

What is a HomeBase Pathway Community?

Using the areas of interest as an organizing construct, HomeBase Pathway Communities are an ARC strategy to provide individualized support and pathway-specific services in convenient locations in close proximity to where most pathway classes are offered. Services, hours, and communication will be coordinated across all communities but the content of service offerings will be tailored thematically to be relevant to the interests of pathway students. While the ideal version will be phased in over time, the long-term vision is intended to promote the following outcomes. As a result of pathway communities, students will:

- Better understand how to successfully complete their chosen pathway as well as how it integrates with life and career goals
- Build a sense of community with other students who have similar pathway interests
- Create connections and regularly interact with instructors, counselors, staff, and peer mentors who have a depth of knowledge related to the pathway
- Feel comfortable and empowered to seek assistance as an expected part of college life
- Regularly receive encouragement to progress along the pathway to achieve personal goals
- Obtain individualized support from employees with whom the student has connection and who have been trained to provide student-centric, equity-minded services
- Recognize pathway communities as a primary resource for support in overcoming barriers to pathway completion

Where did the concept come from?

The concept is one strategy that ARC is using to achieve its “Students First” strategic goal. Pathway communities were initially recommended by the IPaSS Project Team in 2018 to offer students “discipline and career-specific engagement opportunities.” Now that areas of interest and program roadmaps (pathways) have been established, the stage is set for this recommendation to be implemented.

Strategic Goal 1



**The College engages and connects STUDENTS
early (ACHIEVE) and often (HOMEBASE PATHWAY COMMUNITIES)
to people, programs, and services
as an integrated educational experience.**

**By providing personalized, proactive support, the College fosters
relationships that ensure all students, particularly the historically
underserved and marginalized, persist, learn, and succeed.**

Why is it called a HomeBase?

In Fall 2019, ARC students selected the name “HomeBase” from among a dozen options as well as being encouraged to add their own ideas.

The name indicates that the HomeBase will act as the headquarters for the pathway community and its services. It is a place to which students connected to the pathway community can return on a frequent basis for assistance, information, and guidance.



Sample logo

Where will the HomeBases be located?

In order to co-locate services to instruction, a distributed model will be used to create a network with six “HomeBase” pathway support offices that surround the central hub of the Welcome and Support Center. Students will flow to the Welcome and Support Center (and adjacent Administration building) for onboarding as well as centralized services while receiving pathway-specific support within their HomeBase. The number of HomeBase locations may vary over time as pathway volume expands or recedes.



Sample logo

The proposed locations for the 2020 launch include:

- Diane Bryant STEM Innovation Center (2nd Floor)
- Davies Hall*
- Arts & Science Building
- Computer Math Complex (CMC)
- Health & Education Area*
- Diane Bryant STEM Innovation Center (1st Floor)

*Some of these locations would serve two areas of interest that offer pathway classes within the same general vicinity.

What about online students and students who aren't at the main campus?

HomeBase Pathway Communities will have a virtual presence by which any student in the pathway can access information and connect with programmatic expertise.

What features will a HomeBase offer?

Each physical HomeBase office is expected to include the following aspects:

- Service counter (e.g., quick questions, forms)
- Pathway-specific counseling and educational planning
- Program maps and career resources
- Thematically-designed workshops
- Major exploration
- Self-service kiosk (e.g., registration and payment of fees)
- Enhanced referrals (connecting to the next service or expert)

Another key component is that the HomeBase will serve as a dedicated space to build relationships and develop a sense of community.

Who will provide services?

Pathway communities are a collaborative effort between Instruction and Student Services that results in fully integrated support. Each HomeBase will be sustained by the expertise of:

- Classified Staff
- Counselors
- Instructional Faculty
- Peer Mentors

What types of connections might the HomeBase provide?

Further input from the college community is needed, but some ideas that have already surfaced include:

- Access to instructional faculty for mentoring, office hours, career guidance, and pathway-related activities
- Interaction with peer mentors and other pathway students
- Non-ARC pathway expertise (e.g., industry experts or CSU/UC faculty)
- Well-coordinated pathway communications

What's the timeline?

HomeBase Pathway Communities will launch in **Summer 2020**. While the exact date is unknown, the launch will most likely occur in late July or early August. Much of the preparation for the HomeBase Pathway Communities including the development of services and allocation of personnel will occur during the Spring 2020 semester.

Remodeling of existing facilities will also begin during the spring and be sequenced to minimize impact. Training and marketing will take place shortly before the HomeBase locations open. All HomeBase locations are expected to be ready sometime in July so that personnel can move in and get settled prior to the launch.

How will students be associated to a Pathway?

