

## 2021 Council Meeting Work Calendar

### January 13: Kickoff

- Open conversation on how colleges and universities can help local schools close gaps in college readiness and college going.
- Approve work calendar based on SAP items for Council meetings through end of 2021.
- Discuss Executive Committee creating a committee, if needed, to prepare in advance for the more challenging developmental issues (e.g., student success conversation at July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting).

### March 11: Increasing college going (Affordability and Enrollment clusters)

#### Policy development

- Outreach to recently unemployed workers without a college credential, focused on Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color (BIPOC), to increase access to financial aid. (Affordability policy #3)
- Increase Washington's FAFSA/WASFA completion rate for K-12 students, specifically for BIPOC K12 students. (Affordability policy #4)
- Outreach to recently unemployed workers without a college credential, focused on BIPOC communities, by building partnerships with employers, community organizations, state agencies, local government and others outside of higher education. (Enrollment policy #2)

#### Data development

- Measure impact of COVID-19 and recession on enrollment, especially for BIPOC students, lower income, adults and other sub-populations suffering disparate health and economic impacts. (Enrollment data #1)

Focus: Review existing efforts and brainstorm on how to expand the breadth of this work in terms of the type of partners, the target population of possible students, and the nature of activities that might increase college going in the target populations. Consider a time frame for expanding the work on a rolling basis.

### April 14: Improving pathways to postsecondary success for students of color through dual credit courses

#### Policy development

- Build a state dual-credit strategy, inclusive of CTE, that increases access and success for BIPOC students AND increases college-going after high school. (Enrollment policy #1)

#### Data development

- Measure enrollment and success in dual credit courses, especially for BIPOC students and lower-income families. Success includes the use of DC credits in later postsecondary pathways. (Enrollment data #2)

Focus: Connect with DC work group (initial meeting date TBD). Provide feedback on their direction. Connect and discuss alignment with other initiatives. Start to frame an understanding of how future recommendations might fit into the state’s policy and budget decision-making process.

### **July 15: Building a coordinated approach to supporting students with all their needs**

#### Policy development

- Build a statewide coalition—with higher education leaders across sectors, student leaders, community-based organizations, and state partners—to develop a comprehensive vision and multiyear agenda (inclusive of a messaging/communications strategy) for future consideration by the Council. (Student supports policy #1)
- Coordinate institutional assessment of postsecondary students’ unmet basic needs to inform the state’s policy and investments. (Student supports policy #2)
- Updates
  - Facilitate sharing of best practices and research with higher education sectors and partners to learn from what IHE’s are already doing that is successfully meeting students’ basic needs. (Student supports policy #3)\*
  - Advocate for federal and state policy changes to remove work requirements and degree limitations for postsecondary student in job training and education programs who are otherwise eligible for public benefits (i.e. SNAP and Working Connections Childcare). (Student supports policy #4)\*

#### Data development

- Establish baseline data to identify postsecondary students’ participation in public benefits across postsecondary sectors throughout the state.

Focus: Flesh out the substance and timing for Council adoption of a high-level state policy on completion. Brainstorm how we might expand the coalition of partners and stakeholders to meet all student needs.

### **September 16: Increasing student success: completion and math pathways**

#### Policy development

- Establish completion goals and determine resources needed to meet goals. (Completion policy #1)
- Explore opportunities to increase alignment between quantitative academic coursework and skills/competencies from high school to postsecondary to the workforce. (Completion policy #2)
- Updates
  - Legislative session in general and our specific items:
    - Preserve Washington College Grant (WCG) and other 2158 investments. (Affordability policy #1)\*
    - Advocate to increase ease of access to College Bound Scholarship by enabling automatic sign-up for income-eligible students in middle school. (Affordability policy #2)\*

#### Data development

- Measure transfer and other completion metrics, especially for BIPOC students and lower-income families. (Completion data #1)
- Develop a clear definition of transfer data for Career Launch credentials. (Completion data #2)

Focus: Using the pre-meeting work done by a committee convened by the Executive Committee, flesh out the substance and timing for Council adoption of a high-level state policy on completion.

**November 9: Recap, look forward and approve work calendar for 2022**

Focus: The Council will conduct a high level review all SAP items (policy and data development) to develop a work calendar for calendar year 2022. WSAC staff will share a detailed plan for continued expansion of stakeholder engagement in the development of the next SAP for 2023-2024.

*\*Asterisked items are not likely to require Council participation in a formal meeting. Agency staff will work on these items over time and will ask the Executive Committee to approve/coordinate participation by Council members on an individual basis, as needed. A good example of this would be the scheduling of legislative testimony or communications when it might be helpful.*