Exploring a New Frontier for National ASAP Replication Scaling

SHEEO|ASAP College Completion Coalition Learning Community

November 13, 2024

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State Higher Education
Executive Officers Association
70 years

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Session Agenda

SHEEO Welcome & Intro
Dr. John Lane, SHEEO

Background and Project Overview
Dr. Katie Giardello, CUNY ASAP

Lessons Learned Brief Overview
Sakshee Chawla, SHEEO

State Panel Discussion
Moderator: Dr. John Lane, SHEEO

Audience Q&A

Informal policy advocacy discussion

State Panel Participants

Dr. Cynthia Armendariz
Colorado Dept of Higher Education

Dr. Erica Orians
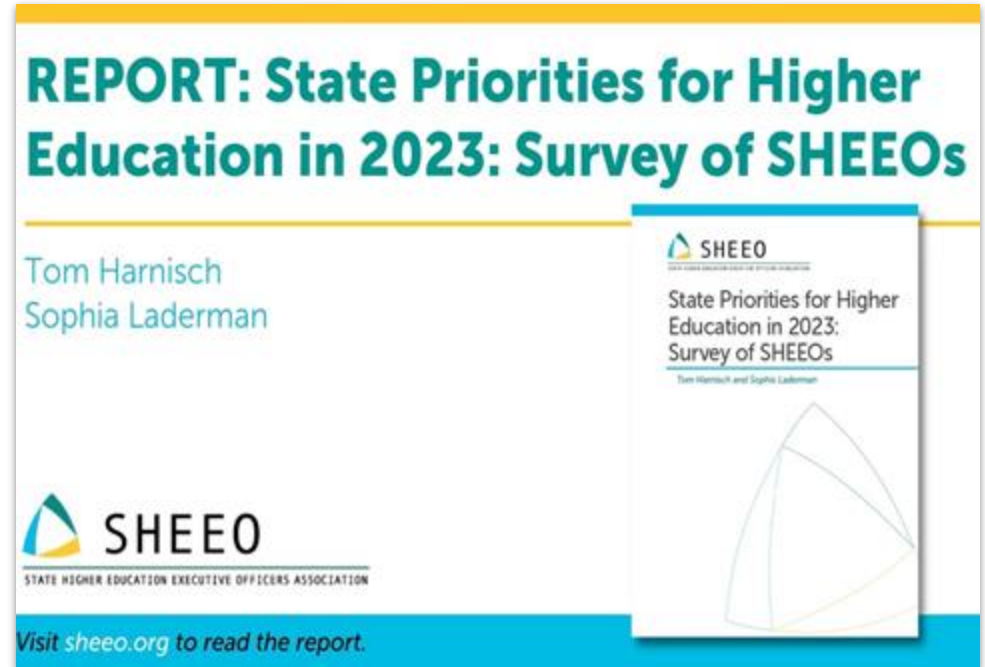Michigan Community College Association

Maria Heidkamp
New Jersey Council of County Colleges

Dr. Patrick Crane
North Carolina Community College System

Summer Kenneson
WA State Board for Community & Technical Colleges

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State Higher Education Priorities

- ❖ **College Completion & State Attainment Rates**

- ❖ **Addressing Equity Gaps**

- ❖ **Workforce and Economic Development**

REPORT: State Priorities for Higher Education in 2023: Survey of SHEEOs

Tom Harnisch
Sophia Laderman

SHEEO
State Priorities for Higher Education in 2023: Survey of SHEEOs
Tom Harnisch and Sophia Laderman

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STATE HIGHER EDUCATION EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

Visit sheeo.org to read the report.

