

# Grand Valley State University

## Four Year Blueprint for Student Success

**The Four Year Blueprint for Student Success** was developed as the First Year Taskforce and the Campus Wide Student Success Planning Team examined opportunities and services GVSU provides students. From this assessment, we recommended ways to extend the support for first-year students through their second, third, and fourth plus

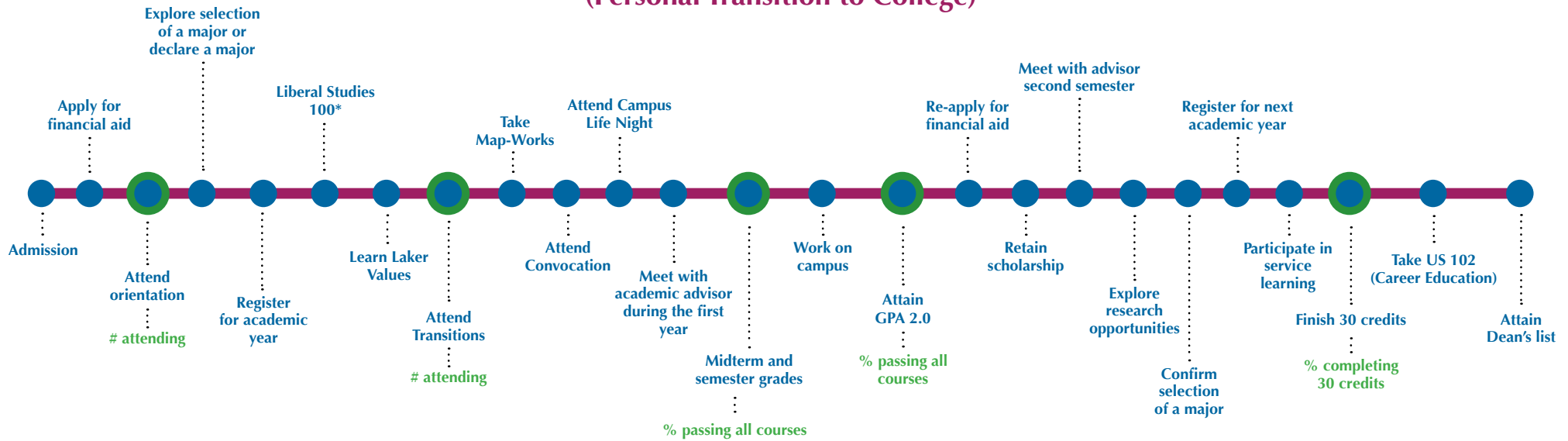
years by identifying academic and community landmarks students could reach. We also determined which landmarks and interventions could be assessed as we guide students toward degree completion and graduation.

The items noted include aspects of GVSU's curriculum and co-curriculum and campus

traditions, as well as learning outcomes noted in "Learning Reconsidered" and AAC&U's Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP). Student persistence and time to graduation committees revisit this blueprint annually and make updates.



# First Year (Personal Transition to College)



## CHALLENGE

- Emphasis on and clarification of academic expectations
- Engagement of students in active learning in class activities
- Increased student understanding of the value of liberal education (through Lib 100 and General Education)
- Faculty and staff/student interaction inside and outside the classroom
- Faculty and staff support for adjustment to college work
- Increased opportunities for diversity learning and experiences
- Articulation of learning objectives and skills in all General Education courses
- Attendance at lectures, film series, art events, conferences, and programs

## SUPPORT

- Financial support (financial aid, university and private scholarships and grants)
- Living/learning communities\*
- Faculty/staff contact
- On-campus residents support from RA staff
- Library orientation
- Academic advising
- Tutoring Center
- Fred Meijer Center for Writing and Michigan Authors
- Children's Enrichment Center
- Persistence Pals
- Wellness support programs
- LGBT Resource Center
- Office of Multicultural Affairs
- Women's Center
- Structured Learning Assistance and Summer Internship Programs
- Counseling Center (individual and career counseling)
- Educational support programs
- Office of Students with Disabilities
- Barbara H. Padnos International Center
- Campus Ministries
- Mid-semester grade reports
- Faculty Fellows program
- TRIO programs
- Off-campus email connections
- US 102 Career Education class
- Transfer support program
- Early Alert program
- Pathways
- Commuter support program
- Final grade reports
- Map-Works
- Non-traditional student support
- Veteran support

