



# Pathways

Move Your Pathways from  
Concept to Reality

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Pathways are widely embraced as a student success strategy. Unfortunately, many institutions struggle to operationalize them. As a result, pathways are often a good idea that has more promise than real impact on student completions.

Moving from concept to roll out isn't easy. Opinions vary on how 'guided' pathways should be. Smaller programs don't have the critical mass of enrollments to support multiple options for degree requirements. Differing core requirements in various programs can considerably delay completions when students change majors.

Ad Astra can help you work through these complexities and controversies. We deliver the data and best practices that enable you to move your pathways initiative from concept to reality.

# Pathways

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## AD ASTRA WILL

Provide a framework to define and facilitate the implementation of pathways for each degree program offered, including meta-major interest areas

- Share essential elements and best practices, things to consider as you are building maps
- Define data requirements and catalog requirements
- Guidance on pathway design and templates that will be used in building maps
- System support and integration. Once completed, how will they be used?

Analyze pathways to provide guidance on refinement

- Sequencing to reflect prerequisite and corequisite requirements
- Milestone and gateway courses to highlight students' pathway progress
- Review of transfer/dual enrollment courses and impacts on pathways
- Analysis of course choice relative to program enrollments

### 1. DEFINING PATHWAYS *Laying the Groundwork*

- Create model/sample pathways templates for desired programs
- Refine Course Sequences using data analytics
- Identify key milestone courses

### 2. ANALYZING PATHWAYS *Initial Scale Implementation*

- Ensure Pathways are digitized or imported
- Analyze Pathways for alignment to scheduling practices
- Recommend key changes that may be necessary to support scale implementation of pathways

### 3. SCHEDULING FOR PATHWAYS *Improved scale implementation*

- Use pathways/planner demand to align pathways with scheduling
- Add simulated students for planning
- Evaluate initial scale implementation for improvement

### 4. PATHWAYS ECOSYSTEM *Ongoing improvement*

- Integrate advising, scheduling, and registration
- Ensure continuous improvement through data analysis (first year momentum, productive credits)

