

Rural Guided Pathways Project

Community Partner Orientation
June 6, 2022



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About NCII

Authentic, large-scale improvement begins with colleges' rethinking how their policies, programs, and services come together to create the optimal student experience.

Focus Areas:

- **Guided Pathways**
- **Student Financial Stability**



Agenda

- **Welcome and Congratulations!**
- **Rural Guided Pathways Project Cohort**
- **Overview of the Guided Pathways Framework**
- **Community Partner Roles**
- **Project Details**
- **Next Steps & Questions**



Rural Guided Pathways Project Cohort

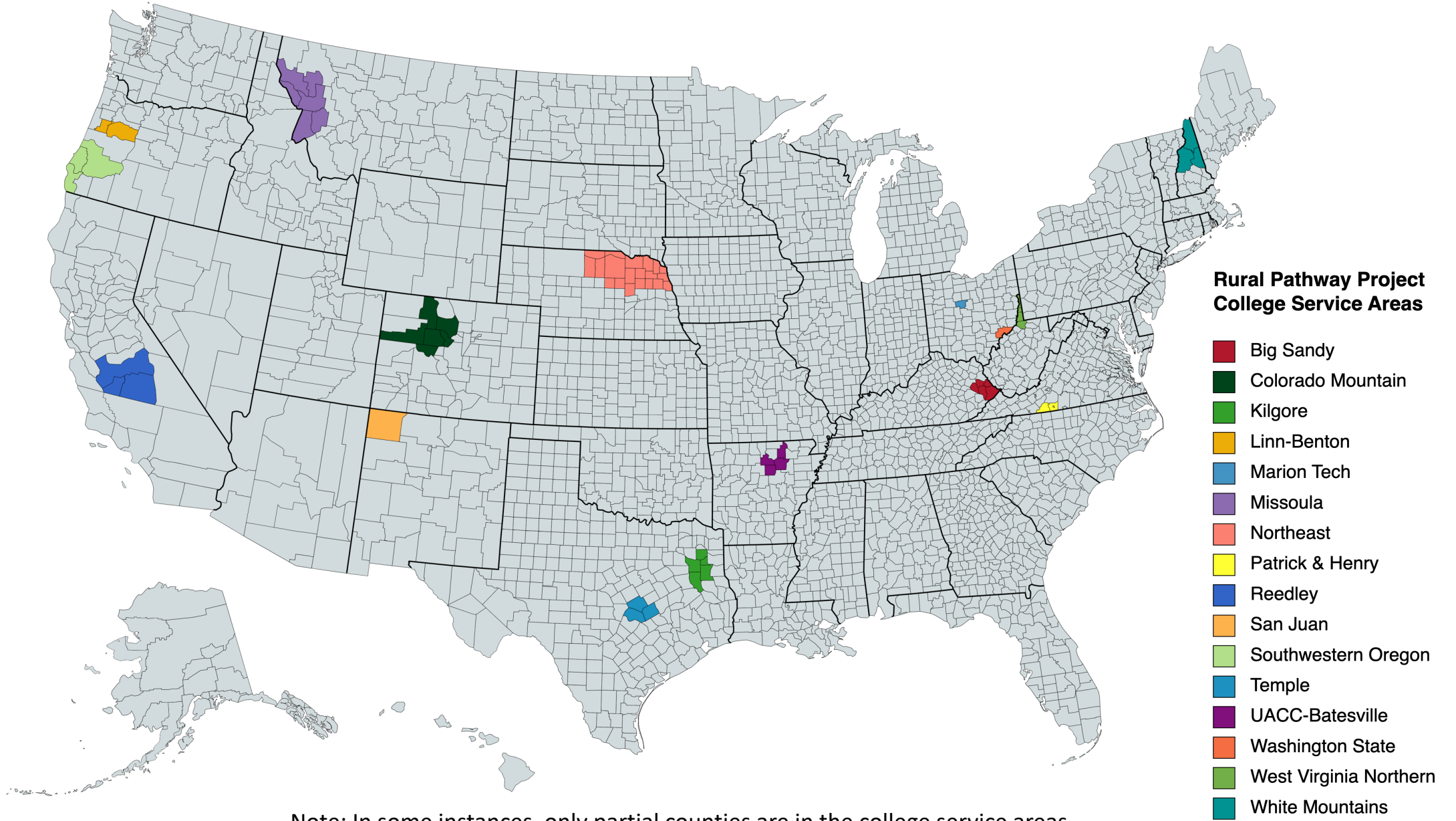


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Rural Guided Pathways Project Colleges

