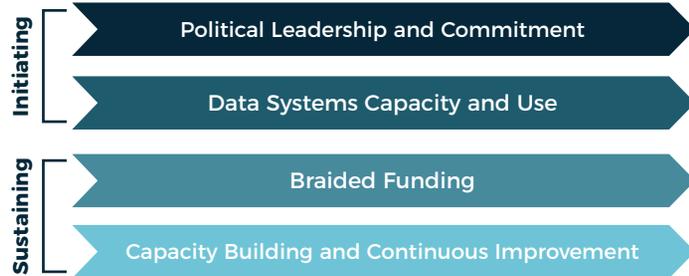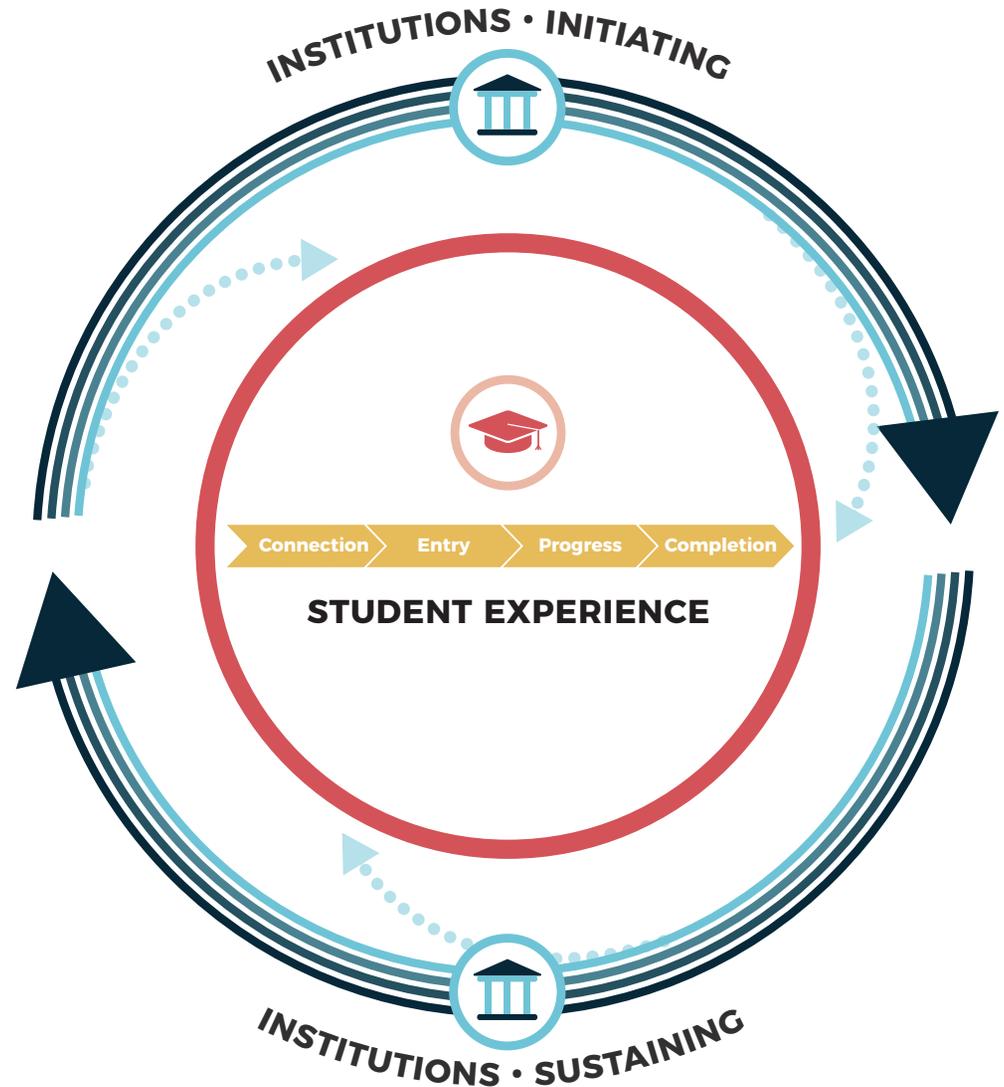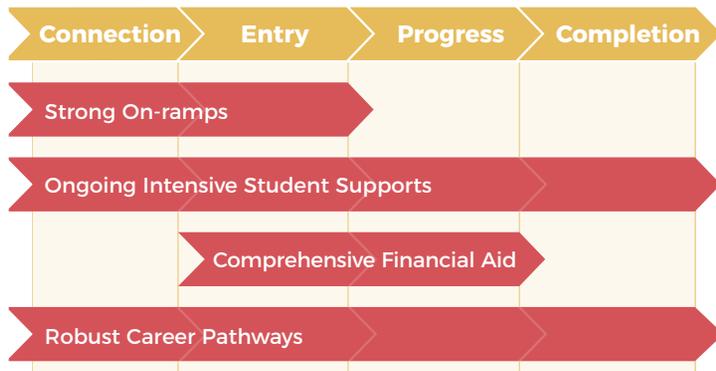# An Inclusive Policy Approach for Guided Pathways

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	Entry	Progress	Completion
Strong On-ramps			
Ongoing Intensive Student Supports			
	Comprehensive Financial Aid		
Robust Career Pathways			

INSTITUTIONS · INITIATING

INSTITUTIONS · SUSTAINING

Connection	Entry	Progress	Completion

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

JOBS FOR THE FUTURE

Policy Levers to Improve Access and Success for Underserved Populations

Eight Recommendations

#1 POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT

Make improving postsecondary outcomes for underrepresented and underserved 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, and non-academic support designed to address the unique needs of underrepresented populations.

#5 COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL AID

Make postsecondary education more affordable for underserved populations by ensuring access to in-state tuition, financial aid and scholarships, and emergency funds.

#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 postsecondary success for underserved populations.

Read the full report: www.jff.org/publications/framing-the-opportunity