

## **SVC Student Achievement Strategy: Planning Guides, Degree Maps, and Educational Plans**

**Planning Guides** include comprehensive information about a particular degree or certificate program, including career information, program learning outcomes, current transfer information, and a degree map. Key advising checkpoints are also listed on the planning guide.

**Degree Maps** are the quarter-by-quarter default sequence of courses, including gateway and critical courses, which lead to on-time completion of a certificate or degree. Degree Maps are also referred to as *Default Pathways* and *Program Maps* at other colleges and in higher education literature.

**Educational Plan** is an individual student's customized course of study based on the appropriate degree map.

**Persons Responsible:** Kenneth Lawson, Dave Paul, Laura Cailloux

### **FAQ's:**

Question: What about students who already have college credits or are unable to take courses on the degree map?

Answer: Students can opt out of these prescribed courses by meeting with an advisor to develop a customized educational plan.

Question: How will part-time students be served if the degree maps are designed for full-time students?

Answer: For now, part-time students will need to develop a customized educational plan. Part-time degree maps will be developed next year to help better serve and advise these students.

Question: If a course is listed on a degree map, do we guarantee to run it?

Answer: Yes, we commit to running courses in the appropriate sequence so students can fulfill their degree requirements in a timely, predictable manner.

**For more information, contact:** Kenneth Lawson at 416-7732 or [Kenneth.Lawson@skagit.edu](mailto:Kenneth.Lawson@skagit.edu) or Dave Paul at 416-7732 or [Dave.Paul@skagit.edu](mailto:Dave.Paul@skagit.edu)

For specific questions or information about planning guides in your program area, contact your dean/VP. Official planning guides are maintained by Jim Jolly.