



GUIDED PATHWAYS ESSENTIAL PRACTICES: SCALE OF ADOPTION SELF-ASSESSMENT CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES' ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTING OF GUIDED PATHWAYS

Revised October 25, 2019

Institution Name:	Ventura College	Date:	10/25/2019
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This tool is designed to help your college assess how far along you are toward adopting essential guided pathways practices at scale. The first part of the Scale of Adoption Assessment (SOAA) includes essential practices examined in CCRC's book, *Redesigning America's Community Colleges: A Clearer Path to Student Success* by Thomas Bailey, Shanna Smith Jaggars, and Davis Jenkins (Harvard University Press, 2015). We suggest that you convene faculty, staff, and administrators from across areas of your college to discuss the extent to which each essential practice listed in the first column is currently implemented at your college as of spring 2019. In <u>column two</u>, indicate the extent to which the practices have been adopted at your college using the following scale:

Scale of Adoption	Definition	
Not occurring	College is currently not following, or planning to follow, this practice	
Not systematic	Practice is incomplete, inconsistent, informal, and/or optional	
Planning to scale	College is has made plans to implement the practice at scale and has started to put these plans into place	
Scaling in progress	Implementation of the practice is in progress for all students	
At scale	Practice is implemented at scale—that is, for all students in all programs of study	

In <u>column three</u>, describe the progress your college has made toward implementing each practice at scale. For practices that are *scaling* or *at scale*, note that we are also asking you to indicate which semester a practice first reached this point. Finally, in <u>column four</u>, indicate the next steps your college plans to take toward implementing the given practice at scale and the college's timeline for implementing these steps. *Don't be concerned if your college has made minimal progress implementing any given practice.* This assessment will help your college develop and refine a plan for implementing guided pathways at scale at your college. Project partners and the Chancellor's Office will also use this information to follow the system's progress in implementing guided pathways over time.

A new addition to the SOAA in fall 2018: Equity Considerations

A fundamental goal of guided pathways is to increase the rate at which underrepresented students earn college credentials, particularly degrees and credentials in fields of high economic value, while also closing gaps for low-income students, students of color, returning adults, students with disabilities, and other groups with inequitable outcomes. As colleges seek to strengthen supports for all students to explore options for careers and college and choose and complete a program of study suited to their interests and aspirations, we encourage colleges to critically examine each practice to think about how the college is serving students who have been historically underrepresented and/or underserved in higher education. The SOAA was recently updated to include "Equity Considerations" in each practice area so that your pathways team can discuss and articulate connections between the college's pathways reforms and equity goals. Your team does not need to answer all of these questions as part of the SOAA process and they are not intended to be used as "assessments." Also, don't be concerned if your college has had minimal discussion and/or efforts related to any given question. We hope the questions help initiate or advance conversations about whether and how institutional practices are having differential impact on historically underserved groups and how your college can leverage your pathways work to close equity gaps by identifying and addressing causes of inequity, removing systemic barriers, and focusing design decisions and resource allocation in ways that more effectively address needs of underserved groups. In doing so, you may want to include details about how the college is addressing these concerns in the "progress to date" and/or "next steps/timeline" column.

As your team completes the SOAA, please refer to the equity consideration questions to facilitate conversations about connections between the college's pathways and equity efforts. Please submit the initial SOAA via email to the Chancellor's Office by April 30, 2019. A certified version within the NOVA system should be submitted by September 30, 2019. For the initial submission or more information about the SOAA, please email guidedpathwaysinfo@cccco.edu.

NOTE: For those 20 colleges who participate in the California Guided Pathways Demonstration Project, this SOAA has been updated (a few additions and changes in order) since the version you completed in September. So please use this current version for submission.

