

# Guided Pathways at California Community Colleges

### **About Guided Pathways**

# The Guided Pathways framework creates a highly structured approach to student success that:



Provides all students
with a set of clear coursetaking patterns that
promotes better enrollment
decisions and prepares
students for future success.



Integrates support services in ways that make it easier for students to get the help they need during every step of their community college experience.

### Four Pillars of Guided Pathways



Create clear curricular pathways to employment and further education.



Help students choose and enter their pathway.



Help students stay on their path.



Ensure that learning is happening with intentional outcomes.

## **Key Elements of Guided Pathways**

Programs that are fully mapped out and aligned with further education and career advancement while also providing structured or guided exploration for undecided students.

Redesigning and integrating basic skills/developmental education classes to accelerate students to college-level classes.

#### Proactive academic and career advising

from the start through completion and/or transfer, with assigned point of contact at each stage.



#### **Structured onboarding process**

including improved placement tests and co-requisite instruction that provide students with clear, actionable, and usable information they need to get to the right start in college.

#### Early alert systems

aligned with interventions and resources to help students stay on the pathway, persist, and progress.



Instructional support and co-curricular activities

aligned with classroom learning and career interests.

#### What Guided Pathways Means for Students

- Less confusion and more clarity about the steps toward completion and course-taking behavior.
- More guidance from counseling or advisory early in students' journeys.
- Greater likelihood of completion, as a result of:
  - Improved placement
  - Basic skills/developmental education reform
  - Reduced unit accumulation
- Improved chances for transfer and career placement.



#### What Guided Pathways Means for Students



### What's Different About Guided Pathways?

# Guided Pathways represents a comprehensive approach to improving student completion

- Focuses on institutional transformation
- Provides an overarching framework to integrate diverse initiatives & reforms underway
- Brings together evidence-based practices into a more coherent whole
- Emphasizes interventions that work at scale
- Creates clear, intention, well-sequenced curriculum and program design
- Keeps students at the center of the (re)design process
- Is an evidence-based approach that comprehensively addresses the conditions needed for students to thrive and complete their goals



# Ways Colleges Have Implemented Guided Pathways

- Ensure access to college-level classes
  - Place students accurately (via multiple measures)
  - Engage students with curricular enhancement such as acceleration and co-requisites
  - Allow students to enroll in college-level curricula with supports as an alternative to placement in developmental English & math
- Ensure students can access the classes, programs, and support they need
  - Planning enough sections to avoid wait-listing students
  - Accessible & consistent counseling help and advice
  - Student tracking systems to follow students on the path



# Ways Colleges Have Implemented Guided Pathways

- Create opportunities for students to explore their options without using all their financial aid
  - Introductory courses that count for multiple majors
  - Clusters or disciplines that students can choose before narrowing down their field of study
  - Clear sequences of courses built toward students' chosen certificate or degree
  - The right classes at the right times
- Guide students to make choices that lead to completion & success
  - Clear and strategic educational plans
  - Majors in clusters
  - Peer-to-peer connections



#### Support is Available for Implementation



 In 2017, California leaders allocated \$150 million from Prop. 98 funds for awards to community colleges to develop Guided Pathway
 Frameworks to support students.

All 114 California Community
 Colleges are eligible to receive
 award funding.

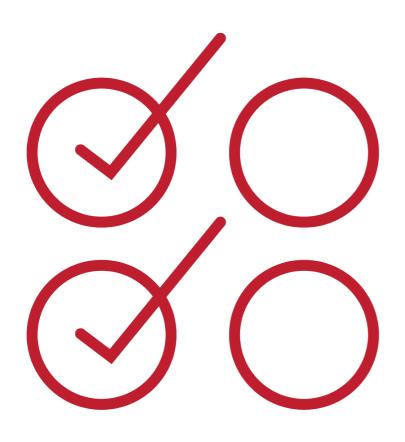
#### Guided Pathways Depends on US.

# Guided Pathways is not a "one-size-fits-all" initiative...

- The enormity and diversity of the California
   Community Colleges system requires that each college take a customized, self-guided approach.
- Guided Pathways is an opportunity for our college to set our own goals and determine our best path to success.

### Steps to Becoming a "Pathways College"

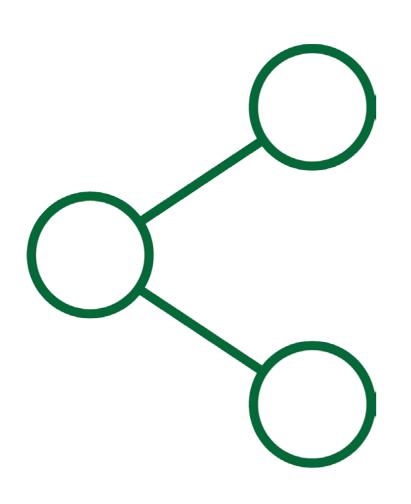
#### 1. SELF-ASSESSMENT



- We will complete a selfassessment for Guided Pathways implementation.
- The completion of this process will require college-wide efforts and cross-functional collaboration.
- The Chancellor's Office will provide regional workshops to support the self-assessment and planning process.

### Steps to Becoming a "Pathways College"

#### 2. ALLOCATIONS



- Beginning in Feb 2018, the Chancellor's Office will release the first installment of funding.
- Funds will be released upon completion of milestones: the assessment tool, the multi year plan and college staff attendance at trainings.
- The Chancellor's Office will provide regional workshops, capacity-building and on-site support, resources and tools.

# How Can Our College Be Involved with Guided Pathways?

#### IN THE EARLY STAGES...



- Guided Pathways requires a coordinated cross-departmental and divisional effort from college staff, faculty and leadership to share, engage, and discuss.
- Think and talk about the unique planning and resource needs at OUR college.
- Participate in the self-assessment process.

### **How Can I Support Guided Pathways?**

#### AFTER KICKOFF...



- Be a Champion for Guided
  Pathways. Spread the word, share
  successes, and encourage others to
  get on board.
- Attend regional meetings, network with other colleges, and take advantage of available educational tools and professional learning offered through the CCCCO.
- Celebrate success and pay it forward by sharing data, resources and advice with other colleges.

#### For More Information

Visit iepi.ccco.edu/guided-pathways

or email **COGuidedPathways@ccco.edu**