



Investing in #CollegeCompletionASAP: A Funder Forum

April 22, 2024



SHEEO

State Higher Education
Executive Officers Association

CUNY | **ASAP** ▶ | **ACE**
NATIONAL REPLICATION
COLLABORATIVE

SESSION OUTLINE

Greeting & Gathering

Dr. John Lane, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Equity Initiatives, SHEEO

CUNY ASAP|ACE Background

Christine Brongniart, Executive Director, CUNY ASAP|ACE

National ASAP|ACE Replication Scaling Efforts

Dr. Katie Giardello, Senior Policy Advisor for National Replication, CUNY ASAP|ACE

Perspectives from Arnold Ventures – The Promise of Investing in #CollegeCompletionASAP

Kelly McManus, Vice President of Higher Education, Arnold Ventures

Clare McCann, Director of Higher Education, Arnold Ventures

Discussion/Q&A



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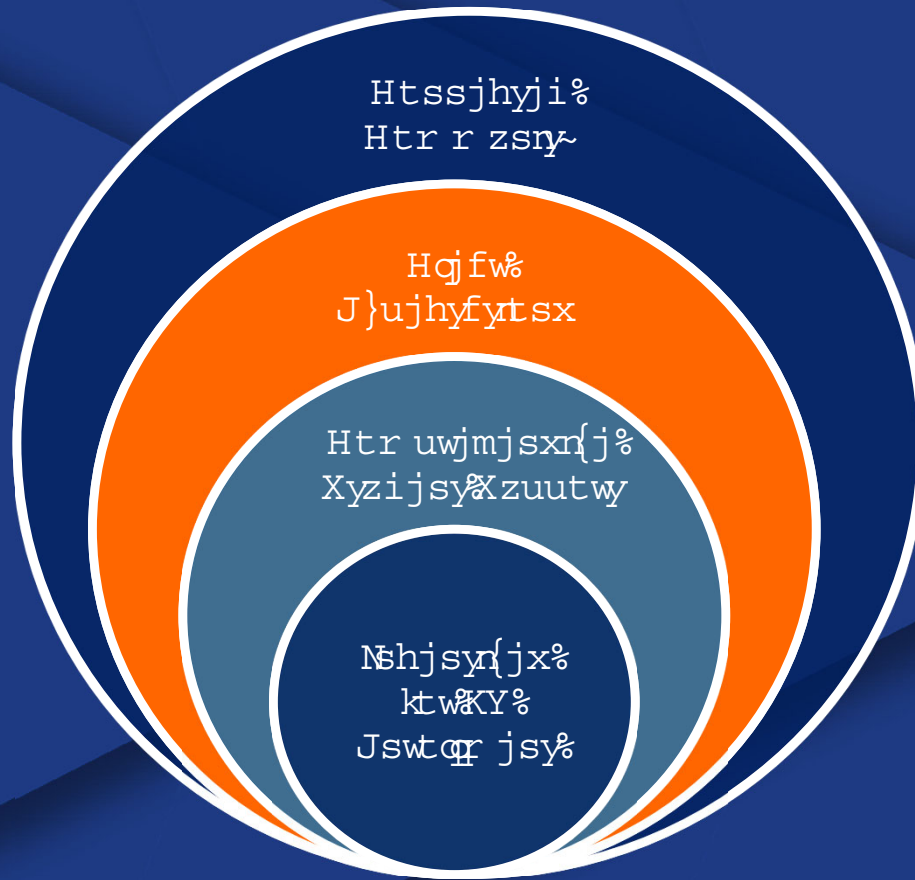