Progress to Date Implementing Practice Scale of Adoption Next Steps Toward Implementing (If Scaling in Progress or At Scale, please indicate **Guided Pathways Essential Practices** at Our College **Practice at Scale & Timeline** which term (e.g., fall 2015) the college first reached this point) We are interested in how colleges connect equity efforts to their pathways work, planning, and discussions. The guiding questions in each of the four areas can help colleges consider how equity intersects with specific pathways practices. As themes, ideas, or areas for future work emerge during your discussion, please note the ways in which equity issues connect with guided pathways implementation in "Progress to Date" and "Next Steps". **Equity Considerations in Area 1:** Are the college's website and program pages easy to navigate and understand for students and families without prior experience with higher education? • How could the college ensure that access to and use of this information is equitable for students who have been historically underrepresented and/or underserved in higher education (e.g., racial/ethnic minority students, lower-income students, first-generation students, students with disabilities, indigenous students, formerly incarcerated students, veterans, undocumented students, etc.)? How are financial costs, potential debt, and economic benefits of program completion (including paths to program-relevant regional employment, projected earnings, and transfer outcomes) made clear for prospective students? Do program websites clarify differences in earnings potential between related certificates and degrees and across levels of educational attainment? 1. MAPPING PATHWAYS TO STUDENT END Progress to date: *Next steps:* **GOALS** • VC has identified eight (8) discipline ☐ Not occurring • Obtain approval from constituency clusters that are still in the process of groups on cluster composition ☐ Not systematic a. Programs are organized and marketed Name clusters being vetted by the campus. in broad career-focused academic and ⊠ Planning to scale communities or "meta-majors". (Note: ☐ Scaling in progress *Timeline for implementing next steps:* Term, if *at scale* or *scaling*. This practice was added to the SOAA in • To be completed by Fall 2020 *February 2019)* \square At scale b. Every program is well designed to □ Not occurring Progress to date: *Next steps:* guide and prepare students to enter • Career education programs have • Align students to pathways from ☐ Not systematic employment and further education in worked with high schools on middle school through high □ Planning to scale fields of importance to the college's school, community college and articulation. service area. ☐ Scaling in progress on to transfer institutions Dual enrollment at high schools conversations have begun to link and/or careers. ☐ At scale career education pathways. *Timeline for implementing next steps:* • Career Education Programs are • To be completed by Fall 2022 aligned with industry needs. Term, if *at scale* or *scaling*.

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C.	Detailed information is provided on the college's website on the employment and further education opportunities targeted by each program.	 □ Not occurring □ Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale 	 Progress to date: Some programs currently provide career information on department website, and other marketing materials Previously, gainful employment was reported for our career education programs as required Term, if at scale or scaling. 	 Next steps: Redesigning Districtwide and college web pages. Include cluster and specific career information on web as college is working to redesign site. Timeline for implementing next steps: To be completed by Fall 2020
d.	Programs are clearly mapped out for students. Students know which courses they should take and in what sequence. Courses critical for success in each program and other key progress milestones are clearly identified. All this information is easily accessible on the college's website.	 □ Not occurring □ Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale 	Progress to date: GPW Stewards are working with faculty to apply VC course sequences to the Program Map Templates Term, if at scale or scaling:	 Next steps: To have all departments map course sequences onto Program Map Templates. Exploring technology to incorporate program maps on our webpages. Timeline for implementing next steps: To be completed by Spring 2020
e.	Required math courses are appropriately aligned with the student's field of study (<i>Note: This essential practice was moved from Area 2</i>)	 □ Not occurring □ Not systematic □ Planning to scale ☑ Scaling in progress □ At scale 	Progress to date: • Math class pathways outlined for students for the following fields of study: • Arts & Humanities • Social and Health Sciences • Teaching/Liberal Studies • Bus/STEM Term, if at scale or scaling:	 Next steps: Rolling it out to students Marketing pathways Create online self-guided placement Evaluate and collect student success data Timeline for implementing next steps: Initial implementation Fall 2019 with online guided placement and evaluation to begin spring 2020

