Guided Pathways and ASAP Matrix

COMMUNITY AND
TECHNICAL COLLEGES
Washington State Board

In 2019, the Washington State Legislature passed the Workforce Education Investment Act, providing funding to all 34 community and technical colleges to implement Guided Pathways, a framework designed to create structured support for students from enrollment to completion. In 2023, Washington received a planning grant to explore the Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP)[1], which offers intensive support to full-time students to accelerate completion. While ASAP shares some similarities with Guided Pathways, Washington is not adopting ASAP as a statewide model. This document compares key elements of Guided Pathways and ASAP.

1: Map Paths to Student End Goals		2. Help Students Get on A Program Path	
Guided Pathways Elements:	***Associated ASAP Elements:***	***Guided Pathways Elements:***	***Associated ASAP Elements:***
• Programs organized by meta-major AND students' meta-major tracked • CTE programs mapped to related jobs/careers • Transfer programs mapped to related majors • Program-specific math sequences mapped	• Approved majors only, to ensure timely completion Note: ASAP replication does not have to be through approved majors only; replication sites have also chosen to focus on populations such as transfer students. If there are distinct populations we want to serve, we are not limited to specific majors, but there will be implications regarding pathways.	• Either mandatory orientation or mandatory first-year experience course AND either meta-major content or field-focused events • All students given career assessments and experience initial advising • Students advised to take program foundation course in term one • Students helped to develop an educational plan in term one AND can see plan online	• ASAP Application and Information Session • ASAP Institute provides a day-long orientation • ASAP Advisor provides individual and comprehensive intake • ASAP Advisor develops a customized education plan to target developmental supports • Financial Support (ongoing)
3. Keep Students on A Path to Completion		**4. Ensure Student Learning Across Programs**	
Guided Pathways Elements:	***Associated ASAP Elements:***	***Guided Pathways Elements:***	***Associated ASAP Elements:***
• Mandatory advising for returning students • Caseload advising AND advisors assigned by meta-major • Students helped to develop an educational plan in term 1 AND checkpoint advising or registration alerts • Classes scheduled based on students' plan	• ASAP advisors provide customized advisement • ASAP Career Development Services build students' career awareness and preparation • ASAP Peer Mentors navigate college life and access critical services. • Block schedules to accelerate completion • Financial support (ongoing)	• Students placed in corequisite math AND corequisite support aligned with math subject • Instructional improvement in program foundation courses other than math by meta-major	• Maximum two quarters of pre-college math • Required to complete precollege courses in year one

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[1] Partnership between the Washington State Board for Community and Technical colleges and the Washington Student Achievement Council