

# TERMS TO KNOW

The following terms are commonly used throughout planning documents related to the ARC Redesign. The definitions are intended as a guide to understanding the documentation rather than a comprehensive description.

**Achieve at ARC** An onboarding experience which is intentionally designed to ensure that recent high school graduates who participate have a successful transition to college. New students who meet the participation criteria and engage with Achieve at ARC receive benefits such as book vouchers, assistance with financial aid applications, and guaranteed classes. For more information, please visit [http://www.arc.losrios.edu/Achieve\\_At\\_ARC](http://www.arc.losrios.edu/Achieve_At_ARC)

**Achieve NSE** Achieve NSE (New Student Experience) is a required extended orientation for students participating in Achieve at ARC. Through this multi-day, in person orientation to American River College, students can discover student support resources; learn about academic support services; and are able to connect with faculty, staff, and other students.

**Areas of Interest** ARC has defined nine broad areas of interest that students can explore before deciding on a specific program. Once a student selects an area of interest, the related pathway community provides further connection to career- and program-oriented information. The nine pathway communities are:

- Applied Technology and Digital Arts
- Arts
- Business, Hospitality, and Recreation
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)
- Health, Human Services and Well Being
- People, Culture and Society
- Language and Communication
- Public Service and Education
- Manufacturing, Construction and Transportation

**ARC Redesign** ARC is engaged in a multi-year effort to redesign how the college functions and how students experience the college. Some key milestones already achieved include:

- Spring 2017 - Adoption of a new vision, mission, social justice statement, and strategic goals
- Fall 2017 – Adoption of a new governance framework
- Spring 2018 – Launch of Achieve at ARC
- Spring 2018 – Adoption of a new program review and annual unit planning model

Additional endeavors and anticipated milestones are outlined on the Redesign web pages and in the Redesign Implementation Plan and Timeline. For more information, please visit <http://www.arc.losrios.edu/Redesign.htm>

**Clarify Program Paths** Clarify Program Paths is one of three student success strategies that have been adopted by ARC to facilitate achievement of college-wide strategic goals. A 2017-18 project team developed recommendations which informed redesign planning for the Clarify Program Paths strategy. This project team is also continuing its work with areas of interest and program roadmap development during the 2018-19 academic year.

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**ELSS** The Enterprise Level Scheduling Solution (ELSS) is a suite of two products designed to increase organizational efficiency in room scheduling and usage (Astra Schedule) while also enabling data-informed, student-centered course scheduling through analytical tools (Platinum Analytics). The ELSS Project Team is charged with participating in a district-wide implementation during the 2018-19 academic year.

**FTE (or FTEF)** Employee FTE is a measure of all workload (part-time and full-time) converted to a full-time equivalent. When referring to faculty, FTE (or FTEF) does not represent the actual number of faculty (headcount), but rather the amount of faculty workload available across a department, division, college, or district.

*[Note: This definition may need to be reworked. In my limited exposure to ARC, the term “FTE” seemed to be used as a substitute for FTEF. I’m not sure whether FTEF is ever used locally to describe full-time equivalent faculty.]*

**FTE Allocation** The amount of full time equivalent faculty available to a college, division, or department to schedule its course offerings. The amount of FTE available to be deployed determines the maximum volume of classes that can be offered.

**Gateways** See definition for Success Teams. Gateways was a term used by the Start Right project team to refer to what is now being called Success Teams.

**GE** General Education or GE is a group of courses that students complete to give breadth to the college experience, enhance the ability to learn, and develop critical thinking skills. For further information please view the description in the college catalog at [http://www.arc.losrios.edu/Documents/Catalog\\_PDFs/GE\\_graduation.pdf](http://www.arc.losrios.edu/Documents/Catalog_PDFs/GE_graduation.pdf)

**GPS** Group Planning Sessions, or GPS, are workshops designed to help new college students complete the districtwide Steps to Success while learning about classes and resource available at ARC. These workshops were implemented prior to the Redesign.

**IPaSS** Integrated Planning and Support for Students (IPaSS) is one of three student success strategies that have been adopted by ARC to facilitate achievement of college-wide strategic goals. A 2017-18 project team developed recommendations which informed redesign planning for the IPaSS strategy.

**Pathway Communities** Pathway communities are designed to connect students, faculty, and staff who have declared or work within a particular area of interest. Using social media and/or other methods, each pathway community will offer program- and career-based information and engagement opportunities.

**Program Roadmap** A program roadmap defines a default sequence of courses that a student can follow as an efficient path to the student’s desired degree, certificate, or transfer goal. Each degree will have two roadmaps, one for full-time students (averaging 15 units per semester) and one for half-time students (averaging 7.5 units per semester). Certificates will have at least one roadmap, and the number of units per semester will be based on the rate at which students typically complete the program. Roadmaps will specify elective and general education courses among other information.

**SEL** The Student Experience Lifecycle Solution or SEL includes technologies designed to create a cohesive experience throughout a student's college journey (pre-application to graduation) along a pathway as well as equipping employees with tools to facilitate case management, foster communication, promote engagement, encourage persistence, and provide proactive intervention. As of Fall 2018, Los Rios was exploring options and had not yet selected a product or products to implement.

**Start Right** Start Right is one of three student success strategies that have been adopted by ARC to facilitate achievement of college-wide strategic goals. A 2017-18 project team developed recommendations which informed redesign planning for the Start Right strategy.

**Steps to Success** Steps to Success is the Los Rios branding of the steps that new students are encouraged to navigate prior to the first day of class. The five steps used districtwide are: Apply, Complete Orientation, Complete Assessment Testing, Create an Education Plan, and Register for Classes. Steps to Success existed prior to the ARC Redesign.

**Success Teams** Success Teams are a high-intensity support system that extends from onboarding to graduation, but is particularly focused on helping students achieve the milestone of successfully completing 24 units. Success Teams coordinate cohesive wrap-around services; offer personalized, tailored support via case management; and provide direction via early alert and proactive intervention. Success teams are typically connected to students based on participation in categorical programs (e.g., EOPS) or affinity groups (e.g., athletes).

**Wayfinding** Wayfinding is an intentional effort to utilize signage, symbols, colors, zones, maps, technologies, and/or other mechanisms to create an intuitive way for students and visitors to orient themselves to the campus and make it easier for them to find their way from one location to another.

**Welcome Center** The Welcome Center is American River College's design for a one-stop shop where most services that a prospective or new student is likely to need are co-located within the Student Services building. The intent of centralizing these services within a single building is to provide convenient access for students as well as a clear location to which employees can direct all new students. Additionally, the proximity of services enables Welcome Center employees to more easily help students transition to related services (e.g., warm handoff) without getting lost between buildings.