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 Equity Considerations in Area 2: Does the college assess whether historically underrepresented and high needs students are disproportionately enrolled in programs that lead to lower remuneration careers? Has the college considered how it can help underrepresented students raise their educational and career expectations while at the same time meeting their more immediate economic needs? For critical program courses, does the college disaggregate enrollment, pass rate, and subsequent success data by student characteristics? What strategies has the college used to improve overall student success in these courses? Does the college proactively partner with feeder high schools that serve predominantly underrepresented and high needs students to help students explore academ and career interests and develop viable plans for college? Are dual enrollment opportunities made available to high school students who are deemed "not yet college ready"? Is the college building bridges to high-opportunity college programs for students in adult basic skills programs? 2. HELPING STUDENTS CHOOSE AND Not occurring Progress to date: Next steps: 				
a. Every new student is helped to explore career/college options, choose a program of study, and develop a full-program plan as soon as possible.	 □ Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale 	 The Counseling department has made enhancements to their Group Counseling Sessions for new students. The sessions are now themed and will correlate with our Guided Pathway clusters once adopted. Ventura College has increased opportunities for student to explore career and major interests through venues such as formal career assessments, increased career and student success courses, and the First Year Experience (FYE) program. FYE includes a Parent Orientation component to help parents understand how to support their students transition to college. Several of the VC Counselors and student services classified professionals were certified in the Meyers-Briggs Type Indicator. 	 Pilot all new students taking COUN class with career assessment/ exploration and study skills best practices. Pilot triage services to support students identified through Starfish Early Alert mechanisms (and perhaps Pirates Cove). Develop new systems in Banner regarding access/retrieval of student HS GPA/placement data. Student Information System: Use Star Fish as a stop gap as we develop new systems in Banner to provide Counselors streamlined access to student info (HS GPA/placement status, etc.). Timeline for implementing next steps: To be completed Fall 2019 	
		Term, if <i>at scale</i> or <i>scaling</i> .		

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b. Special supports are provided to help academically underprepared students to succeed in the "gateway" courses for the college's major program areas.	□ Not occurring Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale	 English and Math faculty have made significant strides to comply with AB705 and streamline pathways for student success into transfer level courses Priority registration available for FYE students who fulfill key components in their first year Tutoring exists to support transfer-level math and English courses Students encouraged to take math and English in their first year, laying strong foundation for success in Gateway GE courses Student Success course offerings increased (COUN V01, V02, V03, V04, and EAC V01) as part of pilot for priority registration plus for those students recommended to take as support for English 1A Math "J" courses for just in time support Term, if at scale or scaling: 	 Next steps: Communication and clarification of clear English, ESL, and Math Flowcharts Align ESL courses to support student transition to transfer-level English Identify current GE Gateway courses (IR) Ensure that sufficient tutoring is available to support students in Gateway courses Timeline for implementing next steps: To be completed Fall 2020

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C.	Special supports are provided to help academically underprepared students to succeed in the program-relevant "gateway" math courses by the end of their first year. (Note: This practice was added to the SOAA in February 2019)	□ Not occurring □ Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale	 Progress to date: Same as b in this section Students with lower HS GPAs encouraged to take fully F2F English classes, support courses (study skills or counseling for English and "J" classes for math) Term, if at scale or scaling. 	 Next steps: Same as b in this section Create guidance sheet for Counselors regarding support options for English and math Timeline for implementing next steps: To be completed Fall 2020 (some to be completed by Fall 2019)
d.	Special supports are provided to help academically underprepared students to succeed in the "gateway" English courses by the end of their first year. (Note: This practice was added to the SOAA in February 2019)	□ Not occurring □ Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale	Progress to date: • Same as b in this section Term, if at scale or scaling:	Next steps: • Same as b in this section Timeline for implementing next steps: To be completed Fall 2020
e.	Intensive support is provided to help very poorly prepared students to succeed in college-level courses as soon as possible.	□ Not occurring Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale	Progress to date: • Same as a and b in this section Term, if at scale or scaling.	 Next steps: Same as b in this section Timeline for implementing next steps: To be completed Fall 2020

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f. The college works with high schools and other feeders to motivate and prepare students to enter college-level coursework in a program of study when they enroll in college.	□ Not occurring □ Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale	 Career education programs continue to work with high schools on course articulation to provide students with college credits prior to matriculation. Outreach has expanded dual enrollment efforts to link career education pathways for pre-college aged students. Guided placement for transferable math courses incorporates student career and program plans. Term, if at scale or scaling: 	 Next steps: Align students to pathways from middle school through high school, community college and on to transfer institutions and/or careers. Timeline for implementing next steps: To be completed by Fall 2022

