## Pathways

# Credentialing Pathways

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## 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 brainstorms.

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**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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