

Pathways Impact Collaborative FAQ

Summary

The Pathways Impact Fund is launching the **Pathways Impact Collaborative**—a national learning community that brings together regional intermediaries and their cross-sector partners around a shared commitment to ensuring all young people are on [purposeful pathways](#).

Through in-person and virtual convenings, practical tools and training, quarterly advisory support, and a collective platform to elevate evidence and storytelling, members will strengthen their local impact and contribute to building national momentum toward purposeful pathways for all young people. Interested intermediaries can join through a process that ensures alignment and mutual commitment.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Pathways Impact Collaborative?

The Pathways Impact Collaborative is the Pathways Impact Fund’s national learning community of regional intermediaries and their partners. It will formally launch in June 2026.

The Collaborative aligns members around a shared vision of advancing purposeful pathways that improve high school, postsecondary, and workforce outcomes for all students, particularly during the transition from high school to postsecondary education.

Members are regional intermediaries—backbone organizations that coordinate cross-sector partnerships among K–12 systems, postsecondary institutions, employers, government, and other stakeholders. These intermediaries lead efforts to design, implement, and scale purposeful pathways in their communities.

By 2029, the Collaborative aims to include up to 50 intermediaries and their partners nationwide. The Pathways Impact Collaborative builds on the Accelerate ED community, a network of more than 25 communities that have worked to scale innovative programs that help students progress toward degrees and credentials that lead to meaningful careers.

2. What benefits will be provided to Pathways Impact Collaborative members?

Through the Pathways Impact Collaborative, member intermediaries and their partners:

- Participate in a national learning community of field leaders and subject matter experts
- Attend annual in-person convenings that bring together regional intermediaries and their partners accelerating their implementation of purposeful pathways
- Engage in targeted virtual shared learning with peers (e.g., quarterly webinars, learning sprints, role-alike facilitated sessions)
- Access a curated library of research, tools, and emerging best practices, and strengthen their capacity through foundational and tailored course offerings in an online training hub

- Partner quarterly with a Pathways Impact Fund Advisor to address challenges, refine strategy, and connect with regional leaders and subject matter experts

Members of the Pathways Impact Collaborative will also receive information about Pathways Impact Fund grant opportunities and eligibility.

3. Who should participate in the Pathways Impact Collaborative and what contributions do members make to the Collaborative?

The Pathways Impact Collaborative is designed to support regional pathways intermediaries and their partners. Intermediaries will act as the lead membership organization. Those that are best suited for membership demonstrate:

- Ongoing cross-sector partnerships that include*:
 - Multiple K-12 districts or schools
 - At least one postsecondary partner
 - Employer and workforce partners
- Experience using regional labor-market information to inform pathway design, advising, and employer engagement
- Experience supporting implementation of all three of the programmatic components of the [purposeful pathways framework](#) (advising, accelerated coursework, career-connected learning)

**Partnerships may be at varying stages of formality but must reflect active and sustained collaboration to improve pathways*

Pathways Impact Collaborative members commit to:

- Designing and implementing strategies aligned to the core components of the purposeful pathways framework;
- Collecting, reporting, and sharing disaggregated systems-level data for at least two core programmatic components;
- Working toward reporting on the Collaborative's North Star measure: the percentage of students accessing all core pathway components;
- Integrating elements that cultivate student agency and momentum—such as purpose, belonging, and social capital—into pathway design and implementation; and
- Actively participating in Collaborative offerings and contributing insights, examples, and peer learning to strengthen the field

If your organization does not fully meet the criteria but is interested in participating, we welcome a conversation. Please contact:

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Pathways Impact Fund

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4. What is the cost of membership?

Membership costs are covered through December 2027. Beginning January 2028, members will pay an annual fee of \$2,500, which includes all benefits described above. The Pathways Impact Collaborative team will work individually with members to ensure a smooth transition to the fee-based structure.

Please note: Travel expenses for in-person convenings (airfare, lodging, and incidentals) are not covered.

5. What is the process and timeline for joining the Pathways Impact Collaborative?

Joining the Pathways Impact Collaborative begins with completing a **Statement of Commitment** form, which is designed to ensure strong alignment and shared expectations, setting members up for meaningful engagement in the Collaborative.

Step 1: Express Interest

Beginning in March 2026, interested intermediaries should [complete this form](#) to express interest in joining the Collaborative and request the Statement of Commitment form.

Step 2: Submit a Statement of Commitment

Interested intermediaries will complete and submit the Statement of Commitment affirming alignment with the Collaborative's membership criteria, goals, and expectations.

Step 3: Review and Follow-Up

The Pathways Impact Fund team will review submissions and may schedule follow-up conversations to connect with interested intermediaries to clarify alignment. You'll hear from our team within two weeks.

Launch and Ongoing Enrollment

The Pathways Impact Collaborative will formally launch in June 2026. Additional intermediaries will join on a rolling basis throughout 2026 and beyond.

For questions about eligibility or the process for joining, contact julia.dibonaventura@strivetgether.org.