- Big Sandy Community & Technical College (KY)
- Colorado Mountain College (CO)
- Kilgore College (TX)
- Linn-Benton Community College (OR)
- Marion Technical College (OH)
- Missoula College (MT)
- Northeast Community College (NE)
- Patrick & Henry Community College (VA)
- Reedley College (CA)
- San Juan College (NM)
- Southwestern Oregon CC (OR)
- Temple College (TX)
- University of Arkansas CC – Batesville (AR)
- Washington State Community College (OH)
- West Virginia Northern CC (WV)
- White Mountain Community College (NH)

Colleges Service Areas



Note: In some instances, only partial counties are in the college service areas

Rural Guided Pathways Project Overview



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Rural Guided Pathways Project Overview

The goals of the three-year Rural Guided Pathways project are to support participating colleges as they:

- Design and implement an improved student experience and put students on the path to jobs and careers with family-sustaining wages.
- Collaborate with local stakeholders to increase economic opportunity and partner on a cross-sector approach.
- Adopt evidence-based reforms that will address inequities and lead to improved educational and workforce outcomes for all students.

What is innovative about this project?

This project is the first of its kind in two ways:

- **Rural focus**: For the first time, we will implement an institute-based pathways structure that is specifically focused on the needs of rural institutions.
- **Community partners**: While previous pathways initiatives have acknowledged the importance of engaging community partners, this project specifically integrates community partners into redesign efforts.