CUNY ASAP | ACE BACKGROUND

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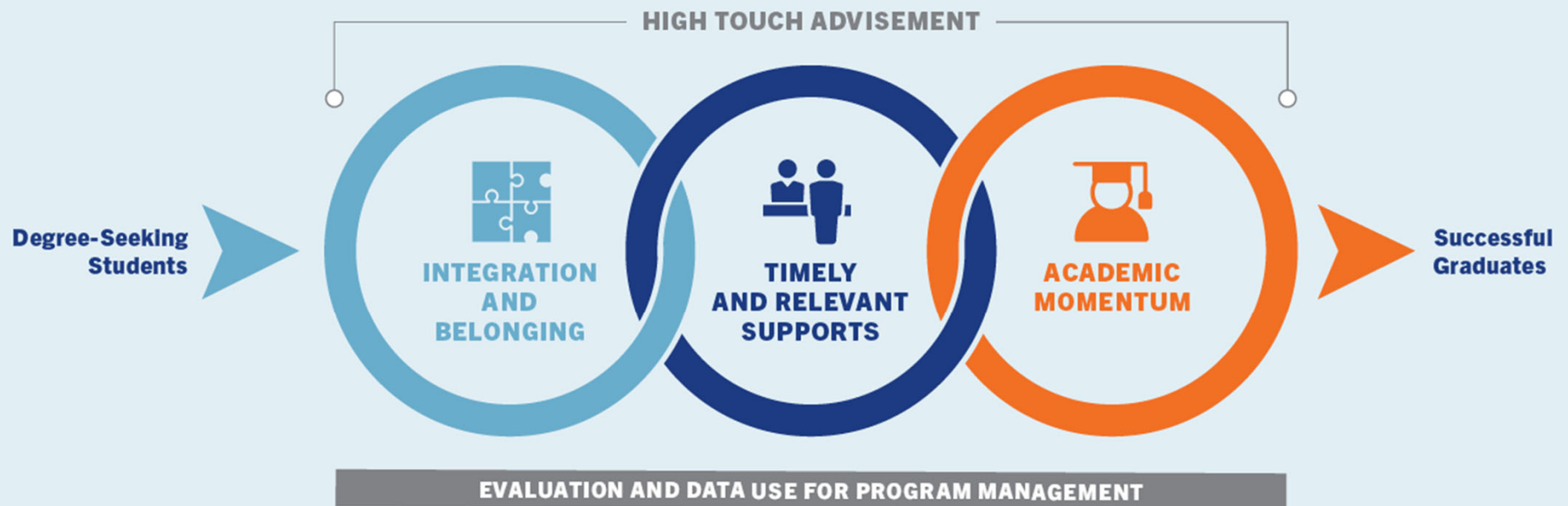
THEORY OF ACTION BEHIND THE ASAP MODEL