SHEEO Mission

Promoting equitable attainment through

➢ **Statewide public policies and academic practices**

➢ **Capacity development**

➢ **Research about evidence-based best practices**

➢ **Coalition development**

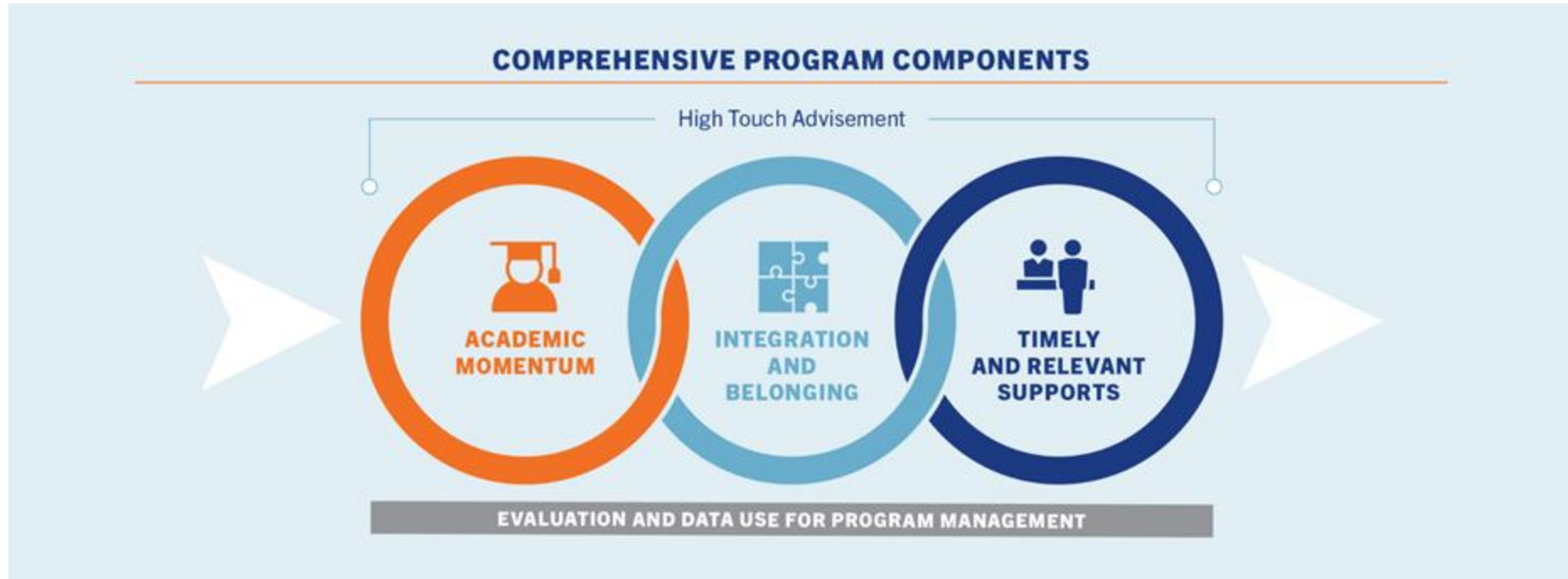# WHAT IS CUNY ASAP?

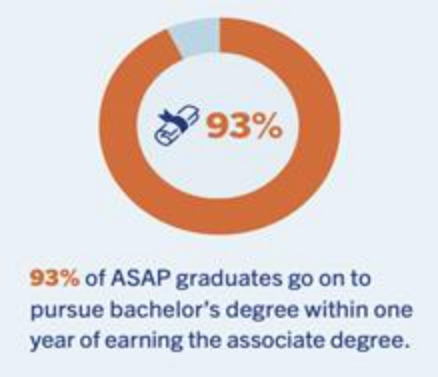WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK. AND YOUR BOOKS. AND YOUR METROCARD.

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NATIONAL REPLICATION COLLABORATIVE

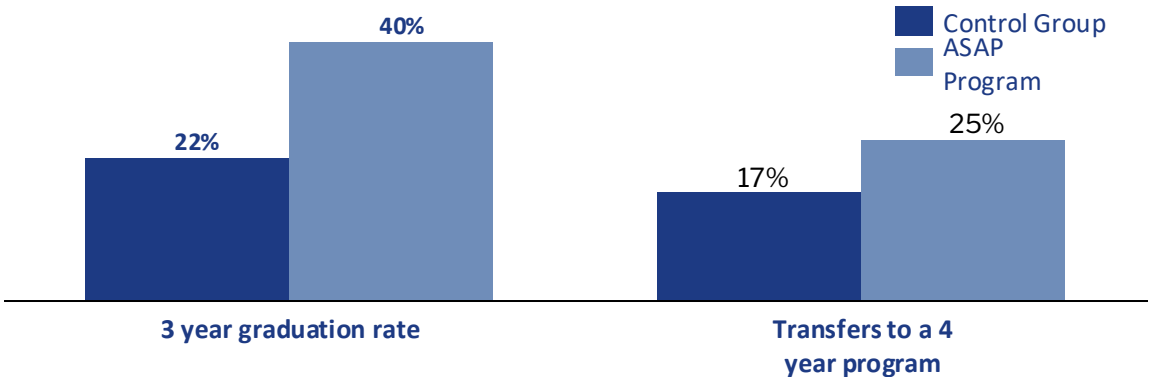# The Accelerated Study in Academic Programs (ASAP) Model

