An Inclusive Policy Approach for Guided Pathways

INSTITUTIONS
Cross-cutting policies that create conditions for implementing, scaling, and sustaining what works for underserved populations. These policies shape institutional structures.

Initiating
- Political Leadership and Commitment
- Data Systems Capacity and Use

Sustaining
- Braided Funding
- Capacity Building and Continuous Improvement

STUDENT EXPERIENCE
Policies that directly address the distinctive needs of underserved populations across the student experience of guided pathways.

Connection
- Strong On-ramps

Entry
- Ongoing Intensive Student Supports

Progress
- Comprehensive Financial Aid

Completion
- Robust Career Pathways
Eight Recommendations for Improving Access and Success for Underserved Populations

#1 Political Leadership and Commitment
Make improving postsecondary outcomes for underrepresented populations a state priority.

#2 Data Systems Capacity and Use
Examine enrollment, retention, and completion data for immigrants, justice-involved individuals, opportunity youth, and other underserved populations to identify access and achievement gaps and set improvement targets.

#3 Strong On-Ramps
Encourage or require the development of stronger on-ramps into postsecondary education from the institutions, organizations, and systems that work with underserved populations.

#4 Ongoing Intensive Student Supports
Encourage or require ongoing, intensive supports, including transition counseling, career advising, academic advising, enrollment coaching, and financial assistance.

#5 Comprehensive Financial Aid
Make postsecondary education more affordable for underserved populations by ensuring access to financial aid, scholarships, grants, and work-study programs.

#6 Robust Career Pathways
Create robust career pathways with multiple exit and entry points as well as flexible learning options that help underserved populations balance work obligations and educational goals.

#7 Braided Funding
Promote and facilitate the use of braided funding to increase the resources available for underserved populations.

#8 Capacity Building and Continuous Improvement
Build the capacity of colleges and partner organizations to test and scale innovations for improving underserved populations.

Read the full report: [www.jff.org/publications/framing-the-opportunity](http://www.jff.org/publications/framing-the-opportunity)