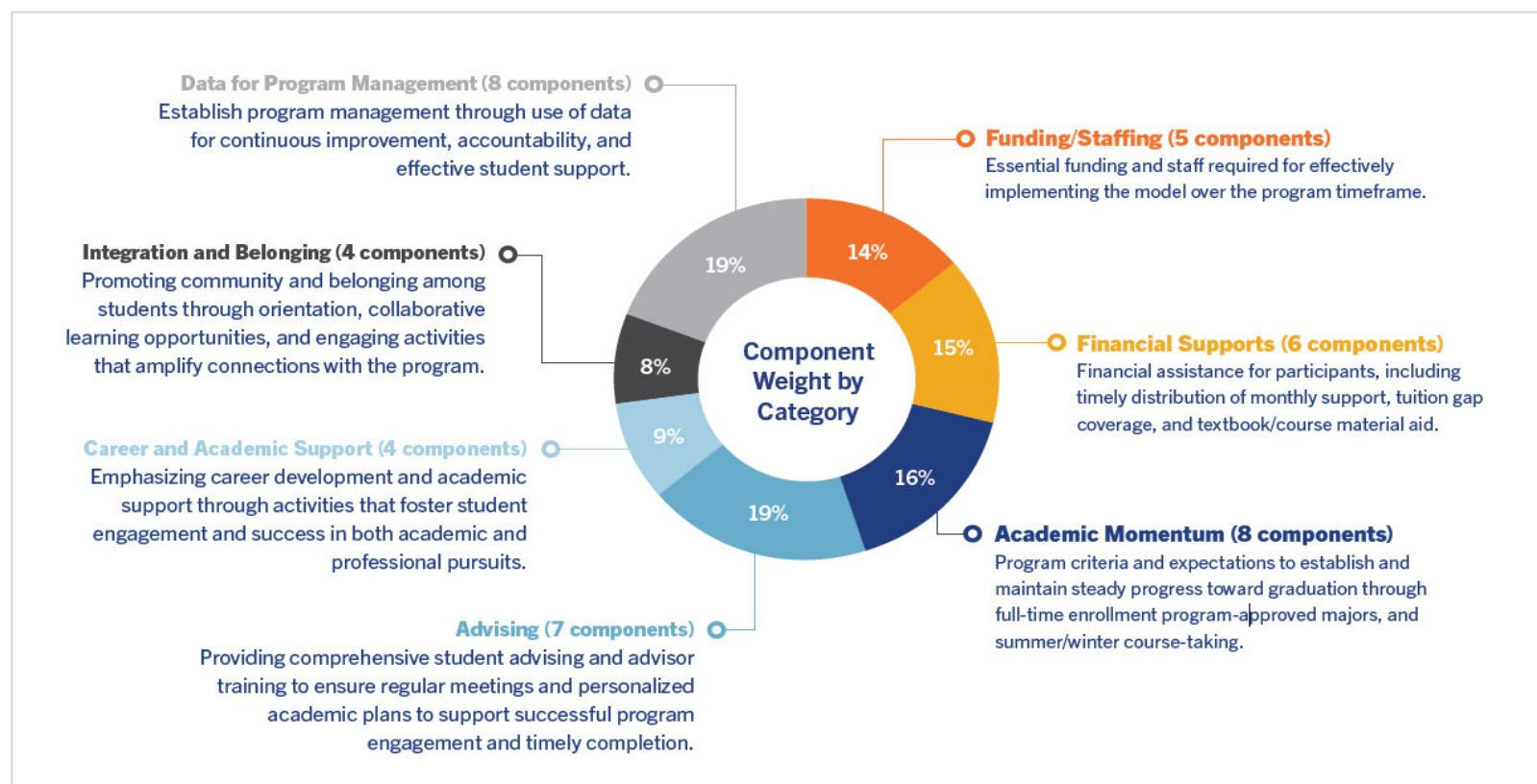
Alleviating barriers
to college
completion since
2007

