TO: Student Services Commission and Councils

FROM: Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, Student Services

# RE: 2023 Fall Student Services State Board Report

## **Update from the Director**

Leaves will soon start turning, the smell of pumpkin spice will fill the air, but the best part of fall is undoubtedly the return of students to campus. As we step into 2023-24, the SBCTC is committed to working collaboratively with you to create a transformative educational experience for our students. The department of Student Services is poised to embrace a heightened focus on several key areas that are essential to our shared goals of equity, increasing student success, and fostering innovation. We are increasing investments to address student fundamental needs (food, housing, healthcare access, financial stability, wellness and mental health) recognizing that a strong foundation is imperative for our students to thrive academically and personally. Through continued advocacy, resource securement and management, training, and integration, we will focus on providing staff and college leaders with the tools they need to holistically support our diverse student body.

To ensure the realization of our vision, we are actively working with representatives in the legislature, campus leaders, councils, pilot groups, and external organizations to explore and secure needed resources and identify funding opportunities. One example includes that SBCTC was recently awarded a City University of New York (CUNY) Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP) planning grant to investigate high impact practices to complement Guided Pathways in Washington. The ASAP planning grant will empower the SBCTC, WA Student Achievement Council (WSAC), Peninsula, Clover Park, and Spokane Colleges to explore and evaluate this initiative that not only aligns with our mission of closing equity gaps, but to potentially secure further funding to foster an environment where every student has an equal opportunity to succeed.

Furthermore, we are enthusiastic about forging partnerships. Collaborations with the legislature, WSAC, Council of Presidents (COP), Microsoft, Complete College America, SHEEO, Basic Needs Coalition, College Spark and other state and national organizations will position us at the forefront of innovation and best practices. By sharing insights, knowledge, and expertise, we can collectively elevate Washington's educational landscape. We are energized by the possibilities that lie ahead and inspired by the dedication each of you bring to our shared mission. Together, we have the capacity to create an educational environment that meets the needs of our students and propels them towards success. We look forward to the collaborative efforts that will define this academic year and thank you for your unwavering commitment to our students, campuses, and the future.

**Meet the new Executive Director of Student Services**

## Headshot of Joyce Hammer with light brown hair and eyes and a beautiful smile.   Joyce Hammer, Executive Director of Student ServicesJoyce Hammer, Ph.D. has over 28 years’ experience in the community and technical college system, currently serving as the Deputy Executive Director for the Education Division at the WA State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC). Previously, she served as the Vice President of Instruction at Centralia College and as the director of transfer education at SBCTC, developing policy with higher education sector partners. Joyce began her higher education career at Green River College as mathematics faculty and instructional dean. Joyce earned B.A. and M.Ed. degrees at the University of Washington and a Ph.D. in Adult Higher Education at Oregon State University.

## **SBCTC 2023 Legislative Intern Application Update**

The Student Services Legislative Internship will return for the 2024 legislative session. Student Services has restructured the internship to span across all terms. Two intern positions will be in-person based out of the Olympia office with the availability to do hybrid and remote work as necessary for academic coursework. The expansion of the internship timeframe allows for students to see the entire legislative process from preparation, to execution, and finally to implementation. Positions will be posted in late September and will look to be filled by early November.

### **Integrations Efforts and Updates** This summer the Student Services team worked to increase integration of programs and communication within the department and across the Education Division. Our efforts are aimed at prioritizing student fundamental needs, identifying and implementing high impact practices, securing additional resources for our colleges, and achieving goals outlined in the revised SBCTC strategic plan.

Specifically, we reorganized reporting lines and broadened areas of knowledge and shared responsibility to expand how Student Services engages in legislative advocacy, policy interpretation/application, and programmatic support for our colleges.

Additionally, we are engaged in collaboration between Student Services and the Student Success Center related to holistic student supports within Guided Pathways. Team members have been planning with the Student Success Center to facilitate upcoming Guided Pathways convenings centered on student support and services.

Emergency Contraceptive Proviso

In support and collaboration with WSAC, the SBCTC has shared the following Contraceptive Vending Machine Grant information across the system.