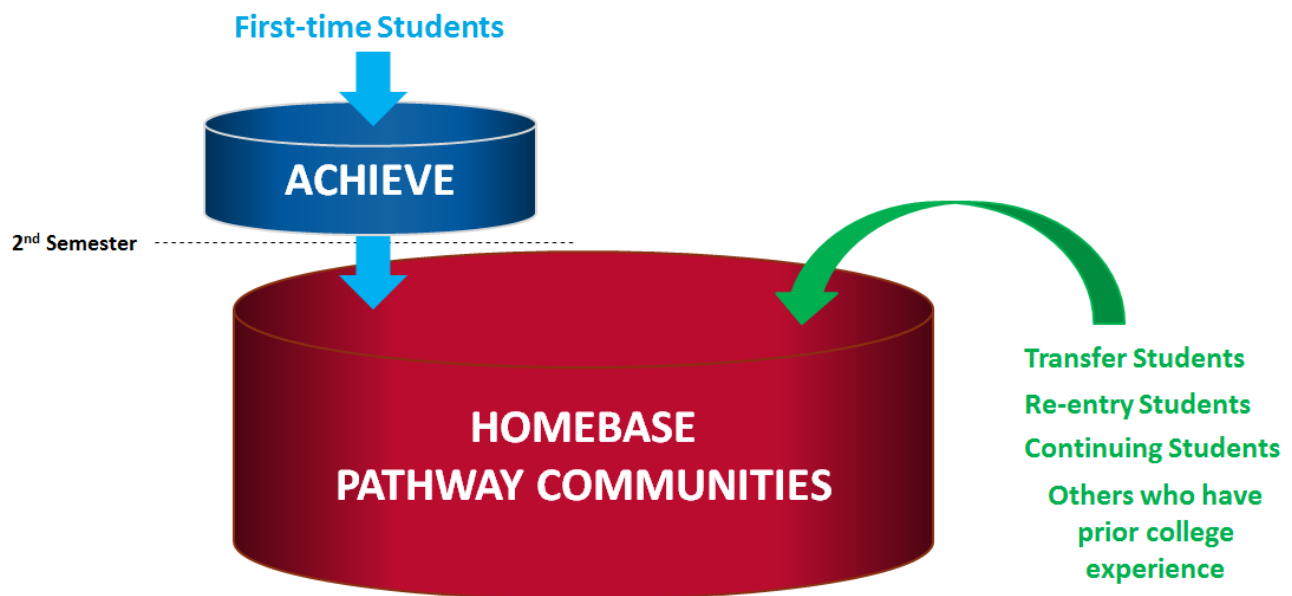
Students will be associated based on their declared major or an undecided interest in a broad major category such as STEM. CCCApply is being reconfigured to collect the information in a new way that should help ARC better identify how students should be directed to the HomeBase that is most closely associated to their interests.

How do Achieve and HomeBase relate to each other?

Achieve is a program specifically designed for newly entering, first-time students that provides proactive onboarding and case management by Success Teams in order to promote a smooth transition to college.

HomeBase Pathway Communities provide services to all students who have declared a major or otherwise indicated a preference for an area of interest. Its focus is to provide pathway-specific exploration, support, and engagement related to the majors and careers within the area of interest. Connection to a HomeBase Pathway Community continues for the duration of a student's time at ARC.

The common "Students First" goal across Achieve and HomeBase Pathway Communities is to improve student persistence, success, and completion. Most students who begin in Achieve will be transitioned to the appropriate HomeBase sometime during their second semester at ARC.



Is the HomeBase design final?

These are only initial concepts that are intended to prompt a productive campus dialogue as we move towards the summer launch. The model can, and will, also be further adjusted as we learn from the initial launch and receive feedback from those connected to the pathways. This will be an iterative process like many recent ARC endeavors.

Are students restricted to the HomeBase for their pathway?

Students are welcome to visit and seek general assistance at any HomeBase location. However, they may be referred to their pathway HomeBase for particular expertise including pathway-specific counseling.

How are the HomeBases supervised or coordinated?

HomeBase Pathway Communities are a joint effort of Instruction and Student Services. It is expected that oversight of the entire program will reside with a designated vice-president or associate vice-president who considers the program holistically. It is likely that there will be a dean associated with each HomeBase and an individual assigned to coordinate services and communications across the HomeBases.

How does this align with Guided Pathways?

Achieve is the vehicle that is used to help newly entering students Clarify the Path and Enter the Path (*Guided Pathways Pillars 1 and 2*). HomeBase Pathway Communities are designed to help all students Stay on the Path and Ensure Learning (*Guided Pathways Pillars 3 and 4*).

Who should employees contact if they are interested in being part of a HomeBase team?

Employees who are interested in participating are encouraged to contact their supervising administrator.