

# ATTAINMENT GOALS: DIPLOMA & CREDENTIAL BY 2023

## Diploma

All adults ages 25-44 in Washington will have a high school diploma or equivalent.

**Currently 89% of adults ages 25-44 in Washington have a high school diploma or equivalent.**

## Credential

At least 70% of adults ages 25-44 in Washington will have a postsecondary credential.

**Approximately 50% of adults ages 25-44 in Washington currently have a postsecondary credential.**

### Legislature must follow WSAC education Roadmap

*"The WSAC has provided state lawmakers with bold goals and a thoughtful plan to achieve them. It proves, if nothing else, that we're getting better at talking about an education system aligned with the workforce and all phases of student development. Now it's up to state lawmakers to follow the plan."*

**- The Olympian**  
January 16, 2014

### It's time to start reinvesting in higher education

*"The Student Achievement Council recently released a road map for success that includes practical, achievable goals...It will require a long-term perspective and a lot of political courage to meet the challenges ahead for higher education and for basic human services."*

**- The Wenatchee World**  
January 18, 2014

## 12 STRATEGIES TO INCREASE EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

### ENSURE ACCESS

#### 1. Ensure cost is not a barrier for low-income students.

- Fully fund College Bound and State Need Grant.

#### 2. Make college affordable.

- The Council will identify and recommend a funding policy to guide investments in postsecondary education.

#### 3. Ensure high school graduates are college and career ready.

- Continue efforts to implement Common Core State Standards and Smarter Balanced Assessment, e.g. ISLS Grant.
- Provide additional academic supports for students who have been out of high school for a year or more.

#### 4. Streamline and expand dual-credit and dual-enrollment programs.

- The Council will convene a statewide workgroup to develop a coordinated dual-credit and dual-enrollment system to ensure statewide access and funding.

#### 5. Increase support for all current and prospective students.

- The Council will collaborate with partners to identify/promote strategies that ensure access to student services.
  - Effective High School and Beyond Plans for 8th graders.
  - Graduation specialists for high school seniors.
  - Mentoring and sponsorship programs for underrepresented students.
  - Training for advisors, counselors, and mentors at all levels.
  - Designated staff support for underrepresented students at postsecondary institutions.
  - Online advising system for students, parents, and advisors.

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## ENHANCE LEARNING

### **6. Align postsecondary programs with employment opportunities.**

- The Council will convene a statewide workgroup to review, align, and enhance existing employer feedback mechanisms.

### **7. Provide greater access to work-based learning opportunities.**

- Increase investments in the State Work Study program.
- Create an online clearinghouse of work-based learning opportunities to facilitate matching of students with employers.

### **8. Encourage adults to earn a postsecondary credential.**

- Provide tailored information regarding continuing education and provide supports to adults with some postsecondary credit but no credential.

### **9. Leverage technology to improve student outcomes.**

- Create a statewide educational technology consortium that will identify strategies to:
  - Increase use of technology to deliver workplace-based programs and share open educational resources.
  - Provide training opportunities and facilitate professional learning communities.
  - Develop a voluntary compact to enhance purchasing options and securing statewide licensing for educational materials and technologies.
  - Establish competitive grant and award programs to encourage innovation and effective practices utilizing technology.

## PREPARE FOR FUTURE CHALLENGES

### **10. Respond to student, employer, and community needs.**

- The Council will develop a process for assessing institutional capacity, in response to needs from students, employers, and communities, that is consistent with the Council's statutory responsibility relative to system design. Capacity assessment will include:
  - Forecasting model to assess impacts of Roadmap strategies on student demand.
  - Process to assess postsecondary educational needs of students, employers, and communities.
  - Assessment of institutions' programmatic, physical, and technological capacity to provide lifelong educational opportunities.
  - Identification of best practices for improving effectiveness and efficiency within existing resources.
  - Assessment of state's overall return on investment (ROI) in postsecondary education.

### **11. Increase awareness of postsecondary opportunities.**

- Ensure all Washingtonians have access to a one-stop shop for information about postsecondary education opportunities and career requirements, in addition to assistance with completing applications for enrollment and financial aid.
  - The "Ready, Set, Grad" website will be continually updated and translatable into more than 60 languages by mid-2014.

### **12. Help students and families save for postsecondary education.**

- The Council will develop a savings incentive pilot program for the Legislature's consideration.