***Emergency Contraceptive:*** *WSAC received $200,000 in funding for institutions of higher education to purchase emergency contraceptive vending machines to dispense contraception at cost to students. The funding will be distributed on a first come first serve basis after WSAC releases details to public institutions of higher education, with $10k funding per institution to be administered through WSAC.*

Grant guidance and details are posted on [WSAC Student Supports webpage](https://wsac.wa.gov/student-supports). One key update is the online application link, which will be available at the above weblink starting on **October 30th at 12 pm**. This change is aimed at providing institutions with time to prepare their applications, given that this grant operates on a *first-come, first-served basis* for application submission.

Currently, the guidance states that each institution can receive one grant. However, if by January 15, 2024, WSAC has not exhausted all the funds, they will consider opening the grant to other campuses. WSAC’s goal is to ensure that all funds are awarded by the end of March.

The primary point of contact from WSAC for this grant is Ami Magisos, Associate Director of Policy and Planning, amim@wsac.wa.gov.

Emergency Assistance and Financial Aid
WSAC released an announcement to college [Financial Aid Administrators](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cnangel%5CDownloads%5CEmergency%20Assistance%20and%20Financial%20Aid.pdf) on Sept. 14th related to emergency aid, cost of attendance, and unmet need based on recent [federal guidance](https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/dear-colleague-letters/2023-08-04/fafsa-simplification-act-changes-implementation-2024-25) regarding the treatment and impact of emergency aid in the “Awarding Aid Using the Student Aid Index / Other Financial Assistance” Section. In specific, WSAC noted that the clarification further dates that emergency financial assistance (for example Passport Student Support Funds or SSEH) provided to the student for unexpected expenses that are a component of the student’s cost of attendance, are now also excluded when calculating need.

We understand this is both exciting and challenging in terms of transitioning from Expected Family Contribution (EFC) to Student Aid Index (SAI). The Student Services team is working to review, interpret, and understand potential impacts to financial aid, pilots, and programs that offer monetary supports that are emergent in nature.

**Student Support Programs Updates**

### Poverty Reduction Workgroup (PRWG) and Legislative Executive WorkFirst Poverty Reduction Oversite (LEWPRO) Taskforce

Over the summer Poverty Reduction groups tasked with working on the Governor’s 10 year plan, the [Blueprint for a Just & Equitable Future](https://dismantlepovertyinwa.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Final10yearPlan.pdf), have been reflecting on recent legislative wins that have a positive impact on poverty reduction efforts and identifying areas of priority for the next biennium. Emerging priorities include the following:

* Direct Cash (Basic Income)
* Bridge between Human Services, education, and job training
* Participatory Decision Making
* Incentives for businesses to pay family-sustaining wages
* Wealth building opportunities
* Diversion and Treatment System for people affected by fentanyl and opioid crisis

To learn more about the Poverty Reduction Workgroup (PRWG) visit [Dismantle Poverty In WA website](https://dismantlepovertyinwa.com/about-the-work-group/).

Farm Bill Reauthorization and SNAP E&T Advocacy
The SBCTC, Bates Technical College BFET staff, in partnership with Northwest Harvest, were recently invited to meet with [Representative Derek Kilmer](https://kilmer.house.gov/) of the 6th district in WA State to discuss our SNAP E&T program and advocate for support to enhance SNAP E&T in the upcoming Farm Bill reauthorization. Some of the topics included, SNAP access, work requirements, stronger investments in basic needs programs/supports, and current federal bills that would prompt racial and economic stability for SNAP clients. A special thanks to President Dr. Zhou for hosting a wonderful discussion at Bates downtown campus***.***Childcare Access for Postsecondary Success Project
The SBCTC’s Executive Director, Paul Francis, on behalf of the agency, has signed on to a letter of support in coordination with the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) for a [Westat](https://www.westat.com/about-westat/#:~:text=Dedicated%20to%20improving%20lives%20through,assistance%2C%20evaluation%2C%20and%20communications.) proposed research project to confirm our willingness, availability, and commitment to support examining childcare services and academic outcomes of students with low family incomes. Dr. Summer Kenesson, SBCTC’s Director of Policy Research, and Jennifer Dellinger, Policy Associate, Student Services, will represent the SBCTC and join the Westat/WSAC teams’ advisory panel.

