



Services for the Student Success Center Network

POLICY AND ADVOCACY

Last revised April 2019 | Valid through 2020

Drawing from our experience as policy lead for multiple nationally recognized community college completion initiatives over the past decade, JFF has developed a suite of policy and advocacy services to help Student Success Centers and their partners at state systems, associations, and institutions to inform and influence state policy decisions.

JFF Policy Team Leads:

David Altstadt, Associate Director, Postsecondary;
Lexi Barrett, Senior Director, National Education Policy

For more information, contact David at daltstadt@jff.org or 617-728-4446.

To request any of these services, please contact your JFF state support team.

Key to Levels of Service

Level 1: Online Tools and Resources such as research publications, briefs, recorded webinars, and virtual tools and templates

Level 2: Training, Convening, and Peer Learning such as Network-wide workshops and webinars, group consultation with national providers, and leadership development opportunities

Level 3: Customized Services such as state-specific coaching and consultation, institutes, and trainings customized for Centers based on readiness and need for deeper, individualized support

LEVEL 1: POLICY FOUNDATIONS

All Student Success Centers and their partners have access to a variety of resources to guide their thinking and engagement in policy discussions, including:

- ▣ **Practitioner-Informed Policy Principles, Frameworks, and White Papers**
Through its engagement with the Policy Leadership Trust for Student Success, JFF periodically produces publications that convey what practitioners believe make for good policy affecting student success. Topics have included community college finance, metrics, student financial stability, pathways, dual enrollment, college promise, and career connections. For more information, go to www.jff.org/trust
- ▣ **Annual Policy Scan of Network States**
JFF has produced a 15-point road map for state policy change entitled *Smart Postsecondary Policies that Work for Students and the Economy*. See www.jff.org/policieshatwork. In conjunction, JFF is conducting an annual state policy scan of Network states to capture policy change and highlight exemplary policy approaches. The purpose of the scan is to facilitate cross-state learning and to inform policy and advocacy priorities.



LEVEL 2: POLICY DEVELOPMENT

AND

ADVOCACY LEADERSHIP

All Student Success Centers and their key partners at their state system/association offices have opportunities to engage in policy convenings and trainings to 1) facilitate peer exchange and strategic consultation on the policy implications to their student success work, 2) to keep abreast of major federal and state policy developments, and 3) to provide their perspectives to policy makers and influencers.

▣ Semi-Annual Network Convenings

At the Postsecondary State Network meetings each winter and summer, JFF organizes sessions on key federal, state, and institutional policy issues and provide dedicated time for state teams to consider policy implications for their work and to deliberate on strategies and solutions.

▣ Policy Work Group meetings

JFF periodically convenes work group meetings of the Policy Leadership Trust to examine a particular high-impact policy issue and develop practitioner-informed policy principles. Special effort is made to invite institutional and state-level representatives from each Network state. We invite interest from SSCs.

▣ National Thought Leadership

JFF periodically organizes briefings and makes presentations targeted to policymakers, policy influencers, funders, and practitioners. JFF welcome opportunities to co-present with SSCs, as well as their state-level and institutional colleagues serving on the Policy Leadership Trust. Recent engagements have included Capitol Hill staff, National Council of State Directors of Community Colleges, SHEEO, National Council of State Association Chief Executives, AACC Pathways Project, and DREAM.

LEVEL 3: CUSTOMIZED POLICY AND ADVOCACY SUPPORT

All Student Success Centers may receive up to 8 hours of "core" consultation from the JFF policy team and our pool of policy and advocacy consultants to guide policy agenda setting and advocacy strategies and to deepen knowledge of policy approaches. In addition, JFF will accept requests from up to 3 to 5 Centers per year for "extended" consultation from the JFF policy team and our pool of policy and advocacy consultants to engage in in-state policy activities and to provide customized research and analysis.

▣ Core Supports - Up to 8 consultation hours for each Center

- Consultation on state policy agenda setting and advocacy strategy
- Political analysis and positioning guidance
- Messaging and communications supports
- Expert feedback and input into policy development
- Policy research and analysis

▣ Extended Supports - Upon request for 3 to 5 Centers a year based on need and readiness

- Customized policy research and communications
- Deeper assessment of state policy conditions and climate for change
- In-state consultation of policy strategy development
- Facilitation support for stakeholder engagement convenings
- Expert presentations at policy hearings and meetings