THE COMPREHENSIVE ASAP MODEL

COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM COMPONENTS



CORE COMPONENTS AND CATEGORIES FOR REPLICATION FIDELITY ASSESSMENT



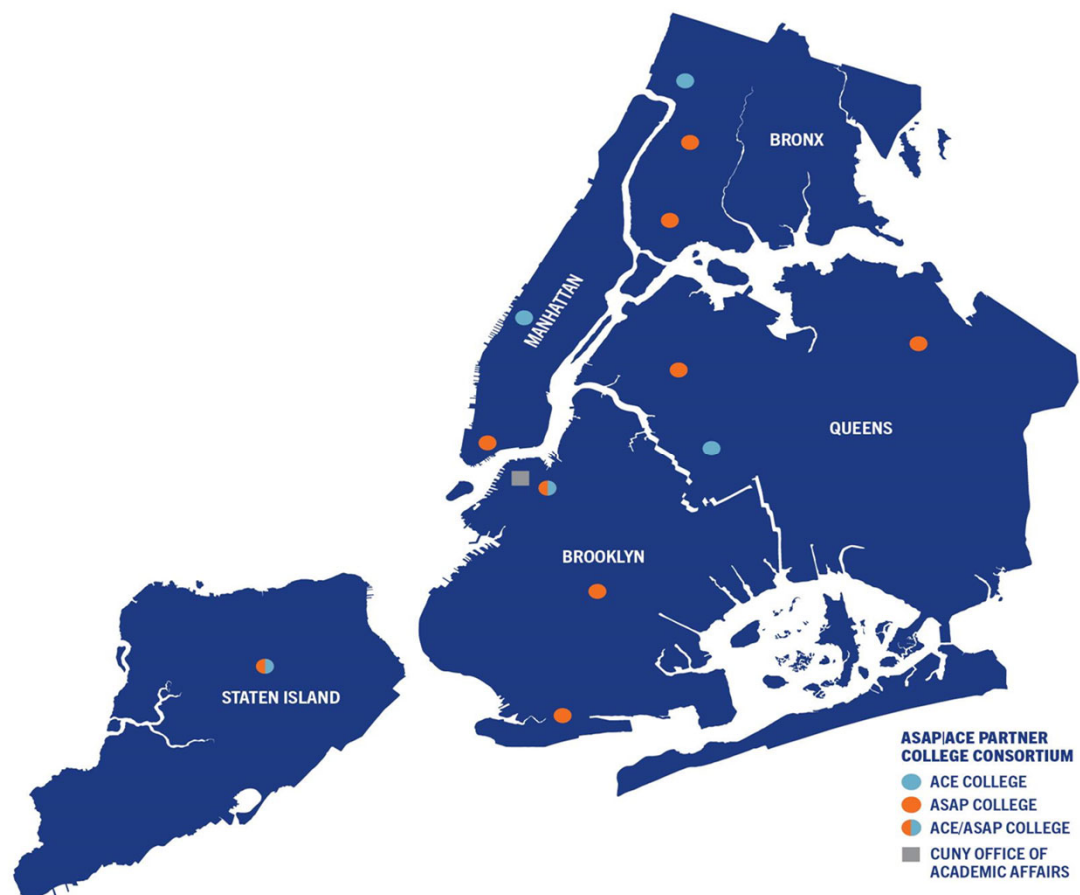
CUNY SYSTEM ASAP | ACE CONSORTIA STRUCTURE

CUNY ASAP | ACE Partner Colleges

- Recruitment
- Local program management
- Direct services to students
- Monitoring student progress
- Campus relationships + integration

CUNY Office of Academic Affairs

- Evaluation + Data Management
- Outreach + MarComm
- Program Administration + Policy Setting
- Professional Development
- Student Financial Resources



CUNY ASAP|ACE EXPANSION AND FUNDING HISTORY

— CITY OF NEW YORK INVESTS \$19.5 MILLION IN CUNY ASAP PILOT 2006

Mayor Bloomberg launches a new division of his office, the Center for Economic Opportunity (now NYC Opportunity), to fund promising programs addressing economic mobility. Then-CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein pitches a comprehensive synthesis of evidence-based best practices to address stubbornly low CUNY community college graduation rates. Mayor Bloomberg regularly cites ASAP as an important component of his economic development agenda.

+ CUNY ASAP LAUNCHES AT SIX SITES Fall 2007

PROGRAM
LAUNCH 

+ RANDOMIZED CONTROL TRIAL BEGINS Fall 2010

— FIRST WAVE OF EXPANSION BEGINS Fall 2012

Based on strong results from ASAP's first two cohorts, NYC Opportunity designates \$6.5M per year as a permanent allocation to CUNY to support ASAP. This funding bolstered a first-phase expansion of ASAP's system-wide expansion from 1,286 in 2011 to 4,352 in 2015. At BCC, the program raises its recruitment target from 80 to 500 new students per year.

+ ASAP REPLICATES MODEL IN OHIO 2014

+ PRESIDENT OBAMA CITES ASAP AS MODEL January 2015

+ MDRC PUBLISHES FINDINGS February 2015

+ CITY OF NEW YORK INVESTS \$77.4 MILLION IN FURTHER ASAP EXPANSION October 2015

— SECOND WAVE OF EXPANSION BEGINS 2015

With a mandate from the city, ASAP sets ambitious growth targets: expanding from 4,352 students to 25,000 by 2019 while maintaining strong student outcomes. At BCC, the program seeks to recruit as many as 1,700 new students per year and to serve all eligible freshmen.