Rural Guided Pathways Project Funders



Rural Guided Pathways Project Partners

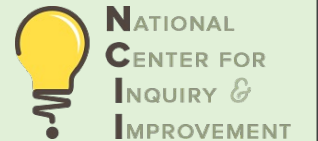


CivicLab

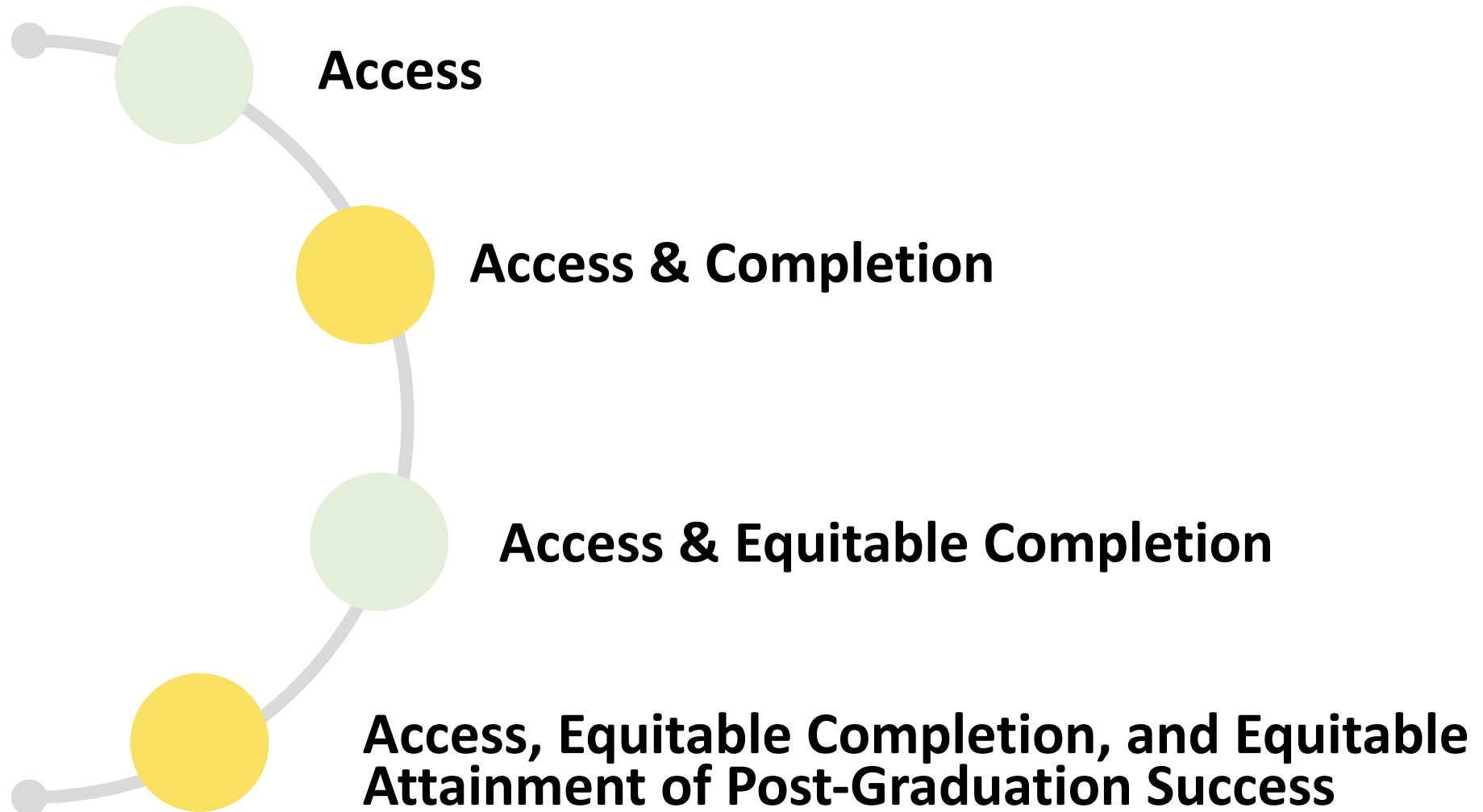
An Institute for Civic Collaboration



Overview of the Guided Pathways Framework



Evolution of the Community College Mission



Better, more equitable postgraduation outcomes are within reach for all colleges—no matter the geographic context.

Colleges need to make equitable postgraduation success a priority in pathways work.



Guided pathways is framework for redesigning colleges for access and success—starting with end goals in mind

Clarify paths to student end goals

- Backward map all programs from good jobs and/or transfer in a major
- Organize programs by field (meta-major) to facilitate exploration and engage students in an academic and career community

Help students get on a path

- Help all new students (including high school dual enrollment and adult ed students) explore options and interests, connect with an academic/career community, and make a purposeful program choice
- Replace prerequisite remediation with teaching students to be effective learners in college-level program foundation courses
- Ensure all new students have a term 1 “light the fire” learning experience
- Help all new students develop a full-program learning and financial plan by end of term 1

Keep students on path

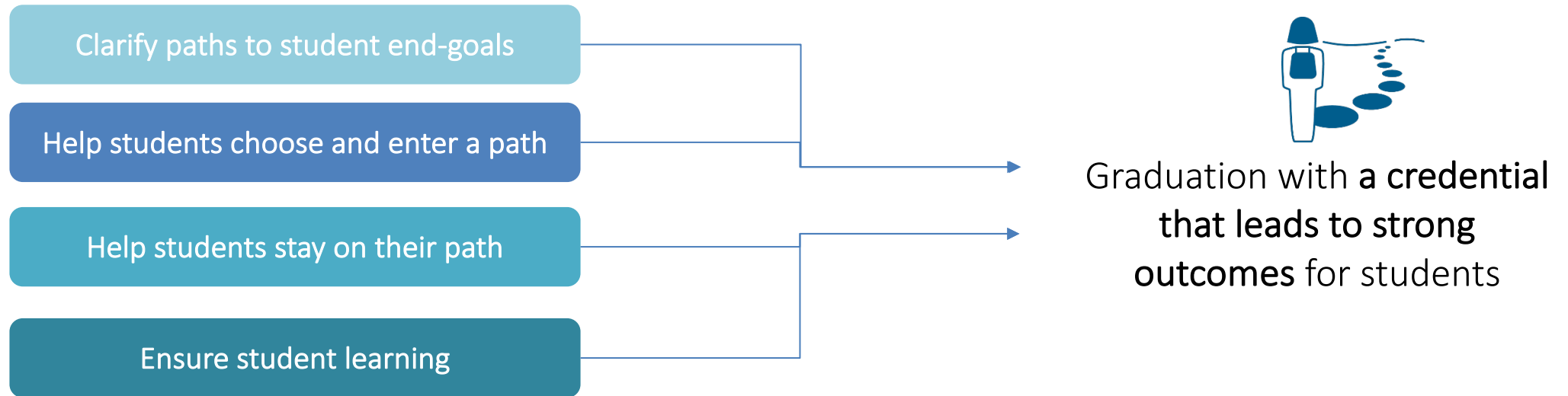
- Redesign advising to allow case management by metamajor
- Schedule courses and monitor students’ progress based on plans

