

IMPLEMENTATION



Achieving the policy objectives and strategies outlined in this Strategic Agenda will depend upon a number of essential components:

Adequate Funding. Sustained, adequate funding in direct operating support to public postsecondary institutions is vital to making progress toward our ambitious educational attainment goal. Increases in state funding and financial aid, as well as cost controls and innovation in how we deliver postsecondary education and training, will be required to increase productivity and effectiveness while protecting access for low- and middle-income students and families.

Accountability. Accountability in higher education is a shared responsibility among the institutions and the Council on Postsecondary Education that includes common goals and objectives, a division of labor, measured results, and a focus on continuous improvement. A Metrics Advisory Committee, comprised of campus representatives and Council staff, met in 2015 to recommend high-level state and institution performance metrics to guide our progress through 2021. Other contextual data and indicators will be monitored throughout the life of the plan to assist with policy and program development.



Outcomes-Based Funding. Providing incentives for campuses to increase retention, completion, degree production and other priority outcomes is an important strategy to accelerate improvement. The Council worked collaboratively throughout 2015 with campus presidents, provosts, chief budget officers, institutional research directors, and members of the Council's Budget Development Work Group to develop a rational, outcomes-based funding model that would tie some of the institutions' restored state funding to the achievement of negotiated performance targets. This work will be used in discussions with the Governor's office and campus and legislative leaders to finalize an outcomes-based funding approach, which will begin in Fiscal Year 2018 (July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018).

IMPLEMENTATION

Measures of Progress. The performance measures considered and recommended by the Metrics Advisory Committee and the Steering Committee will be finalized in conjunction with the development of an outcome-based funding model to monitor our progress toward increasing degrees and credentials, closing achievement gaps, increasing the success of underprepared students, improving academic quality, increasing educational attainment, and other collective Strategic Agenda goals.

Progress Reports. A web-based performance dashboard will provide timely access to the data and information needed to understand absolute and relative progress toward key objectives and strategies. Campuses will report to the Council annually on their progress, and other performance reports will be produced as needed.

Campus Strategic Plans. The Strategic Agenda for Postsecondary and Adult Education is intended to complement and not supplant the strategic plans approved by institutional governing boards that allow colleges and universities to achieve their unique missions. The Council and the institutions will work together to ensure that campus strategic plans broadly align with the statewide agenda.