### Canvas Community

The Student Support Programs Canvas Community is your resource hub for important program information, updates, and reminders. For WorkFirst, BFET, SSEH and SEAG programs, information is communicated solely via this Canvas Community. We are working on creating modules within the Canvas Community for the Benefits Navigators and Free/Reduced-Priced Meal Pilot Program.

Take care to enable course notifications in your Canvas account to ensure you are getting the most up-to-date information for your programs! Utilize the Student Supports Canvas Community for:

* Grant/Program Announcements
* Funding Surveys
* Notifications from DSHS
* Program & Policy Information
* Recorded Trainings
* Helpful Forms and Links

If you have any questions or would like to be added to the Canvas Community, please email your SBCTC Program Administrator for the respective program.

### Basic Needs Act

In 2022, students at 39 colleges and five universities across Washington state participated in a survey about basic needs insecurities, including access to food, housing, childcare and more. The survey found that nearly half of all students in all regions of the state experienced some type of basic needs insecurity.

Addressing basic needs challenges for students contributes to their ability to remain enrolled and pursue their educational goals. Therefore, the legislature passed into law via [2SHB 1559](https://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2023-24/Pdf/Bills/House%20Passed%20Legislature/1559-S2.PL.pdf?q=20230510152407) the Basic Needs Act to continue to support students and help students meet their basic needs by increasing access to resources and support services through the following:

***Benefits Navigator and Hunger-Free and Basic Needs Strategic Campus Plan:***
Sponsored by Representative Debra Entenman, this legislation requires, by law, all community and technical colleges to implement a Benefits Navigator position at a minimum of .75 FTE not to be divided between two or more staff. The Benefits Navigator creates a single point of contact for students to access resources such as public benefits (working connections childcare, basic food enrollment), emergency assistance grants, housing supports, and Basic Food Employment and Training.

Additionally, the legislation requires colleges to develop a Hunger-Free & Basic Needs Strategic Campus Plan by April 2024. The intent of the strategic plan is to formulate a plan of action that has significant impacts on the lives of students. By addressing food insecurity, housing instability, and other basic needs, students are able to stay focused on their education and achieve their full potential. Strategic plans should have a comprehensive and holistic approach, including utilization of a variety of strategies to meet the unique needs of diverse student populations.

For more information visit the [SBCTC 2023-24 Benefits Navigator and Strategic Campus Plan Guidance webpage](https://www.sbctc.edu/colleges-staff/programs-services/student-services/basic-needs/benefits-navigator-strategic-campus-plan-guidance).

***Free/Reduced-Price Meal Pilot Program***
The Washington State Legislature also passed into law through the 2SHB 1559 (Basic Needs Act) the Free/Reduced-Price Meal Pilot Program. Sponsored by Representative Debra Entenman, this legislation includes a new three-year pilot to provide free and low-cost meal plans or food vouchers to eligible low-income students. Four community and technical colleges, one on each side of the Cascade mountains, have been selected to participate by the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC). Columbia Basin College, Everett Community College, Grays Harbor College, and Walla Walla Community College.

Additionally, the bill includes two public four-year institutions, one of each side of the Cascade mountains, to be selected to participate by the Council of Presidents.

Funding is appropriated to the SBCTC at $960,000 annually for FY24-FY26. Allowable expenses can include, but are not limited to:

* Free or reduced-price food vouchers, pre-paid meal cards, access to free or reduced-price food or similar
* Staffing for program design and implementation

For more information visit the [SBCTC Free/Reduced-Price Meal Pilot Program webpage](https://www.sbctc.edu/colleges-staff/programs-services/student-services/basic-needs/free-reduced-meals).

Student Emergency Assistance (SEAG) Program
The SEAG Legislative report is due December 1, 2023. Follow up meetings are scheduled with colleges to discuss and confirm FY23 SEAG coding and expenditures. Information gathered from these meetings is important to help describe to the legislature the SEAG spending trends across the system.

FY24 SEAG data reporting form webinar is scheduled in Fall 2023 to update SEAG colleges regarding college quarterly reporting data requirements.

In FY23, $4.7 million was allocated across the system and the system spent $4.6 million in SEAG funds on student emergent needs. The following graphic indicates how colleges reported SEAG category expenditures.