Ensure students are learning along their path

- Introduce students to practice of the field through active learning in classes
- Ensure every student gains program-relevant experience

Strong Guided Pathways Connect to What's Next for Students

Institutions that adopt guided pathways as a theory of change work to...



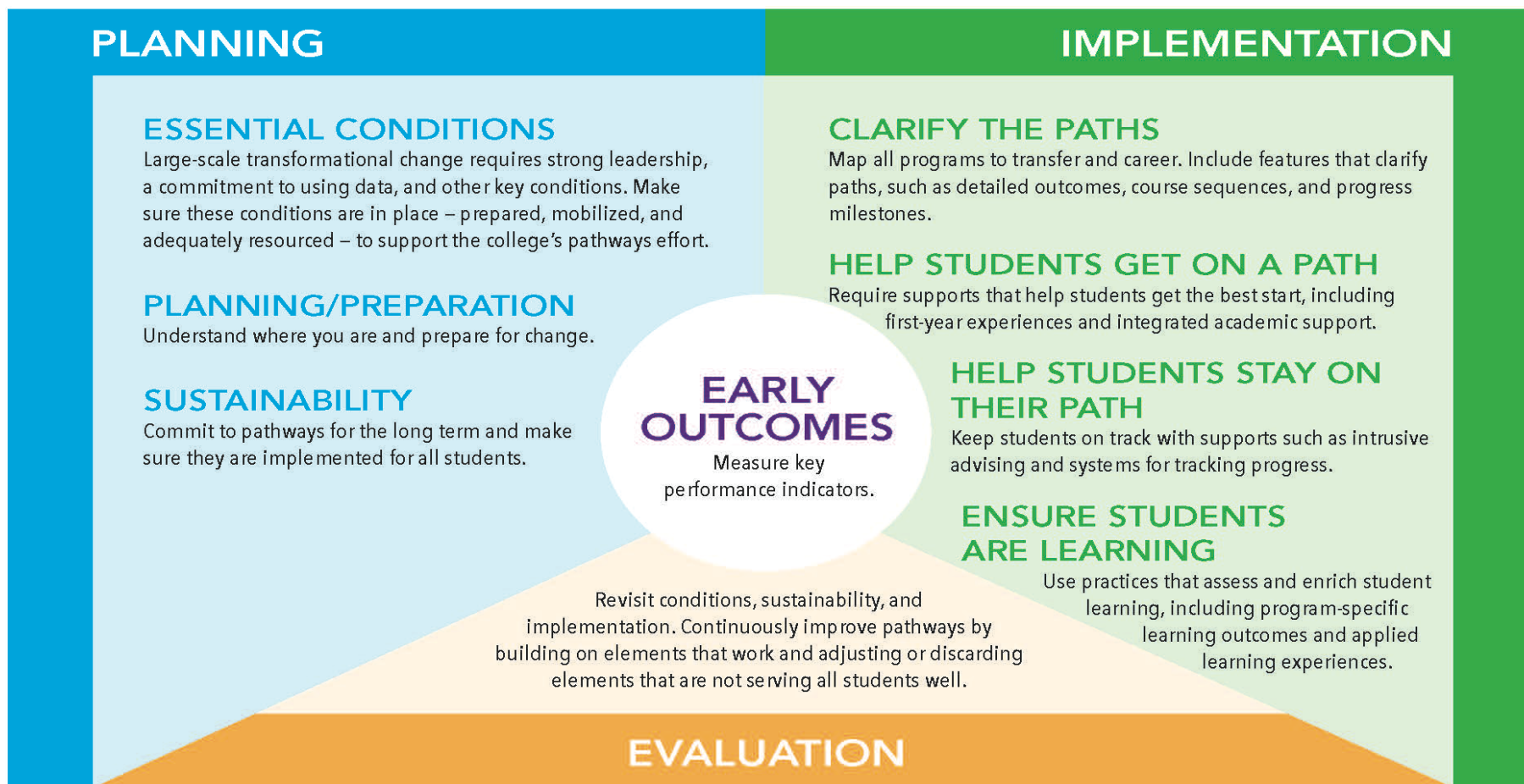
Consider CTE and Transfer

Some good jobs can be attained through CTE program pathways while others may require a bachelor's degree. Effective guided pathways models will consider equitable transfer and bachelor's attainment rates as well as equity gaps in CTE program access and outcomes.



Guided Pathways: Planning, Implementation, Evaluation

Creating guided pathways requires managing and sustaining large-scale transformational change. The work begins with thorough planning, continues through consistent implementation, and depends on ongoing evaluation. Colleges should assess their readiness for intensive, broad-based change before beginning this work.



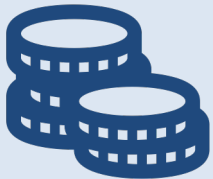
Guided Pathways College: Redesigned for *Access and Success*

- 1. Clarify paths to student end goals* – by ensuring that every program prepares students for good jobs and further education needed for career advancement
- 2. Help students get on a path* – by helping all students actively explore options and interests, become part of an academic and career community, and develop a full program completion plan
- 3. Keep students on path* – by scheduling classes and monitoring student progress based on students' plans to ensure timely and affordable program completion
- 4. Ensure students are learning* – by strengthening active and experiential learning across programs to ensure students have know-how (including soft skills) required for good jobs and further education

What Questions Do Colleges Need to Ask?

1

What is my regional economy and how is it changing?



2

What characterizes the population in my service area and how is it changing?