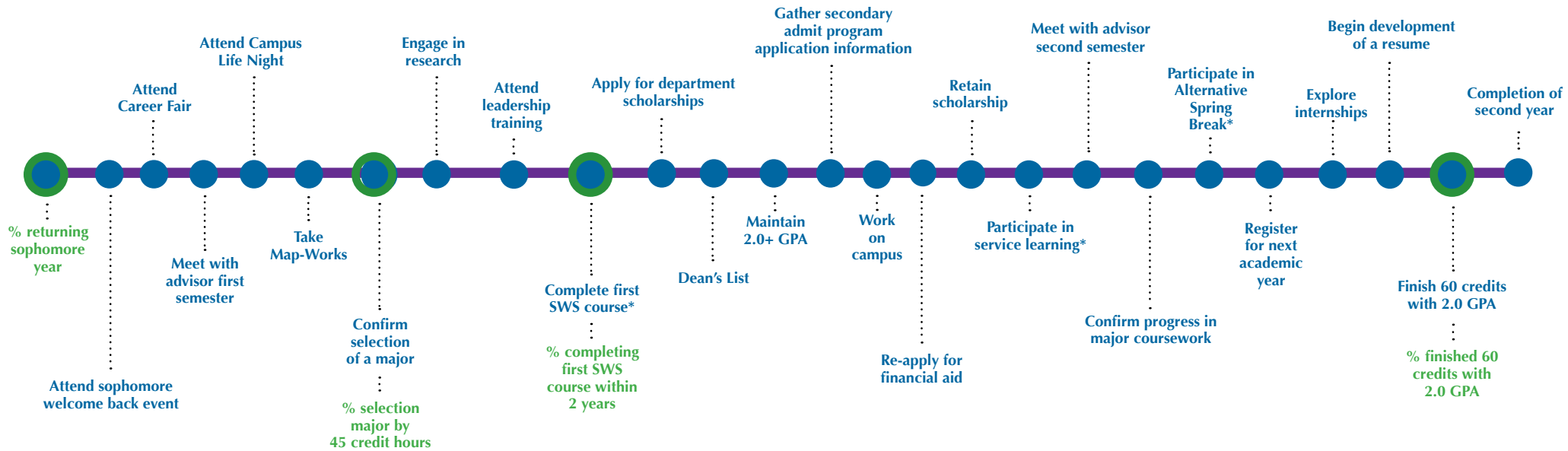
## ENGAGEMENT

- Attend Transitions picnic
- Participate in on-campus employment
- Join the Community Reading Project\*
- Participate in music, art, and athletic events
- Participate in research project(s)
- Join Student Life clubs and organizations
- Participate in intramural athletics and club sports
- Attend Campus Life Night
- Attend Student Leadership Roundtables
- Participate in Community Outreach Week\*
- Participate in Alternative Spring Break\*
- Join Residence Housing Association
- Run for Student Senate
- Utilize campus recreation facilities
- Attend the Volunteer and Internship Fair
- Community Service Learning Center

\*High Impact Educational Practices, George Kuh, American Association of colleges and universities.

# Second Year

## (Exploration of the College Community)



### CHALLENGE

- Emphasis on increasing academic expectations
- Majors Fair
- Internship Fair\*
- Research Fair to provide students with the opportunity to learn about student/faculty research projects\*
- Study Abroad Fair to provide students with international study information\*
- Knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world (LEAP)

### SUPPORT

- Academic advising for exploration of potential majors
- Counseling Center – personal and career counseling
- Additional housing opportunities for returning residents
- Student majors organizations
- Discipline specific and university-wide honors organizations
- Living/learning communities\*
- US 302 Career Exploration
- MAP-Works
- Faculty mentoring relationship
- College advising centers
- Financial Aid (grants and scholarships)
- Tutoring Center
- Children's Enrichment Center
- Wellness support program
- Office of Multicultural Affairs
- Women's Center
- LGBT Center
- Educational Support Programs
- Disability Support Services
- Barbara H. Padnos International Center
- Campus Ministries
- Faculty Fellows Program
- TRIO programs
- Transfer support program
- Non-traditional students support
- Veterans support