 success in their programs? How does the college ensure that underrependent does the college integrate academic a 	oresented students are not d nd student support services me students' financial stabili	Progress to Date Implementing Practice (If Scaling in Progress or At Scale, please indicate which term (e.g., fall 2015) the college first reached this point) pactive, and culturally relevant advising practices isproportionately directed away from competitive into pathways so that the support is unavoidable ity needs (e.g., nutrition, transportation, childcare)	e, limited access programs? and therefore less stigmatized?
3. KEEPING STUDENTS ON PATH a. Advisors monitor which program every student is in and how far along the student is toward completing the program requirements.	 □ Not occurring □ Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale 	Progress to date: • Each academic counselor has been assigned to be a liaison to 2 groups of majors (currently called themes) with the purposes of serving as a point of contact for departmental faculty. Term, if at scale or scaling.	 Next steps: Explore assigning students by major to counselors or group of counselors to ensure consistency of information and a direct connection to counseling for each student. Work with discipline faculty in specific first semester major classes to develop an intentional counseling visit to the class with follow up comprehensive education plan development.
b. Students can easily see how far they have come and what they need to do to complete their program.	□ Not occurring □ Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale	 Progress to date: Degree audit system is in place (DegreeWorks) District and campus staff have been identified to provide maintenance and updates of program. Intentional progress checks with specific career education majors. Term, if at scale or scaling. 	 Timeline for implementing next steps: To be completed by Fall 2022 Next steps: Marketing of DegreeWorks to increase awareness to all students. Also, need to ensure accuracy of information for degree audits. Need to increase courses from other campuses to appear in major. Explore incorporating C-ID course into degree audit feature. Include recommendation to incorporate into course syllabi Timeline for implementing next steps: To be completed by Fall 2022

C.	Advisors and students are alerted when students are at risk of falling off their program plans and have policies and supports in place to intervene in ways that help students get back on track.	 □ Not occurring □ Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale 	Progress to date: District wide meetings currently taking place to develop and implement Starfish Early Alert. Current plan is to pilot in Fall 2019 and fully implement in Spring 2020. Term, if at scale or scaling.	 Next steps: Implement Starfish Early Alert for students. Promote Starfish Early Alert to instructional faculty to increase usage. Increase awareness of campus resources to all students such as Basic Needs (Food Pantry/CalFRESH/Housing), CalWORKs, Financial Aid, EOPS, EAC, Foundation (scholarships).
				 Timeline for implementing next steps: Starfish Early Alert to be completed by Spring 2020 Increase of campus awareness of support services is ongoing.
d.	Assistance is provided to students who are unlikely to be accepted into limited-access programs, such as nursing or culinary arts, to redirect them to another more viable path to credentials and a career	□ Not occurring □ Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale	 Progress to date: Career Development Center is in process of increasing services and outreach to students to assist students with career exploration and development. Term, if at scale or scaling:	Next steps: Career development center is exploring additional resources for career and major exploration such as College Road Trip, increasing career related workshops for students (exploring major talks/resume/interviewing etc.) Timeline for implementing next steps: To be completed by Spring 2020

e. The college schedules courses to Progress to date: □ Not occurring Next steps: ensure students can take the courses Intentional and informed scheduling Departments examine design of they need when they need them, can course offerings for 2-year rolling Some departments have developed 2-☐ Planning to scale plan their lives around school from one year course cycle. plan. term to the next, and can complete \square Scaling in progress Explore formation of task force to their programs in as short a time as address issues surrounding part- \square At scale possible. Term, if at scale or scaling. time/evening students to increase successful completion of student goals. Increase on campus in reach to financial aid students to inform them of amount of Pell eligibility (for example, exploration of a systematic process to notify students once they have utilized a designated percentage of Pell grant.) *Timeline for implementing next steps:*

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 As faculty make curricular changes to bett pedagogical changes that better support leto. What opportunities exist for faculty or advertically examining the role of unconscious. Is the college disaggregating program lear gender to examine equity gaps? How is this. ENSURING THAT STUDENTS ARE. 	er align course assignments earning outcomes success for visors to critically examine that is bias in the classroom or ac ming outcomes data, program	e in program-relevant active and experiential lear with program learning outcomes, how does the concurrence underrepresented students (e.g., culturally responsive role in advancing equity-minded teaching and livising that could affect student aspirations for a part retention and completion data, and other assess caussed among college staff, with students, and with the progress to date:	ollege support faculty to implement onsive teaching)? advising practices at the college (e.g., particular field and/or program selection)? ment measures by race, income, age, and h the outside community? Next steps:
a. Program learning outcomes are aligned with the requirements for success in the further education and employment outcomes targeted by each program.	□ Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress ☑ At scale	 Career education programs align outcomes with industry and employment outcomes. Career education programs offer industry related internships in partnership with Career Center. General education programs align outcomes with career soft skills: Communication Scientific and quantitative reasoning Critical thinking Information literacy Personal/community awareness and academic/career responsibilities Term, if at scale or scaling. Spring 2017 	 Align new programs with learning outcomes for success in education and employment. Expand experiential learning and/or internship opportunities to benefit more general education programs. Explore methods to more effectively communicate internship and experiential learning opportunities to students Obtain and analyze data that illustrates current utilization and employ this to increase opportunities for underrepresented students to participate in program-relevant active and experiential learning opportunities, including internships. Timeline for implementing next steps: Ongoing