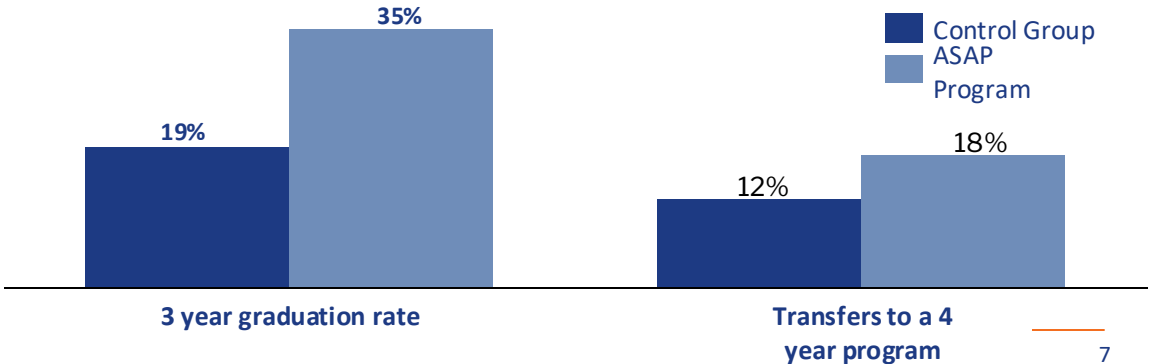# RIGOROUS EVIDENCE BASE FOR CUNY ASAP|ACE & REPLICATED PROGRAMS

Two randomized evaluations in <u>NYC</u> and <u>OH</u> both show it doubles graduation rates <u>and</u> increases transfers to 4-year colleges by 50%.

93% of ASAP graduates go on to pursue bachelor's degree within one year of earning the associate degree.

ASAP Program Evaluation : 2015 CUNY (New York)

- Control Group
- ASAP Program

3 year graduation rate	Transfers to a 4 year program
22% / 40%	17% / 25%

ASAP Program Evaluation : 2020 Ohio

- Control Group
- ASAP Program

3 year graduation rate	Transfers to a 4 year program
19% / 35%	12% / 18%

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ASAP|ACE has been shown to increase graduation rates across race/ethnicity, with program students graduating at higher rates than the comparison/control for each group.