+ ASAP MODEL REPLICATED IN CALIFORNIA, NEW YORK 2017

+ BCC HITS EXPANSION GOALS 2018

+ ASAP MODEL REPLICATED ACROSS COUNTRY 2020

PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN PILOT

- Established culture of accountability
- Urgency to demonstrate early impact
- All-in approach

PRIVATE SUPPORT TO BUILD EVIDENCE-BASE

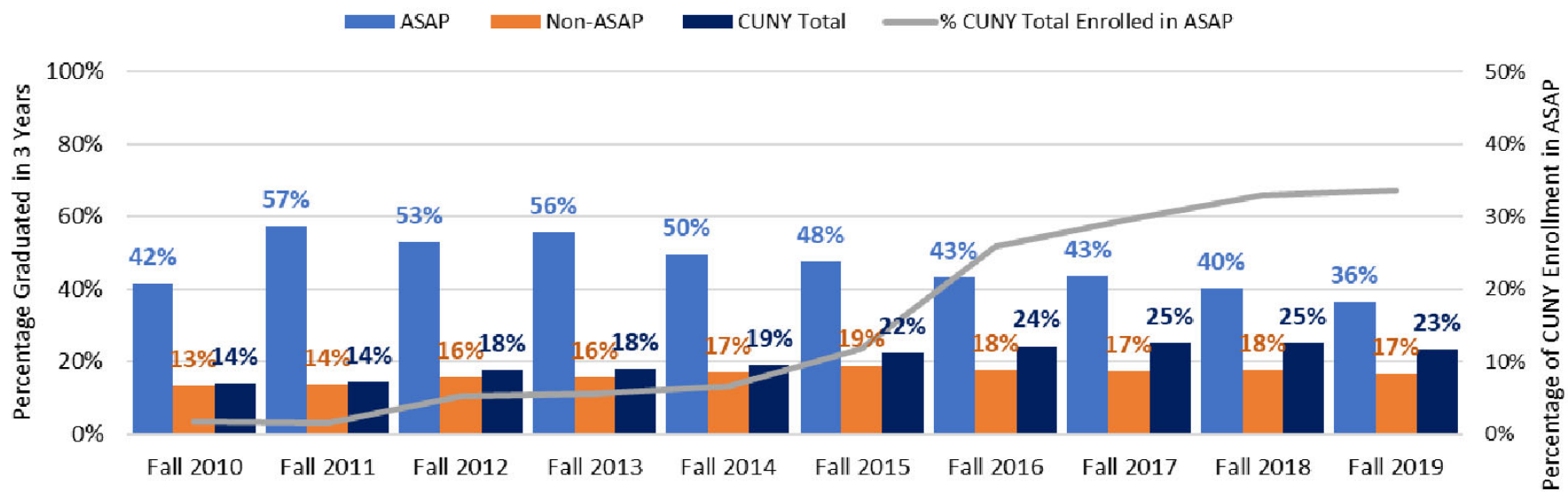
- Philanthropy engaged to maximize momentum
- Investment in rigorous third-party evaluation

PURSUIT OF EXPANDING EVALUATION AGENDA

- ACE Adaptation
- National Replication Efforts
- Continual Investment in Furthering Evidence Base (within and beyond CUNY)

