Understanding Differences Between the Cohort Definition and the Cohort View in Guided Pathways (GP) and Student Success Metrics (SSM) Dashboards

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## Overview of First-Time Cohorts in Guided Pathways and Student Success Metrics Dashboards

As part of the 2020-21 build of the Student Success Metric (SSM) dashboard, a new cohort view has been added to the existing snapshot view of data. The SSM cohort includes all students who enrolled for the first-time in higher education as non-special admit credit students in at least one primary term of the selected year, allowing for preceding summer enrollment, with a minimal credit enrollment at the selected college tracking students for three, four and six years from first term of enrollment. The SSM cohort view currently includes, metrics, primary disaggregations and secondary gender disaggregation of the data as outlined in the [Legislation for Student Equity and Achievement](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200AB943).

The Guided Pathways dashboard has always offered a cohort view of first-time students and is intended to provide viewers with first-year momentum points for evaluating college redesign efforts related to the Guided Pathway Initiative. As part of the 2020-21 build of the Guided Pathways dashboard , per a decision by the Chancellor’s Office, the GP cohort definition has been brought into alignment with the SSM cohort definition except first-time students in the GP cohort must start in the fall term.

## Guided Pathways Cohort Definition for 2020-21

Aligning the first-time GP cohort definition for the 2020-21 with the new cohort view in SSM, the calculation is determined in the following manner:

Student who met all of the following criteria:

• **Student appears as a first-time NSA credit student in the system in the selected year at the selected college requiring enrollment in the fall term if first NSA term is the preceding summer term in the selected year**

WHERE [GI03 = Min(GI03) in the system at the selected college

AND IF Min(GI03) IS IN (5YY, 6YY)

THEN GI03 must also be IN (7YY, 8YY)

AND SXD2 IN (T, D, S)

AND STD7 in (A, B, C, D, E)

AND SB11 not equal to 10000]

• **AND has a minimal credit enrollment in the system at the selected college**

AND (SXD3 >=0.5 units at the selected college in the selected year)

• **AND where the student did not earn an Excused Withdrawal or Military Withdrawal in ALL credit courses in their first term**

WHERE Count (SX04) IS NOT EQUAL TO count (SX04) IN (EW, MW) in their first term at the selected college

• **AND in the selected year**

WHERE GI03 is within the selected year

• **AND never had a valid course enrollment at any postsecondary institution except CA community colleges while the student was 18 or older**

WHERE [segment IS IN (CSU, UC, ISP, OOS)

AND tfr\_in\_inst\_type IS IN (2, 4)]

• **AND when the student was 18 or older**

AND (Oct. 15th in the selected year - SB03) ≥ 18 years

• **AND at any time up to and including the selected year**

WHERE GI03 is any time up to and including the selected year]

## Differences in the Guided Pathways Cohort Definition for 2020-21 Compared to Prior Build

Prior to 2020-21, the GP cohort aligned with the definition of a first-time credit students used for the calculation of the Student Centered Funding Formula (SCFF) for Completed Both Transfer Level Math and English and the Student Success Metrics snapshot view for Completed Both Transfer Level Math and English (SM 501) , Completed Transfer Level Math (SM 502), and Completed Transfer Level English (SM 503).

To align with the 2020-21 SSM first-time credit student cohort, the following updates have been made to the GP cohort definition for the 2020-21 build. For students to be included in the first-time cohort:

* Students must have a minimal enrollment by attempting at least 0.5 credit units as measured by [SXD3 Enrollment-Units-Attempted](https://webdata.cccco.edu/ded/sxd/sxd3.pdf) at the selected college
* Students did not earn an Excused or Military Withdrawal in all credit courses in their first term as measured by [SX04 Enrollment-Grade](https://webdata.cccco.edu/ded/sx/sx04.pdf) at the selected college
* Students never had an enrollment at any postsecondary institution except CA community colleges when the student was 18 or older as determined by the match with National Student Clearing House and the match with California State University /University of California.

## Summary Table of Differences Between GP and SSM Cohort Views

| **Issue** | **Guided Pathways (GP)** | **Student Success Metrics (SSM)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Purpose of the Cohort View | First-year momentum points for evaluating college redesign efforts related to the GP Initiative | Metrics in the Legislation for Student Equity and Achievement |
| Definition | All students who enrolled as first-time in higher education non-special admit credit students in the **fall term** of the selected year, allowing for preceding summer enrollment, with a minimal credit enrollment at the selected college | All students who enrolled as first-time in higher education non-special admit credit students in **at least one primary term** of the selected year, allowing for preceding summer enrollment, with a minimal credit enrollment at the selected college |
| Timeframe | Tracked for the first academic year | Tracked for three, four and six years from first term of enrollment |
| Years of Data Displayed for Metrics | Data are displayed for all years through 2019-20 EXCEPT for the metrics for Completed Transfer Level Math and English Expanded View where Credit ESL students can complete within three years from their first term of enrollment. Therefore, data is only displayed when the timeframe allowed to meet the outcome of the metric is complete. | Data are only displayed when the timeframe allowed to meet the outcome of the metric is complete. In order to provide students who, begin in Spring the same opportunity to complete within a given amount of time, an additional year of data is needed to complete the timeframes. As a result, depending on the metric, there are multiple years for which data is not displayed. |
| Drilldowns or Disaggregations | Primary disaggregations including:   * gender * race/ethnicity * age group * Perkins ECD | Primary disaggregations per SEA Legislation are included, as well as secondary disaggregation on gender including:   * gender * race/ethnicity * age group * Perkins ECD * LGBT * First-Generation * Foster Youth * Students with Disabilities * Veterans |