ASAP 3-year graduation

White	Black	Hispanic or Latino/a	Asian or Pacific Islander
25.2	25.0	26.4	23.6

ACE 4-year graduation

White	Black	Hispanic or Latino/a	Asian or Pacific Islander
17.7	16.7	17.7	20.3
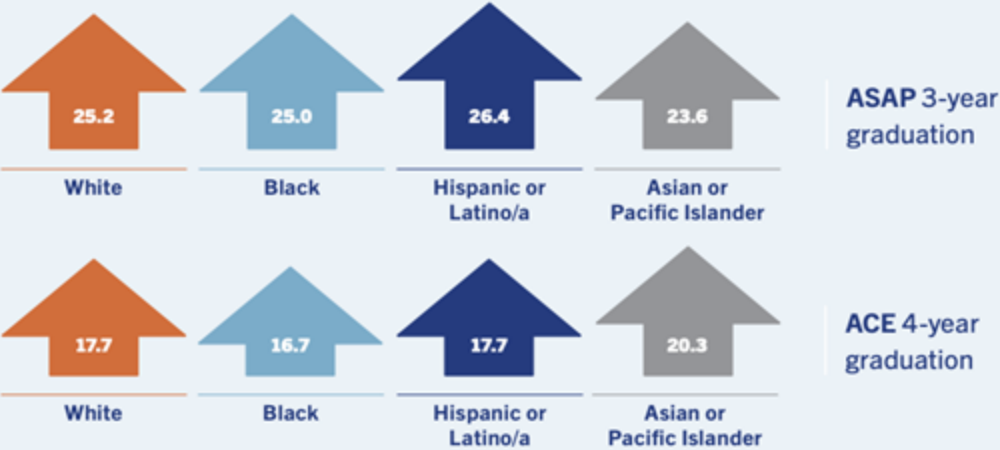
ASAP is estimated to produce **$3.5:1**[5] Return on Investment (ROI) from projected earnings increases, tax revenues, and reduced use of public services.
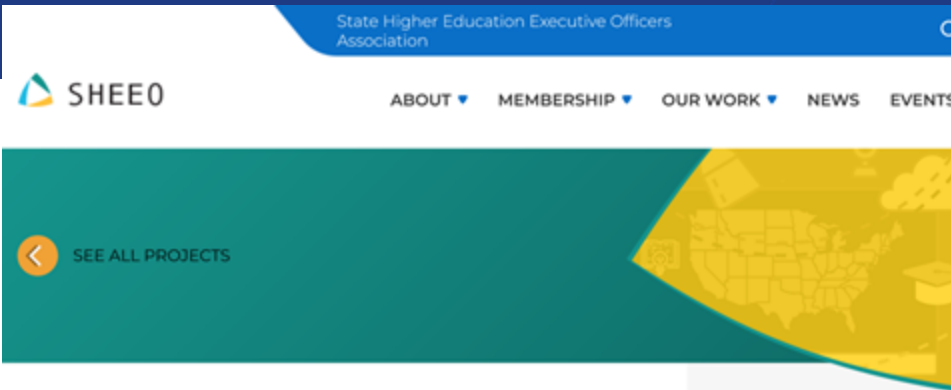
Ohio replication program increased earnings by **11%**[6] and nearly **doubled the three-year graduation rate**[7] — 35% vs. 19% for the comparison group.

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THE CUNY ASAP NATIONAL REPLICATION COLLABORATIVE – A NATIONAL MOVEMENT IN MOTION
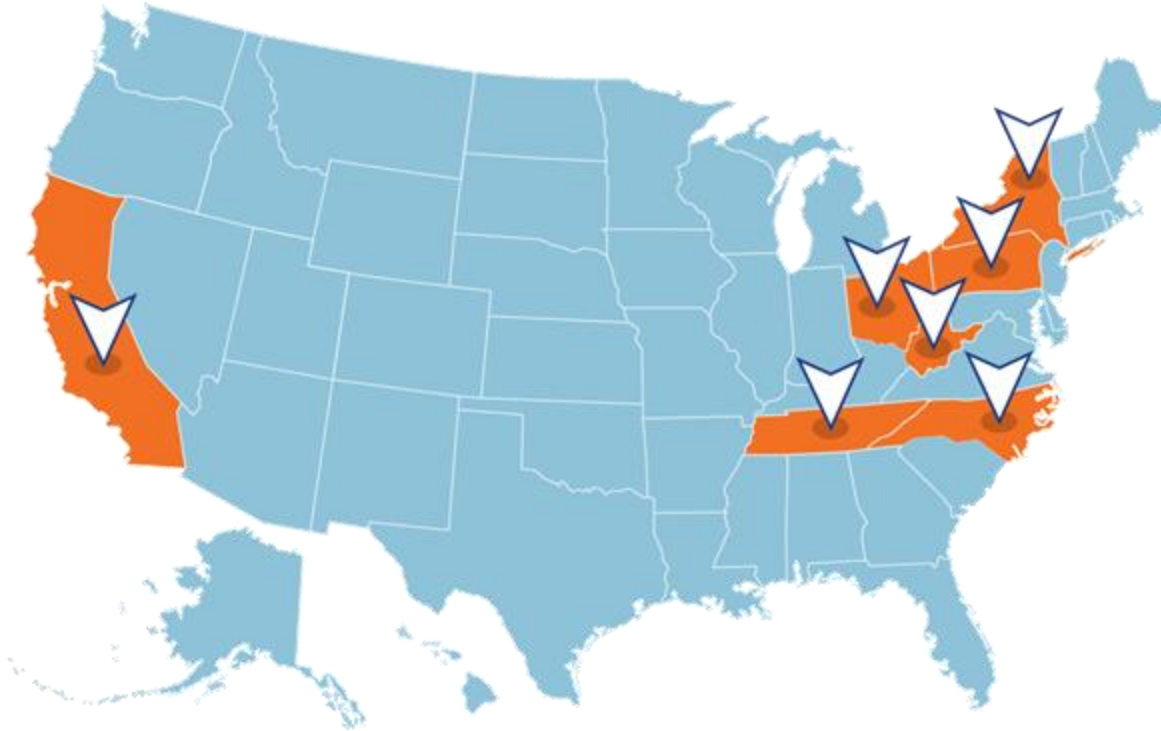
Since 2015, CUNY ASAP | ACE has been replicated at nearly 40 colleges in 7 states (and counting). (Ohio, California, New York, Tennessee, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and North Carolina)