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Chart Illustration shows 9 bars on a pivot table chart depicting the types of supports requested and amount of requested supports funded.*

### Supporting Students Experiencing Homelessness (SSEH) Program

In spring 2023, all 27 SSEH pilot programs (representing 28 colleges) submitted FY24 grant applications through a revised streamlined application process, and all were approved to continue their programs. Staff representing each of the SSEH pilot programs met in topical work groups in July to discuss program approaches, identify ongoing challenges and opportunities, and develop recommendations. They presented highlights of their work to their peer colleges at the August 2nd Statewide SSEH Learning Community convening, and their work will inform the first SSEH legislative report due December 1, 2023. The August convening also included an engaging session with a lived experience panel, which included students from Tacoma Community College and UW-Tacoma. A survey to identify future topics of engagement, practice-sharing priorities, and preferred modes of interaction will be sent to members of the SSEH Learning Community in September.

Because the colleges worked diligently on ctcLink Student Group coding and use of program-specific Financial Aid Global Item Types, the quarterly reports were able to be reduced substantially in an effort to reduce administrative burden and duplication of effort. A webinar to support the release of the FY24 quarterly report was offered Sept. 14th.

On May 8th, 2023, Governor Inslee signed into law[ESSB 5702](https://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2023-24/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Laws/Senate/5702-S.SL.pdf?q=20230907135130) into law which made the four-year pilot program into a permanent program! While the bill also made SSEH a permanent program available to all six public baccalaureate colleges and universities, the final version failed to expand the program to include the state’s Tribal College. As codified in [RCW 28B.50.916](https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=28B.50.916), all community and technical colleges may implement a program to provide assistance to students experiencing homelessness and to students who were in the foster care system when they graduated high school. A joint report to the legislature including the prevalence of basic needs insecurity among enrolled students, strategies the colleges employ to provide student accommodations through their SSEH programs, and legislative recommendations is now required annually.

The six community and technical colleges who did not participate in the SSEH pilot will be encouraged to apply for an SSEH Planning Grant for FY24 to determine their program approach, develop and deepen partnership networks, and make infrastructure preparations with the goal of launching SSEH programs in FY25. The SSEH Planning Grant application materials have received approval, and the planning grant application will be released October 2, 2023.

### Basic Food Employment and Training (BFET)

The Basic Food Employment and Training Program applications for FFY24 are under review for the upcoming program year starting October 1st, 2023. Please make sure to address any feedback received promptly to ensure the SBCTC is able to approve your application.

**Important Deadlines:**

* Final Funding Survey Submissions Due 9/6/23
* Final Budget Revision for FFY23 Due 9/15/23
* End Date of FFY23 Program 9/30/23
* Beginning Date of FFY24 Program 10/1/23
* Final Billing for FFY23 Due 10/31/23

All CTC’s will participate in Fiscal and Program monitoring this year and we appreciate the cooperation of the Business Offices as this is a requirement of our contract. The schedule for monitoring is in development and will include some in-person monitoring visits. We anticipate the schedule being released closer to the end of September. Please make sure to respond to the selected schedule date for your college timely.

The Fall Funding Survey is scheduled to be released October 9 and is due November 3. This is tentative and requires the FFY24 contract to be in place.

### WorkFirst ProgramAdditional WorkFirst resources to support colleges have been added to the Student Supports Canvas Community’s WorkFirst module, including discussion boards to promote cross-system program collaboration.

Take Back Policy correspondence was sent to community and technical college presidents and chancellors in early September announcing continuing the delayed implementation of FY24 Take Back application due to the continuation of impacts from the pandemic. Student Support Programs staff will continue to work with colleges who would otherwise fall within the Take Back Policy application to mitigate further implications of the Funding Policies as well as help with budget spending, planning, and forecasting. FY25 will be the first year that Take Back will be applied.

WorkFirst colleges will participate in Fiscal and Program monitoring this year and we appreciate the cooperation of the Business Offices as this is a requirement of our contract. The schedule for monitoring is in development and will include some in-person monitoring visits. We anticipate the schedule being released closer to the end of September. Please make sure to respond to the selected schedule date for your college timely.

The Fall Funding Survey is scheduled to be released October 9 and is due November 3.