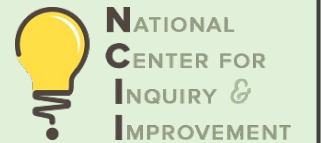


3

Are the programs at my institution aligned to the needs of the economy and the population?



Project Details



Project Professional Development and Support

Institutes

Six 2 ½ day institutes. Participating colleges will send an 8-person team to each institute.

Coaches & SMEs

Colleges will have an assigned coach and access to subject matter experts

Site Visits

Colleges will have one site visit from its rural pathways coach each year

Office Hours

Each college team will participate in two virtual office hours per semester

Virtual Consultancies

Each college team will be invited to two virtual consultancies per semester

Topical Webinars

NCII and its partners will develop and host three topical webinars per year

Six Rural Pathways Institutes

#1

**June 27-29, 2022
Minneapolis, MN**

#2

**Oct. 19-21, 2022
Cheyenne, WY**

#3

**Feb. 8-10, 2023
Birmingham, AL**

#4

**June 7-9, 2023
Virtual**

#5

**Oct. 18-20, 2023
Salt Lake, UT**

#6

**April 10-12, 2024
Pittsburgh, PA**

Rural Pathways Coaches

- **There are 8 Rural Pathway Coaches grouped into two-person teams**
- **Each coach is responsible for leading the work of 2 colleges.**
- **Coaches will work with their partner to provide backup for 2 additional colleges.**
- **Coaches will provide facilitation, guidance, leadership, and support to their colleges throughout the project. This will occur through the following activities:**
 - **The coaching team will work with their assigned colleges during the team time at all Institutes**
 - **Coaches will have regular check-in meetings with their college project leads**
 - **Coaches will also support their colleges as they prepare for the institutes and the virtual consultations, and office hours**
 - **The lead coach will work with the CEO and Project lead to conduct one site visit to their assigned college per year. The first site visit will likely occur between Institutes 2 & 3.**

