-2016, and *SENSE*) that are aligned with important dimensions of the Pathways Model. The Pathways Toolkits are complimentary and are a way for colleges who have participated in the Center's surveys to look at their data through a guided pathways lens.

2. Pathways Modules

Through the AACC Pathways Project and funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Center has created two survey item modules on guided pathways, which will be administered during *SENSE* 2018 and *CCSSE* 2019. The *SENSE* 2018 module is composed of 12 items and the *CCSSE* 2019 module is composed of 20 items—both focus specifically on students' pathways-related experiences. The module will be available after *SENSE* 2018 and *CCSSE* 2019 for colleges that want to measure the student pathway experience.

3. CCSSE Additional Item Sets

In order to keep the Center's surveys fresh and relevant for the community college field, the Center regularly identifies "special-focus" topics and develops new item sets that enable colleges to explore issues that are key to improved student engagement and student success. *CCSSE* additional item sets that are related to guided pathways include the following and cost an additional \$500 to administer.



Help Students Stay on Their Path

- Academic Advising and Planning
- Student Financial Health

4. Equity Data

To understand the experiences of all of your community college's students and target improvement efforts, disaggregate your college's Center survey results to explore differences among student groups (e.g., race and ethnicity, gender identity, developmental and non-developmental, full-time and part-time, traditional and non-traditional, etc.).

5. National/Special Reports

Annually, the Center releases a national report based on aggregate data; these reports are housed at www.ccsse.org/center/publications/#nationalreports. Reports that relate to guided pathways include the following:

Help Students Stay on Their Path

- *Show Me the Way: The Power of Advising in Community Colleges*
 - Students and faculty consistently report that advising is the most important student service that colleges offer. The data in this report suggest that students who receive more advising—more time with advisors and more in-depth discussions in their sessions—are more engaged.
- *Even One Semester: Full-Time Enrollment and Student Success*
 - Students who attend full-time for even one semester have an edge—the full-time edge—that is reflected in their higher rates of engagement, completion of gateway courses, persistence, and credential attainment.
- *Making Ends Meet: The Role of Community Colleges in Student Financial Health*
 - This report sheds light on the financial challenges students face and encourages institutional change that supports students' financial health so all students can be successful in reaching their academic goals.
- *Aspirations to Achievement: Men of Color and Community Colleges*
 - With equity as a key component of guided pathways, this report seeks to build understanding of the experiences of Latinos and Black males in community colleges—and offers strategies colleges can consider as they work to strengthen those experiences so they lead to better outcomes.

Guided Pathways

- A national report on Guided Pathways will be published in spring 2020 and will feature data from the Center's Guided Pathways modules and student and Pathways Team focus groups.

The Center is a research and service initiative in the Program in Higher Education Leadership, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy, College of Education, at The University of Texas at Austin.

For more information about the Center, our Pathways tools and surveys, or other services for colleges, please visit our website at www.ccsse.org and contact us at info@cccse.org or (512) 471-6807.