## **Opportunity Grant Health Care Allocations**

The Opportunity Grant Health funds of $4 million were distributed across the sector in the first allocation of the fiscal year. This is the second year of funding provided to the colleges through the Opportunity Grant specifically for the health-based programs to increase accessibility for students in these critical programs. The updated Program Guidelines has detailed overview of allocation amounts and program changes and can be found [online](https://www.sbctc.edu/colleges-staff/programs-services/opportunity-grant/).

## **Mental Health Counseling and Services Pilot Program**

The four pilot colleges (Grays Harbor College, Lake Washington Institute of Technology, North Seattle College, and Wenatchee Valley College) have successfully completed their first two years of the grant. Funding for this pilot will continue through July 1, 2025. A report to the legislature is due November 1, 2023 related to successes and lessons learned from the pilot. During the 2023 legislative session, the pilot colleges continued to advocate for additional resources to support student mental health needs at our colleges. While specific legislation did not advance this session, the pilot colleges shared their successes with the community and technical college system and are looking forward to continued advocacy efforts this legislative year. For more information, contact Christine McMullin.

## **Health Insurance Outreach Proviso**

Funding for a Health Insurance Outreach pilot that began FY 2023 continued in FY 2024. SBCTC received $80,000 to fund a small pilot program to help students, including those enrolled in state registered apprenticeship programs, connect with health coverage. Yakima Valley College and South Puget Sound Community College are the two pilot schools for our sector. Our CTC pilot schools continue to partner with the Washington Student Achievement Council, two public baccalaureate institutions, and the Washington Health Benefits Exchange to identify effective, creative ways to connect students with affordable health coverage. For more information, contact Christine McMullin.

## **State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO) Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP)**

We're thrilled to announce that the SBCTC and the WSAC have been chosen as one of five states to participate in the prestigious SHEEO ASAP planning grant. Over the next year, collaboration will involve three institutions: Clover Park Technical College, Peninsula College, and the Community Colleges of Spokane. Together, we'll engage in knowledge-sharing, receive vital technical assistance, and collectively explore the feasibility and exciting opportunities that lie ahead for Washington colleges. This planning grant presents a fantastic chance to enhance current Guided Pathway efforts and develop innovative strategies for student success. We look forward to the insights and advancements that will emerge from this endeavor.

## **HB 1835 Pilot**

Summer Retreat all five pilot campuses visited SBCTC to review the first year of the pilot and plan for the upcoming year. Columbia Basin College, Big Bend Community College, Walla Walla Community College, Peninsula College, and Olympic College brought their outreach teams together to discuss the successes and opportunities to strengthen engagement with the k-12 sector and other community-based partners. Teams were able to engage in team building and best practice exchanges as they prepare to start supporting the next class of financial aid applicants this fall.

The student services team is working to develop the first annual legislative report for the pilot.

**Financial Aid Application delay for 2024-25**

Federal Student Aid is preparing to launch the newly updated FAFSA for the 2024-25 academic year. The application has been delayed and will not open on October 1st; it is anticipated that the FAFSA will be available at the end of the calendar year. This is a federally regulated change to the application; the application has been updated to meet the requirement to simplify the application for students and their contributing family members. The application updates include additional identify verification, changes to the income and need criteria, as well as other process updates. Updates on the new application are still being released by Federal Student Aid and should be expected to continue throughout the fall.

WSAC has been providing [resources](https://padlet.com/christinaw12/12th-year-campaign-key-to-success-financial-aid-resources-cxbz1z64bch5jbsf) and training on the delayed application through the [12th Year Campaign](https://wsac.wa.gov/12th-year-campaign).

The WASFA will mirror all changes and will be launched at the same time as the FAFSA.

## **Students Of Color Conference (SOCC)**

The 2024 Students of Color Conference will be resuming in-person and will be hosted at the Green River College Campus April 18-20, 2024. This will be the first in-person conference since 2019, and Multicultural Student Services Council and Conference Planning Committee are excited to provide students with this wonderful experience this spring. The SOCC Conference Planning Committee is seeking support in planning the conference and encouraging interested volunteers. Please contact the Conference Co-Chairs Edwina Fui (efui@highline.edu) or Keith Moore (kmoore@tacomacc.edu) for committee details.