Rural Pathways Coaches



**Ed Bowling, Executive Director,
Completion & Performance
Guilford Technical Community College**

- **Washington State CC**
- **Patrick & Henry CC**



**Dr. Adrienne Forgette
Vice President for Learning
San Juan College**

- **Big Sandy Community & Technical**
- **West Virginia Northern CC**

Rural Pathways Coaches



Dr. Joyce Walsh-Portillo
Business Faculty
Broward College

- **Reedley College**
- **San Juan College**



Octavia Lawrence, Dean of Students
West Kentucky Community &
Technical College

- **Temple College**
- **Northeast Nebraska CC**

Rural Pathways Coaches



Laura Rittner
Executive Director, Ohio Success Center
Ohio Assn. of Community Colleges

- **Southwestern Oregon CC**
- **White Mountains CC**



Dr. Ann Buchele, Vice President of
Academic and Student Affairs
Linn-Benton Community College

- **U of Arkansas CC - Batesville**
- **Marion Technical College**

Rural Pathways Coaches



**Dr. Erica Orians, Executive Director,
Michigan Center for Student Success
Michigan Community College Assn.**

- **Colorado Mountain College**
- **Kilgore College**



**Dr. Kenneth Lawson
Vice President for Instruction
Skagit Valley College**

- **Missoula College**
- **Linn-Benton CC**

Rural Pathways Subject Matter Experts

- **The role of the SMEs is to lead a topical learning community.**
- **The SMEs are not assigned to colleges but can be called upon by the coaches to help individual colleges or group of colleges.**
- **SME will provide facilitation, guidance, leadership, and support to the cohort colleges throughout the project. This will occur through the following activities:**
 - **SMEs will attend all Institutes where they will lead and/or facilitate content discussions**
 - **Each SME will offer one virtual Brown Bag Session each semester (beginning in Fall 2022)**
 - **SMEs will be available for virtual office hours and contribute to virtual consultancies as appropriate.**
 - **The SMEs will also work with the NCII team to organize and lead topical webinars for the duration of the project.**

Subject Matter Experts



Priyadarshini (Priya) Chaplot
Vice President of Strategy
NCII

Focus: Student Financial Stability



Dr. James (Jim) Jacobs
President Emeritus
Macomb Community College

**Focus: Workforce & Employer
Engagement**



**Abner Oakes, National Director of
Outreach and Engagement
Institute for Student Achievement**

Focus: K-12 Engagement

Subject Matter Experts



Dakota Pawlicki
Director, Talent Hubs
CivicLab

Focus: Community Engagement



Dr. William (Bill) Seymour
President
Cleveland State Community College

Focus: CEO Learning Community



Andrea Sussman
Founding Partner
Next Chapter Communications

Focus: Communications & Messaging

Rural Pathways Curriculum

◆ Institute #1 (June 2022)

Creating an infrastructure of opportunity

◆ Institute #2 (Oct 2022)

Reconsidering and redesigning the institutional program mix

◆ Institute #3 (Feb 2023)

Connection to college and to programs: The role of the institution and community stakeholders

◆ Institute #4 (June 2023)

Integrating student financial stability structures

◆ Institute #5 (Oct 2023)

Teaching and learning: Applied, experiential and cross-disciplinary

◆ Institute #6 (Apr 2024)

Building continuous improvement and sustainability structures



Community Partner Roles



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Community Partner Roles

- **On-going engagement as part of the project team**
- **Working alongside college leadership and other team members to reimagine cross-sector partnerships in your region**
 - **Focus on expanding economic opportunity and increasing economic mobility in region**
- **Participation in some in-person institutes**
- **Participation during annual in-person project coaching visits**
- **Participation in meetings with college leadership around in-person events for planning/follow-up/next steps**

QUESTIONS?

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Chris Baldwin, Senior Fellow
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