

Get Started With Guided Pathways

Guided Pathways is a comprehensive institutional framework for redesigning the student experience so that students can seamlessly move from enrollment to career-readiness, and thus more easily reach the goals they have for themselves. It simplifies choices, boosts completion rates, and aligns education with job market needs.

Creating Guided Pathways requires managing, sustaining, and adapting large-scale transformational change. The work begins with thorough student-centered planning, continues through engaging implementation aimed at alignment, and sustaining what you've done by building on what works and adapting what doesn't.



PATHWAYS

THE STAGES OF GUIDED PATHWAYS

PLAN

Lay the groundwork for lasting, sustainable change by engaging students and key partners, and connecting what you do today to long-term student success.

ELEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE PLANNING:

Essential Conditions

Ensure you have the foundations in place: strong leadership, technology infrastructure, favorable policy, commitment to the process and outcomes

Preparation / Awareness

Understand where you are, prepare for change, and build awareness

Sustainability

Commit to pathways for the long-term by ensuring you are building the right resources, knowledge management, and culture

IMPLEMENT

Put students first and transform how your institution creates clearer paths, stronger support, and better results for students, staff, your college, and the wider community.

ELEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION:

Clarify the Paths

Develop clear program maps that outline the sequence of courses and skills students need for their desired degree completion and career opportunities

Help Students Get on a Path

Provide proactive advising and career exploration resources to help students choose a path early

Help Students Stay on Their Path

Assess and redesign your student support systems, ensuring every student gets the guidance and services they need to succeed on their terms

Ensure Students are Learning

Integrate effective teaching and learning practices, and intentionally assess engagement

SUSTAIN

Make sure the reforms you've implemented are working and still relevant for students with regular evaluation, ongoing faculty collaboration, continuous professional development, and a deep commitment to student success.

ELEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE SUSTAINABILITY:

Evaluate

Continuously improve pathways by revisiting what you've implemented and the political and cultural landscape shaping student experience

Early Outcomes

Understand how your reforms have changed student experience and outcomes, both positives and any unintended negatives

Scale Improvements

Bring what's working to more students, campuses, partners, and pathways