SCALED SYSTEMWIDE IMPACT

Three-Year Graduation Rate Among First-Time Full-Time Students

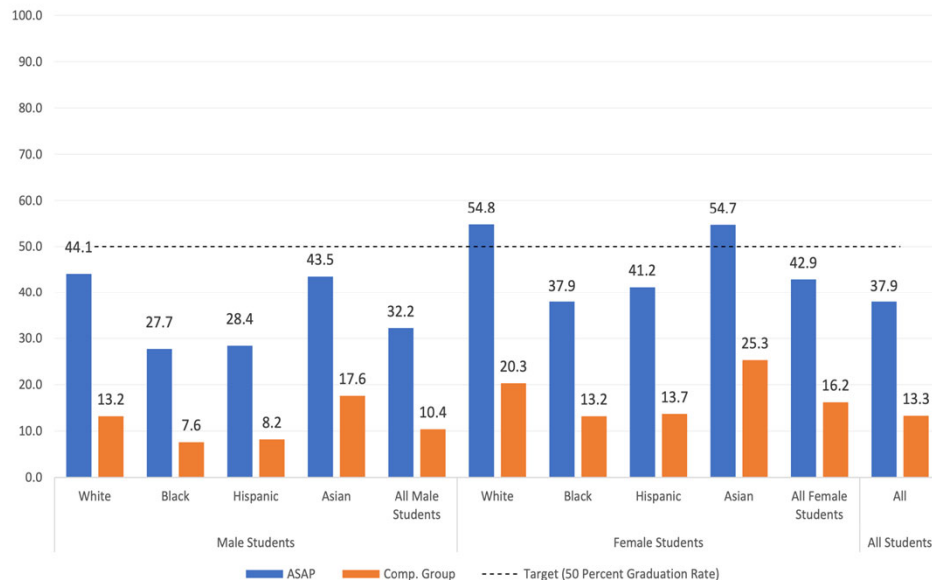


Enrollment of First-Time Full-Time Students in Associate Degree Programs

Enrollment	Fall 2010	Fall 2011	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019
CUNY Total N	19,984	21,489	20,717	20,993	21,674	21,795	21,906	21,197	21,336	21,006
ASAP Total N	360	325	1,076	1,180	1,436	2,566	5,666	6,286	7,049	7,085
% in ASAP	2%	2%	5%	6%	7%	12%	26%	30%	33%	34%

OVER A DECADE OF EVIDENCE PROVES THE MODEL'S EFFICACY

Three-Year Associate Degree Graduation Rates of ASAP and Comparison Group¹ First-Time Full-Time Freshmen
by Subgroup (Fall 2017 – Fall 2020 Cohorts) - PRELIMINARY DATA
February 26, 2024



¹ Comparison group consists of CUNY first-time full-time freshmen enrolled in a degree bearing program pursuing an associate degree and not enrolled in ASAP or College Discovery.

- CUNY data shows the most recent average 3-yr completion rate across 10 ASAP cohorts is **49.1%** - double the rate of a matched statistical comparison group.
- Subgroup analysis shows that ASAP may **narrow existing graduation gaps for Black and Hispanic males** and that *all* subgroups of students benefit from the program.
- Cost-benefit studies found ASAP **cost-effective with social and economic return-on-investment (ROI)**.
- These results have held up in **multiple replication contexts**.