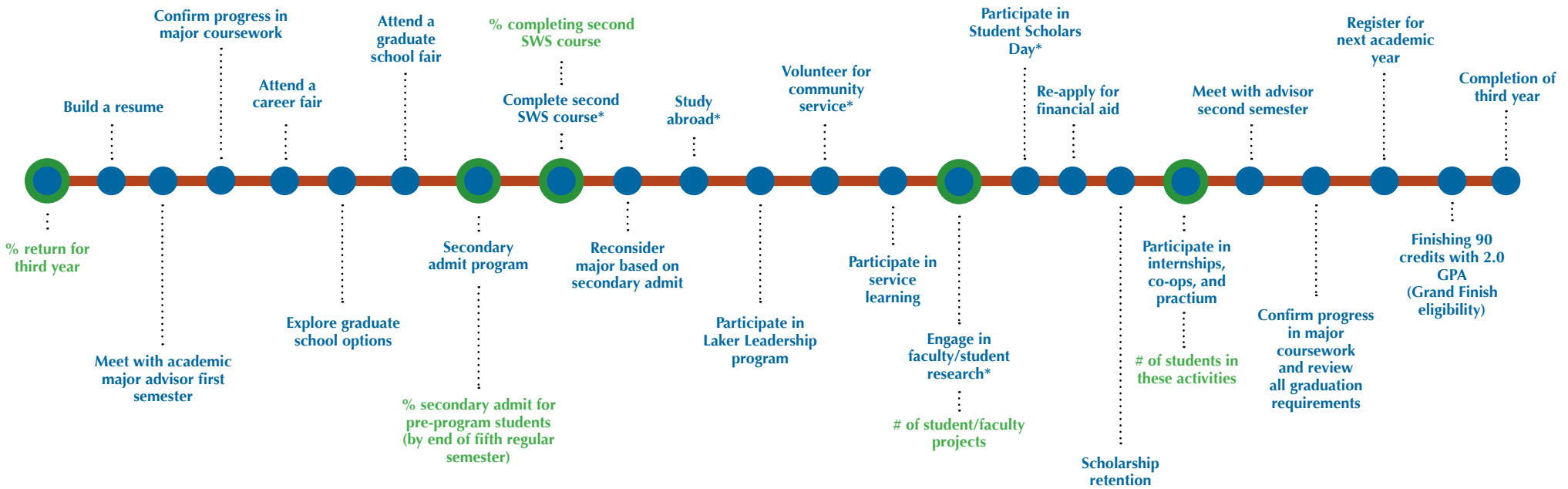
### ENGAGEMENT

- Attend Intermediate Leaders Institute
- Study domestically – spring break study trips
- Join Alternative Spring Break\*
- Explore joining academic club within major
- Participate in on-campus employment
- Participate in Community Reading Project\*
- Develop faculty mentor relationship
- Participate in research project(s)
- Volunteer for Community Service Learning Center\*
- Join intramural athletics and club sports
- Apply to be an RA
- Apply to be a Transitions leader
- Attend music, art, and athletic events
- Use campus recreation facilities
- Run for Student Senate
- Run for office in campus organization
- Attend Campus Life Night

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# Third Year

## (Integration and Involvement in the Larger Community)



### CHALLENGE

- Develop integration skills through General Education Themes
- Student/faculty research opportunity\*
- Student Summer Scholars\*
- Focused engagement with big questions (LEAP)
- Meet with major advisor
- McNair Scholars program
- Application of learning to community projects through service learning\*
- Development of leadership skills
- Student Scholarship Day
- Participation in Study Abroad\*
- Participation in internships\*
- Teamwork within and outside the classroom\*
- Development of professional skills as part of a discipline and profession