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SHEEO|ASAP COLLEGE COMPLETION COALITION LEARNING COMMUNITY PROJECT MILESTONES

A key objective of this work was 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)

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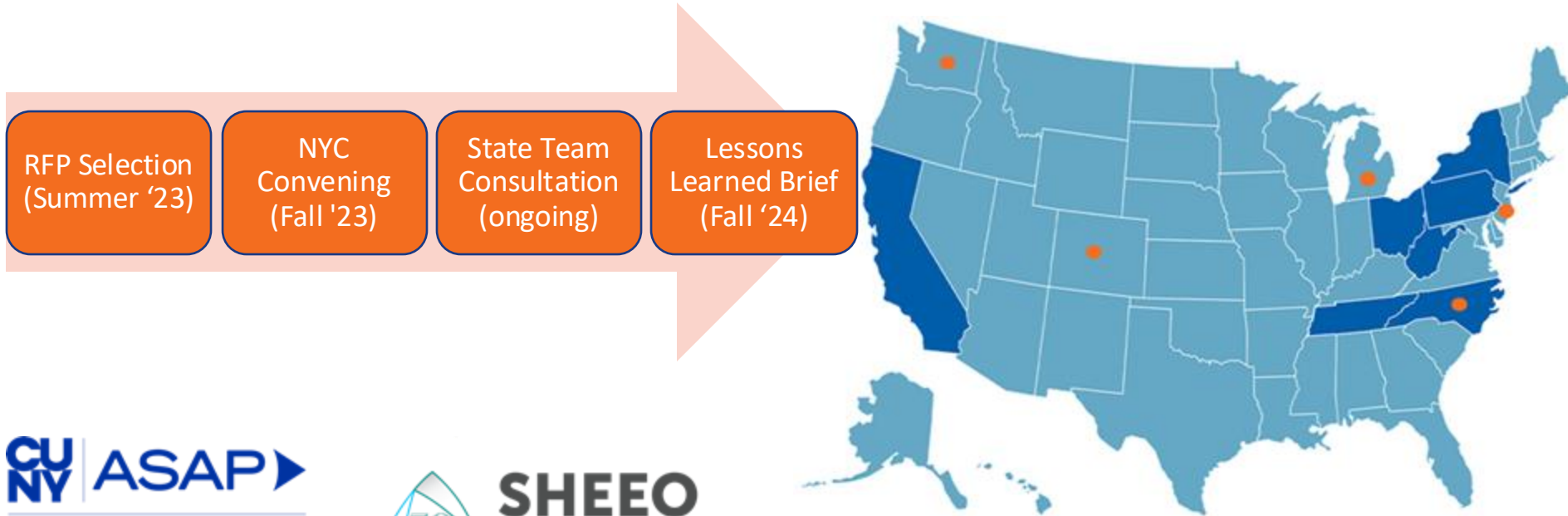
LESSONS LEARNED BY PRIORITY AREA

1
Coalition Building & Making the ROI Case

- Engaging diverse stakeholders
- Building institutional readiness
- Make the ROI case for replication

2
Aligning ASAP Replications to State Higher Ed Priorities

- ASAP Replication as a workforce development initiative
- Align ASAP with Guided Pathways efforts

3
Planning for Equity-Based, System-Scaled Replication

- Targeting underserved populations & addressing equity gaps
- Navigating political & policy shifts
- Ensuring statewide consistency & local flexibility
- Leveraging data & evaluation

4
Sustainable Budgeting & Productive Funding Models

- Understanding & estimating costs
- Leveraging braided funding models
- Navigating challenges in state funding & political landscapes
- Role of short-term funding & philanthropy