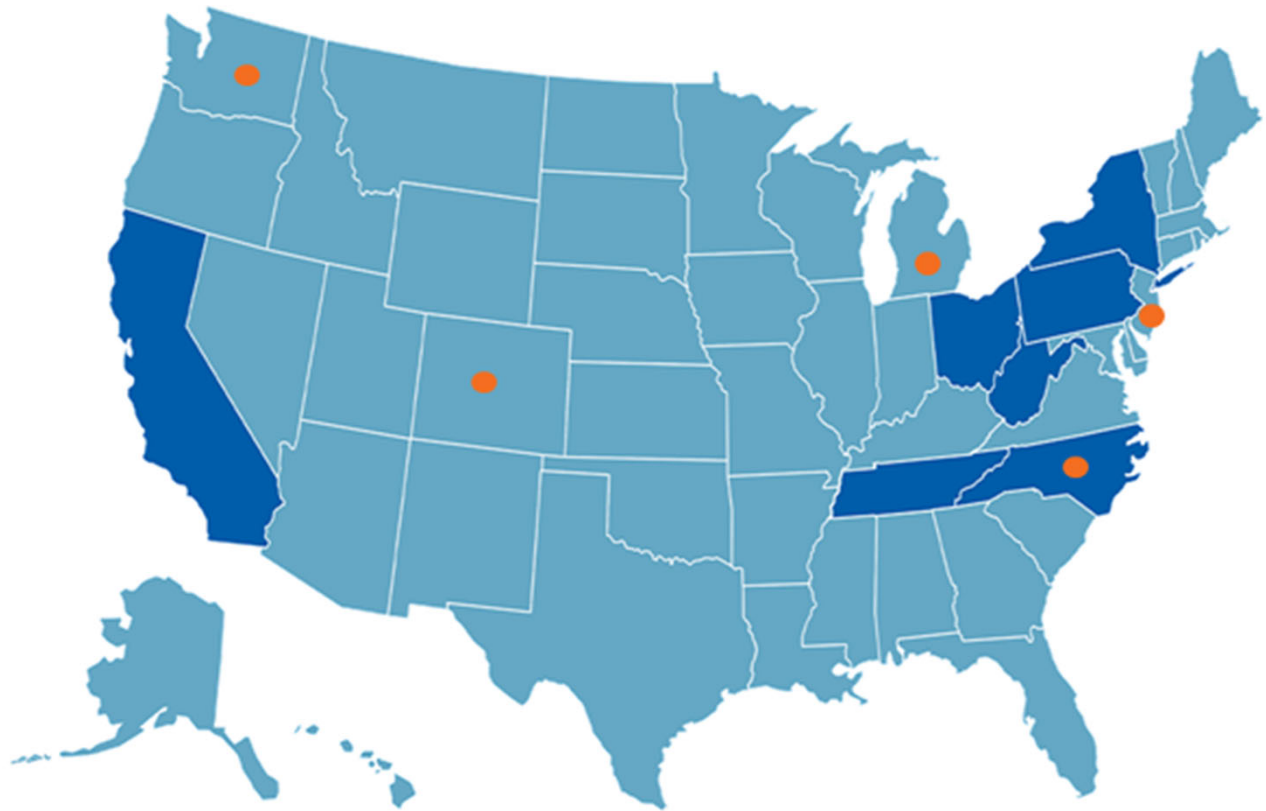
NATIONAL ASAP | ACE REPLICATION SCALING EFFORTS

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SCALING THE ASAP|ACE IMPACT THRU THE CUNY ASAP|ACE NATIONAL REPLICATION COLLABORATIVE

- ★ CA (6 campuses)
- ★ NY
 - CUNY (13 campuses)
 - SUNY (25 campuses)
- ★ NC (3 campuses)
- ★ OH (3 campuses)
- ★ PA (1 campus)
- ★ TN (1 campus)
- ★ WV (2 campuses)