### SUPPORT

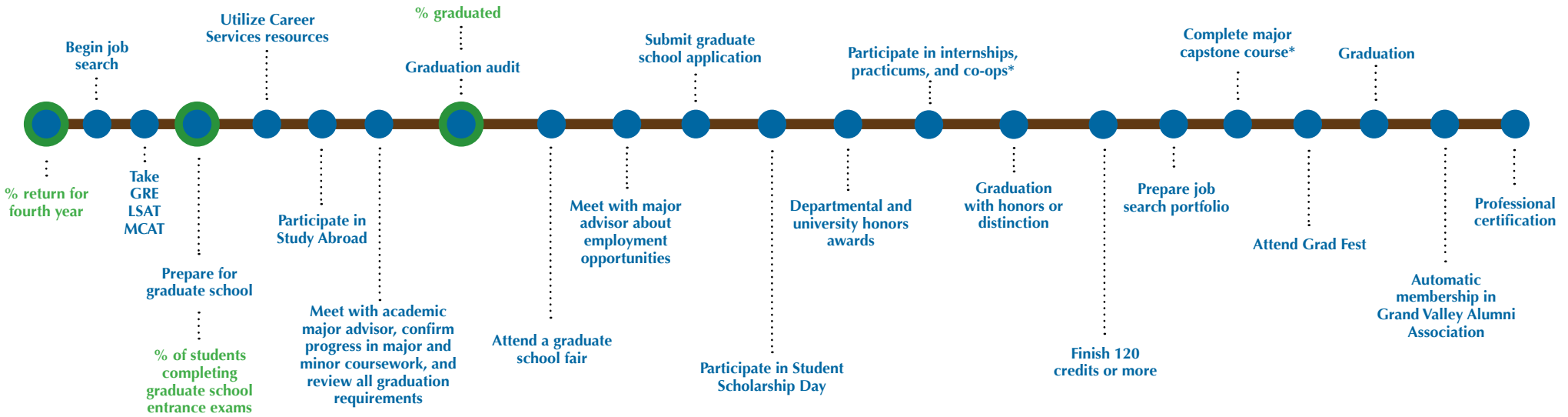
- Career Services and alumni support program to prepare students for marketing themselves when they graduate.
- Support for reselecting a major based on secondary admit decisions
- Support for internship selection by major advisors and Career Services
- Graduate school preparation workshop
- Prep for GRE, LSAT, and MCAT
- Faculty mentoring relationships
- Office of Prestigious Scholarships
- US 301 Career Exploration
- Community Service Learning Center

### ENGAGEMENT

- Attend Leadership Summit
- Run for Junior class council
- Seek on-campus employment
- Perform community service\*
- Participate in research project(s)
- Serve as peer tutor or Writing Center consultant
- Participate in Alternative Spring Break\*
- Participate in intramural athletics and club sports
- Join student organizations
- Hold office in student organizations
- Make conference presentations
- Participate in music, art, athletics, and cultural events
- Join cultural clubs
- Run for student government
- Apply to be an RA/MA
- Apply to be Transitions leader
- Attend Volunteer and Internship fair
- Use campus recreation facilities
- Participate in study abroad\*

\*High Impact Educational Practices, George Kuh, American Association of colleges and universities.

# Fourth and Beyond (Transition to Career)



## CHALLENGE

- Capstone courses\*
- *E-portfolios in capstone courses*
- Thesis preparation
- Internships, co-op and practicum\*
- Career Services support
- Focused engagement with big questions both contemporary and enduring (LEAP)
- Critical and creative inquiry and analysis
- Demonstration of written and oral communication skills
- Civic knowledge and engagement
- Intercultural knowledge and competence (LEAP)
- Ethical reasoning and action
- Practice anchored in active involvement with diverse communities and real-world challenges (LEAP)
- Synthesis and advanced accomplishment across general and specialized studies (LEAP)

## SUPPORT

- All services listed previously
- Graduate school fair
- Job search seminars
- Job fairs

## ENGAGEMENT

- Work as an RA/MA
- Serve as a club's organization officer
- Serve as a student government officer
- Use campus recreation facilities
- Complete research experience

\*High Impact Educational Practices, George Kuh, American Association of colleges and universities.



Fourth Year and Beyond