COALITION BUILDING & MAKING THE ROI CASE

Engaging Diverse Stakeholders

1. Institutional interest and readiness are critical to the success of scaled replication
2. States emphasize adapting college engagement to maximize success (e.g., timing, method)
3. Replication strategy should recognize unique challenges of campuses (e.g., rural, urban)

Building Institutional Readiness

1. Strong leadership commitment and early, active involvement in the system plays a key role
2. Long-term financial and operational sustainability were important
3. It was also important to effectively track data and use a data-driven approach to continuous improvement
4. Resource limitations, initiative fatigue, and hesitation about replicating a NYC-based program pose as a barrier

Make the ROI Case for Replication

1. Consider tailoring the ROI argument to the local context, focus on financial benefits, and highlight student outcome improvements
2. Highlight connection between student retention and completion with economic and workforce development goals
3. Align ASAP with existing state funding models and initiatives

ALIGNING REPLICATION TO STATE HIGHER ED PRIORITIES

Frame ASAP within State Higher Ed Priorities

1. Integrate with existing strategic goals and initiatives to maximize relevance and sustainability
2. Building on existing coalitions that improve retention and graduation rates, particularly for students from underrepresented backgrounds

ASAP Replication as a Workforce Development Initiative

1. Workforce development is a top priority with strong potential for alignment with ASAP replication
2. Alignment with state's funding model directly ties ASAP replication to the state's economic development programs

Align ASAP with Guided Pathways Efforts

1. Link ASAP with frameworks like Guided Pathways to streamline students' academic journeys and improve completion
2. Both initiatives emphasize clear academic planning, proactive advising, and support systems
3. Aligning different initiatives creates a more comprehensive and cohesive approach to student success

PLANNING FOR EQUITY-BASED, SYSTEM-SCALED REPLICATION

Targeting Underserved Populations & Addressing Equity Gaps

1. Underserved student populations for each state were defined by the state's demographic and institutional landscape
2. Consider broadening equity definitions to account for demographic, income, geography, full/part-time enrollment differences

Navigating Political & Policy Shifts

1. States adapted in the face of changing political and policy landscapes that impacted their equity-focused work
2. Balance between statewide consistency and local flexibility is essential for equity-driven, system-scaled replication

Leveraging Data & Evaluation

1. Participating states reported gains in their awareness of completion disparities among racially minoritized groups
2. States strengthened data collection and analysis that improved methods for disaggregating data to understand gaps

SUSTAINABLE BUDGETING & PRODUCTIVE FUNDING MODELS

Understanding & Estimating Costs for ASAP Replication

1. Develop a clear understanding of comprehensive costs associated with successful replication (e.g., direct support, textbooks)
2. Understand cost estimation varies based on local contexts, existing infrastructure, and complementary funding
3. Projecting gains from ASAP proved challenging especially given costs do not remain fixed over time

Leveraging Braided Funding Models

1. Use braided funding models by combining institutional dollars, philanthropic investments, and public funding lines
2. Braided funding model offers flexibility and sustainability
3. Identify complementary programs that can be used to leverage support toward ASAP replication

Navigating Challenges in Funding & Political Landscapes

1. Given state budget limitations, rely on short-term and philanthropic funds as needed, especially when long-term state funding is uncertain
2. Long-term estimation of ASAP replication influenced by lesser-known economies of scale

The final deliverable that we previewed today is now available on the SHEEO website

Panel Discussion

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

State Team Participants:

➢ **Dr. Cynthia Armendariz**, Managing Director, Colorado Dept of Higher Education

➢ **Dr. Erica Orians**, Vice President and Executive Director of the Michigan Center for Student Success, Michigan Community College Association

➢ **Maria Heidkamp**, Chief Innovation and Policy Officer, New Jersey Council of County Colleges

➢ **Dr. Patrick Crane**, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, North Carolina Community College System

➢ **Summer Kenneson**, Director of Policy Research, WA State Board for Community & Technical Colleges

JOIN OUR MOVEMENT IN MOTION!

Scaling the 'Secret Sauce' for Completion Rates

New efforts are underway to expand ASAP, the City University of New York's academic support program,

What if CUNY ASAP Was Replicated from Coast to Coast?

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

Education leaders around the country should follow CUNY's example

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

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

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