SHEEO | ASAP COLLEGE COMPLETION COALITION LEARNING COMMUNITY PROJECT MILESTONES

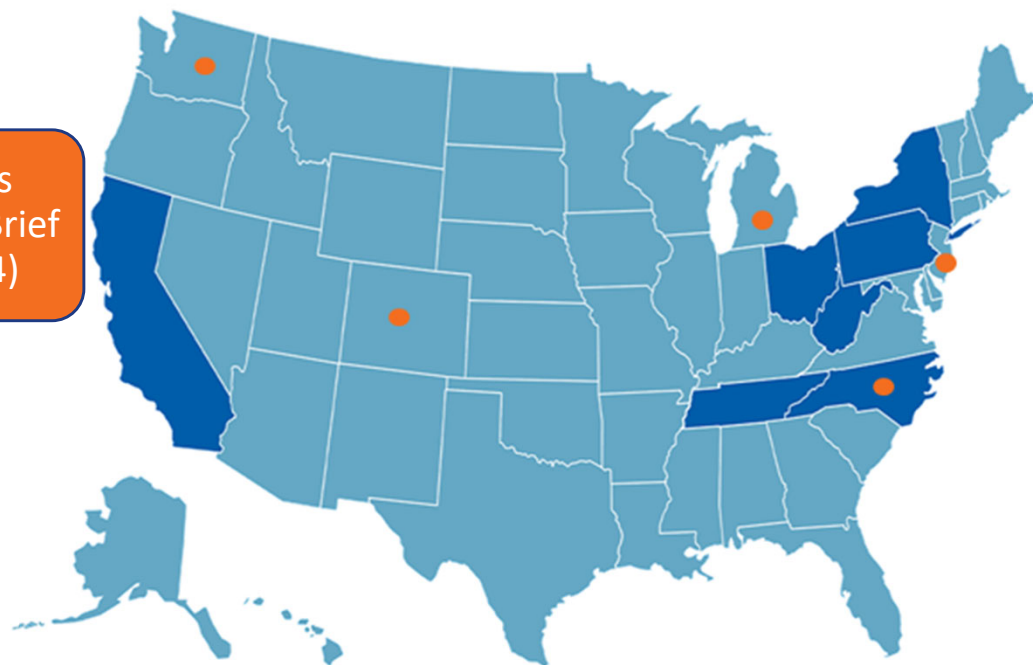
A key objective of this work is to address racial equity gaps through strategic statewide scaling of the ASAP model.

RFP Selection
(Summer '23)

NYC
Convening
(Fall '23)

State Team
Consultation
(ongoing)

Lessons
Learned Brief
(Fall '24)



SHEEO | ASAP COLLEGE COMPLETION COALITION LEARNING COMMUNITY PROGRESS REPORT

5 state teams are deeply considering strategic, sustainable state scaling of the ASAP model

- Next steps:
 - Funder support
 - College engagement
- Final project reports due Summer 2024

Possible new opportunities to explore –

- Rural replication cohort
- Complementary efforts related to other state policy initiatives (e.g. state grants, targeted workforce needs)
- Special populations: adult reconnecting students, transfer students, workforce certificate seekers



INVESTING IN #CollegeCompletionASAP

ASAP replication is a proven solution to the social problem of low college completion rates, especially for historically marginalized populations. Upfront investment will support infrastructure in states for sustainable, high-impact national scaling efforts.

Funds Support:

- **Initial Strategic Planning & Program Development**
- **Active Program Implementation at Campus Replication Sites**
 - ✓ Build campus infrastructure
 - ✓ Build centralized admin infrastructure
 - ✓ Cover direct program costs for 3-year pilot, including staffing and student financial incentives (states/institutions match funding for continuation beyond pilot)
- **Ongoing Evaluation & Research**

PERSPECTIVES FROM ARNOLD VENTURES – THE PROMISE OF INVESTING IN **#CollegeCompletionASAP**

Kelly McManus
Vice President of Higher Education

Clare McCann
Director of Higher Education



Discussion

BLOG Published September 10, 2021 • 5 minute read

What if CUNY ASAP Was Replicated from Coast to Coast?



December 14, 2022

Scaling Transfer Infrastructure Change: The UNC TrACE ASAP|ACE Replication Story

The promise of scaled infrastructure change.

By Katherine Giardello, Shun Robertson and Samantha Raynor

THE HECHINGER REPORT

Covering Innovation & Inequality in Education

TOPICS ABOUT DONATE

OPINION: A New York model helps community college students reach their goals

Education leaders around the country should follow CUNY's example

OPINION > CONGRESS BLOG

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY CONTRIBUTORS ARE THEIR OWN AND NOT THE VIEW OF THE HILL

There's a proven fix for an urgent education problem — Congress should embrace it

BY KELLY MCMANUS AND SHRUTIKA SABARWAL, OPINION CONTRIBUTORS - 06/03/23 7:00 PM ET



SHARE



TWEET



17

Thank you for your time today!

Please follow up to continue the conversation:

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