## **Dual Credit**

### Dual Credit Legislative UpdatesThe legislature passed two bills and one budget proviso to expand access and participation in Running Start and College in the High School (CiHS). These policy changes represent the most significant change to dual credit programs since 2015.

#### Running Start Changes[Substitute House Bill (SHB) 1316](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?Year=2023&BillNumber=1316) increased the combined monthly full-time equivalent (FTE) and annual average FTE (AAFTE) enrollment limit from 1.20 to 1.40 and directed OSPI to adopt rules to allow participation in Running Start during the summer term.

Eligibility includes non-graduating 11th and 12th grade students who have not reached the combined 1.40 annual FTE limit during the 2023-2024 academic year and future academic years thereafter.

 The number of credits available for funding is dependent on what the student took at their high school and college in fall, winter, and spring. However, the maximum amount a student can take during summer term is 10 college credits. Students must work closely with their high school counselor and/or district contact and college advisor to determine eligibility.

An “after-exit” Running Start proviso was also included in the state budget to permit eligible high school graduates to participate in summer quarter Running Start to complete their associate degree at their local community and technical college for summer 2023 and 2024. Funding is limited.

#### College in the High School Changes[Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 5048](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?billnumber=5048&year=2023) Eliminates College in the High School fees for all students in 9th grade through 12th grade that attend a public high school or charter school and are enrolled in a public institution of higher education.

#### *Resources*

<https://ospi.k12.wa.us/student-success/support-programs/dual-credit-programs>

 <https://ospi.k12.wa.us/sites/default/files/public/dualcredit/pubdocs/RS-FAQs-August-2023.pdf>

 <https://ospi.k12.wa.us/sites/default/files/public/dualcredit/pubdocs/CiHS-FAQs-August-2022.pdf>

**Upcoming Dual Credit Legislative Updates Webinar with OSPI, SBCTC, and Council of Presidents

September 28, 1:30-3:00 pm**A webinar co-hosted by OSPI, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC), and the Council of Presidents will be held on September 28 from 1:30-3:00 pm to go into greater detail on the legislative changes to dual credit. The link to participate is [here](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85656760481?pwd=NXdic1JPd1ZrcUhaY2k3ZG5la0xiUT09), registration is not required, and we will send an additional reminder as the date approaches. The webinar will be recorded and shared out.

Join Zoom Meeting<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85656760481?pwd=NXdic1JPd1ZrcUhaY2k3ZG5la0xiUT09>
Meeting ID: 856 5676 0481
Passcode: 805106

Past recordings of ctcLink and policy update trainings for Running Start

* [SF Work Session: Running Start Updates-20230830 1703-1](https://sbctc.webex.com/sbctc/ldr.php?RCID=d284b8dffca9375922413a9ff54e3d66) August 30 Session
* [SF Work Session: Running Start Updates-20230828 2002-1](https://sbctc.webex.com/sbctc/ldr.php?RCID=8fee7a2b5b37625af316834eae770491) August 28 Session

## **Fall Transfer Fairs 2023**

[The Washington Council for High School-College Relations (WCHSCR](https://www.wa-council.org/)) will be reviving the WCHSCR Fall transfer fairs (held October through November) each year on our community college campuses. These events are designed to inform students in the Washington community and technical college system of their transfer opportunities at Washington’s four-year colleges and universities. Below are the finalized host sites for fall 2023. We acknowledge that the list is not inclusive of all interested colleges. Due to the three year pause we are working diligently to update college interest and points of contact to ensure all interested colleges and four year institutions are able to participate in the future. We appreciate everyone’s patience and flexibility while we navigate this work post pandemic.

* Big Bend Community College 3-Oct
* Wenatchee Valley College 10-Oct
* Everett Community College 11-Oct
* Whatcom Community College 12-Oct
* Cascadia College 17-Oct
* Peninsula College 19-Oct
* Edmonds College 24-Oct
* Seattle Central College 25-Oct
* Highline College 26-Oct
* Green River College 31-Oct
* South Puget Sound Community College 1-Nov
* Centralia College 2-Nov
* Olympic College 7-Nov
* Grays Harbor College 8-Nov
* Lower Columbia College 9-Nov
* Spokane Community College 14-Nov

*\*All transfer fairs will be held from 10am-1pm*

Welcome Stephanie Rock
Stephanie joined the Dual Credit & Strategic Enrollment Initiative’s team on August 1, 2023. Stephanie worked in education for the past 18 years serving in many capacities all focusing on supporting underserved youth and implementing equitable systems in K-12 and postsecondary education. Stephanie's most recent position is serving as the Director of Dual Enrollment Programs at Tacoma Community College. Stephanie holds a Post-Master’s Educational Specialist Degree from Seattle University with a Program Administrator Certificate, a Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology from Adler University and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology from Michigan State University.