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b.	Instruction across programs (especially in program introductory courses) engages students in active and applied learning, encouraging them to think critically, solve meaningful problems, and work and communicate effectively with others. (Note: This practice was added to the SOAA in February 2019)	 □ Not occurring □ Not systematic ☑ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale 	Progress to date: General education programs align outcomes with career soft skills and are accomplished by engaging students in active and applied learning: Communication Scientific and quantitative reasoning Critical thinking Information literacy Personal/community awareness and academic/career responsibilities All courses are mapped to one or more GE/ISLO for ongoing assessment.	 Expand opportunities for instructional and counseling faculty to critically examine their role in advancing equityminded teaching and advising practices at the college
			Term, if <i>at scale</i> or <i>scaling</i> .	
c.	Students have ample opportunity to apply and deepen knowledge and skills through projects, internships, co-ops, clinical placements, group projects outside of class, service learning, study abroad and other experiential learning activities that program faculty intentionally embed into coursework.	□ Not occurring □ Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale	 Progress to date: Career Development Center services have been expanded and moved into a new and more prominent space in the Student Services Center. Internship opportunities have been expanded in career education programs. For Career Education, this is incorporated into the ISLOs/GE 	 Next steps: Expand internship opportunities Expand use of career exploration software Further empower faculty to implement pedagogical changes that better support learning outcomes success for underrepresented students. Timeline for implementing next steps: Ongoing

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		outcomes, and all courses link to one or more of them, with ongoing assessments. Term, if <i>at scale</i> or <i>scaling</i> :	
d. Faculty/programs assess whether students are mastering learning outcomes and building skills across each program, in both arts and sciences and career/technical programs.	□ Not occurring □ Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress ☑ At scale	 Progress to date: VC has a comprehensive process for the assessment of SLOs at course, program, and institutional level. Evaluation of student outcome successes occurs systematically. CTE Outcome Survey takes place annually Term, if at scale or scaling. Fall 2016 	 Next steps: Identify capstone courses within programs and analyze assessment results of student learning outcomes for these courses. Include additional measures to assess student performance at a disaggregated level Timeline for implementing next steps: Ongoing
e. Results of learning outcomes assessments are used to improve teaching and learning through program review, professional development, and other intentional campus efforts.	□ Not occurring □ Not systematic □ Planning to scale ☑ Scaling in progress □ At scale	 Progress to date: VC has a comprehensive process for the assessment of SLOs at course, program, and institutional level-the results of which are embedded in the program review process. Scaling of professional development and other intentional campus efforts varies across programs. Term, if at scale or scaling: Fall 2016 	Develop and institutionalize systematic processes for programs to receive guidance and training on how to utilize and interpret data to identify needs for further professional learning Provide professional learning as identified
			Timeline for implementing next steps: • Ongoing Ongoing

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f.	The college helps students document their learning for employers and universities through portfolios and other means beyond transcripts.	□ Not occurring □ Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale	 Progress to date: VC utilizes portfolios and digital badges to convey student learning in select programs. Career Center offers social media portfolio advising. 	 Next steps: Develop learning opportunities for faculty to incorporate portfolio and project based assignments. Create plans to acquire software or use free software that prepare students for the workplace.
			Term, if <i>at scale</i> or <i>scaling</i> .	Timeline for implementing next steps: • Ongoing
g.	The college assesses effectiveness of educational practice (e.g. using CCSSE or SENSE, etc.) and uses the results to create targeted professional development.	 □ Not occurring ☑ Not systematic □ Planning to scale □ Scaling in progress □ At scale 	 Progress to date: VC assesses educational effectives through multiple means including CCSSEE. Term, if at scale or scaling. 	 Next steps: Professional development committee to review results of assessment data to inform professional development activities for faculty.
				Timeline for implementing next steps:To be completed by 2020