

Pathways

Credentialing Pathways

Putting observed practices to work

This activity walks you and your team through a collection of observed practices — good ideas from lean institutions that are making progress in narrowing attainment gaps and increasing student success. Let them serve as a source of inspiration for brainstorming.

Observed practice

Alleviate transfer credit equivalency challenges through improved alignment of curriculum with partner two- or four-year institutions and with established transfer advising practices or centers

To discuss

- What transfer credit equivalency challenges do students at our institution face?
 - How can we make transferring to our institution easier for students?
 - How can we better align curriculum to smooth the transfer of credits?
 - How can we work with K-12 schools and community colleges to improve the credit-transfer process?
 - How might transfer advising centers help more?
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Observed practice

Create “major maps” to clearly articulate the courses students need to meet graduation requirements for each major

To discuss

- How might our institution work with each student to set a roadmap to graduation (e.g. mandatory department advising)?
 - How can faculty members and advising staff work closely to create a major map that streamlines the student experience?
 - How can departments create clear “major maps” to graduation?
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Observed practice

Guide first-year students in navigating breadth of major options to start earning credits early toward graduation

To discuss

- How might our institution introduce first-year students to all the majors we offer?
 - What credit-bearing courses within each major introduce students to a field of study? Do first-year students know about and take these courses?
 - How might we encourage students to think broadly about a field or profession (e.g., health care rather than simply nursing)?
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