[Running Start Program Survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PFH67ZS)
Our team has put together a Running Start Program Survey for each college to complete. The purpose of the survey is to gather information from Running Start college staff on programming. SBCTC will use the information to enhance Running Start Program support and communication system wide. Please complete the survey by Friday, October 13, 5:00 pm

**Questions?**

Contact the Dual Credit & Strategic Enrollment Initiatives Team-

* Stephanie Rock, Program Administrator srock@sbctc.edu
* Jamie Traugott, Director jtraugott@sbctc.edu

**Promising Practices Exchange and Webinar Series 2023-24**

The Promising Practices Exchange provides an opportunity to share some of the best of “what’s working” within our system. We want to hear from our colleges as to their latest innovation and strategies to make a difference for students. Please visit the [Promising Practices Exchange](https://www.sbctc.edu/about/task-forces-work-groups/strategic-enrollment/promising-practices.aspx) to view past promising practices and to submit current practices for consideration. Upcoming webinar topics and dates for 2023-24 will be identified soon.

## **Guided Pathways Update**

# 2024-2026 Guided Pathways Work PlanThe Student Success Center will preview an updated biennial Guided Pathways Work Plan based off of the Scale of Adoption Survey with the addition of action-oriented planning questions during fall 2023. This survey will be sent to all commissions for feedback prior to implementation of the updated plan. Plans will be released in early Winter 2024 and due at the end of Spring 2024.

# Guided Pathways Advisory Council (GPAC)As of June 2023, the Guided Pathways Advisory Council is embedded in the WACTC structure, reporting to the Educational Services Committee. This strategic shift ensures that there is guidance, advice, and communication within and across WACTC in regard to critical work occurring in Guided Pathways at a system level.

The primary focus for GPAC this year will be on Guided Pathways practices and ctcLink/technology integration. In addition to receiving Guided Pathways updates, GPAC members will be able to provide guidance, advice, and/or feedback regarding our work in this area and beyond. Some planned activities for this work include:

* Collaboration required to develop business process guides for advising and retention that center Guided Pathways principles
* Business process mapping and analysis necessary for ctcLink improvements and student success software integration
* Increased contextualized professional development offerings that integrate ctcLink and student success software

**GPAC Dates:**

* Friday, October 20th from 9:00-10:30 am (ZOOM)
* Friday, March 15th from 9:00-10:30 am (ZOOM)
* Friday, May 10th from 9:00-10:30 am (ZOOM)

# Guided Pathways Peer and Professional Learning Calendar[The Guided Pathways Peer and Professional Learning Calendar](https://www.sbctc.edu/colleges-staff/programs-services/student-success-center/peer-professional-learning) has been updated for the 2023-2024 academic year. The purpose of this calendar is to provide a comprehensive listing of intentional and collaborative peer and professional learning opportunities. These events, a variety of workshops, institutes, communities of practice, and lunch and learn webinars, are intended to support system understanding of the guided pathways framework, application of essential practices to local contexts, experimentation with connections among practices, evaluation of the impact on equitable student success, and adaptation and iteration of practices.

While this calendar is built out for the remainder of the calendar year, the Student Success Center team is continuing to plan additional events that support Guided Pathways Implementation.

**Commission & Council Fall Calendar**

ACC – Nov. 3 Virtual

ARC - Oct. 18-20 at SBCTC

CUSP - Oct 18-20 at Walla Walla

DSSC - Nov. 1-2 Virtual

FAC - Oct. 17-18 at Bellingham Tech

MSSDC - Nov. 15-17 at Yakima

VMSC - Water Cooler meetings every Thursday at 11

WSSSC – Oct 12-13 at Walla Walla