Understanding a Community College Student's Road to Success

BIG IDEAS

- The graphic represents a student's journey, from pre-enrollment through onboarding, engagement, and transition to careers.
- This journey is aligned with the Guided Pathways pillars including a new pillar for student transitions.
- All regional SWP investments are focused on student engagement and completion.
- Representation from all ten regional colleges guide the implementation of key sections of the roadway.

PRE-ENROLLMENT

- Entering students come from a wide variety of settings: High Schools, Adult Education, the regional WIOA-funded workforce development system, or self-referral.
- Early engagement includes services that help prospective students understand educational options, pathways, and available services, and provides information needed to facilitate enrollment.

ONBOARDING

- Onboarding practices set students on their paths to successfully launch their college experience. They include:
 - Comprehensive Intake. Colleges identify interests, goals, and needs of students to facilitate referrals to pathways and programs and help ensure students engage with the college and its culture.
 - Differentiated Orientation. Colleges offer information about pathways, programs, and services in a way that is appropriate to each student—both online or in-person.
 - Career Planning Before Education Planning. Students explore their interests and career options <u>before</u> developing an education plan, so that their long-term goals or aspirations can inform their plans.

STUDENT RETENTION, SUCCESS, and SUPPORT

- Three interrelated components ensure students are engaged, stay on their path, and, ultimately, succeed:
 - Pathway Participation. Students engage in rich integrated pathway courses that teach technical skills, academic knowledge and skills, and 21st Century skills and core competencies.
 - Applied Learning and Work-Based Learning. Applied learning facilitates understanding by engaging students' interests and connecting theoretical concepts to practical situations. Work-based Learning is a continuum of experiences that support career awareness, exploration, and preparation, through engagement with employers and real work opportunities.
 - *Employment Readiness*. Curriculum that encompasses all the skills that students need to succeed in their careers.
- Undergirding these three components is a system of student supports that includes advising, financial planning, tutoring, and other forms of support.

TRANSITION

- Transfer Services prepare students for transferring to a four-year college or university, including application preparation, college tours, transcript services, and related services.
- Job Placement Services prepare students for work focusing on the tools and logistics needed to find and retain immediate employment, such as connections to employment opportunities, coaching, and mock interviews.

EDUCATION AND CAREER NAVIGATION

• Education and Career Navigation is the process of making one's way through further education such as a four-year institution, upskilling opportunities, and/or a workplace and successive workplaces over time.