

September 2011

DRAFT: Focused List of “Next Steps” to Achieve the Master Plan Goals

Goal 1: Increase educational attainment (readiness, acceleration, completion)

1. Focus on increasing K-12 students’ participation in College Bound and provide the financial and mentoring resources for them to succeed.
2. Expand institutional enrollment capacity at existing sectors, institutions, branches, centers and online venues.
3. Support efforts to expand opportunities for adults with some credits already earned to complete their degrees.
4. Expand opportunities for 2- to 4-year transfer.
5. Promote acceleration strategies for both high school students and adult learners through Launch Year, Prior Learning Assessment, CTC Alternate Math Pathway, I-BEST, and pre-college reform.
6. Promote college and career readiness.

Goal 2: Promote economic growth and innovation, responding to economic demand, pathways to career opportunities and public/private partnerships

1. Grow capacity in high employer demand programs of study, recognizing the higher cost of these programs.
2. Provide incentives for students to enter programs in STEM/high demand degree production and areas of critical state needs. Leverage the state’s investment through Opportunity Scholarship Fund and Opportunity Expansion programs to meet labor market demand.
3. Encourage business and industry leaders to assist the colleges in innovation.
4. Engage the private sector in assisting and developing high employer demand capacity and research and innovation.
5. Define and develop K-12 through postsecondary program pathways, especially in high employer demand majors and careers.

Goal 3 Monitor and fund higher ed. for results

1. Funding and monitoring the higher education system should focus on completion results.
2. Build a focused accountability system that aligns with state goals to promote progress toward educational attainment.
3. Align incentives with degree production to increase number of the number of graduates.
4. Reward improvements rather than goals/targets.
5. Allow for flexibility in institutional mission within a focus on outcomes.
6. Improve data systems so that funding and monitoring is built upon good data.