



## States with Higher Education Attainment Goals

(November 2019)

The states listed in the table below have articulated a statewide higher education attainment goal, which has been set by their governor, legislature, or college or university systems. Statewide attainment goals seek to increase the educational levels of the adult population and are aligned to address the workforce needs of the state. An effective statewide goal is challenging, quantifiable, addresses achievement gaps for underrepresented populations, includes a target date, is codified in a manner to influence postsecondary education policy and practice, and has broad stakeholder support. States are encouraged to include all of these key elements in their goals.

State	Higher Education Attainment Goal Statement	Goal Setting Organization [Year Adopted]	Link to Goal
Alabama	60% of the state's working age population holding some type of certificate, credential or degree of value by 2025	Executive Order [2017]	<a href="http://www.madeinalabama.com/assets/2018/05/Success-Plus.pdf">http://www.madeinalabama.com/assets/2018/05/Success-Plus.pdf</a>
Alaska	Increase percent of Alaskans with postsecondary education leading to a degree or certificate from 37% to 65% by 2025	Alaska Board of Regents [2016]  (Supporting the Alaska Postsecondary Access and Completion Network)	<a href="http://www.alaska.edu/files/pathways/Strategic-pathways-2016-2025-12-May-Update_JJ.pdf">http://www.alaska.edu/files/pathways/Strategic-pathways-2016-2025-12-May-Update_JJ.pdf</a>
Arizona	60% of adults ages 25-64 with a professional certificate or college degree by 2030	Achieve60AZ [2016]	<a href="http://achieve60az.com">http://achieve60az.com</a>
Arkansas	Increase current attainment rate of 43.4% to 60% by 2025. By 2020, increase number of postsecondary credentials by over 40% over 2013-14 academic year levels	Arkansas Department of Higher Education [2015]	<a href="https://static.ark.org/eeuploads/adhe/Closing_the_Gap_2020_2.pdf">https://static.ark.org/eeuploads/adhe/Closing_the_Gap_2020_2.pdf</a>
Colorado	Increase the number of Coloradans aged 25-34 who hold high-quality postsecondary credentials (degrees or certificates) to 66% by 2025 as well as reduce attainment gaps among students from	Colorado Commission on Higher Education / Department of Higher Education [2013]	<a href="http://masterplan.highered.colorado.gov/">http://masterplan.highered.colorado.gov/</a>

	underserved communities		
<b>Connecticut</b>	Increase the education levels of the adult populations by 2025 to not less than 40% having earned a bachelor's degree and 30% having earned an associate degree	Connecticut General Assembly [2015]	<a href="http://www.cga.ct.gov/2015/act/pa/pdf/2015PA-00075-R00HB-07007-PA.pdf">http://www.cga.ct.gov/2015/act/pa/pdf/2015PA-00075-R00HB-07007-PA.pdf</a>
<b>Florida</b>	Increase the percentage of working-age Floridians with a high-value postsecondary certificate, degree, or training experience to 60% by 2030	Florida Legislature [2019]	<a href="http://www.floridahighereducation.org/">http://www.floridahighereducation.org/</a>
<b>Georgia</b>	60% of young adults will hold a college certificate or degree by 2025	Georgia Board of Regents and State Board of Technical College System [2011]	<a href="https://gosa.georgia.gov/complete-college-georgia-overview">https://gosa.georgia.gov/complete-college-georgia-overview</a>
<b>Hawai'i</b>	55% of Hawai'i's working age population will have a college degree by 2025, increasing degree attainment at University of Hawai'i by 6-9% every year	University of Hawai'i (oversight of 2 & 4 year institutions) [2008]	<a href="http://www.55by25.org/about/">http://www.55by25.org/about/</a>
<b>Idaho</b>	By the year 2025, 60% of the state's citizens between the ages of 25-34 shall have a postsecondary education (certificates and degrees)	Idaho State Board of Education [Updated 2017]	<a href="http://www.boardofed.idaho.gov/policies/documents/strategic_plan/sboe.pdf">http://www.boardofed.idaho.gov/policies/documents/strategic_plan/sboe.pdf</a>
<b>Illinois</b>	60% of 25-64 year olds will have a college degree by 2025	Illinois Board of Higher Education [2012]	<a href="http://legacy.ibhe.org/masterPlanning/materials/070109_PublicAgenda.pdf">http://legacy.ibhe.org/masterPlanning/materials/070109_PublicAgenda.pdf</a>
<b>Indiana</b>	Increase higher education attainment of adults to 60% of Indiana's population by 2025	Indiana Commission for Higher Education [2012]	<a href="https://in.gov/che/files/77185_2016_R_HDV_Report_Master.pdf">https://in.gov/che/files/77185_2016_R_HDV_Report_Master.pdf</a>
<b>Iowa</b>	70% of Iowa's workforce will have education or training beyond high school by the year 2025	Governor [2016]	<a href="https://governor.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Executive%20Order%2088.pdf">https://governor.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Executive%20Order%2088.pdf</a>
<b>Kansas</b>	Increase to 60% the number of Kansas adults who have a certificate, associate degree, or bachelor's degree by 2020	Kansas Board of Regents [2010]	<a href="https://www.kansasregents.org/resources/KansasBoardofRegents_2018ProgressReport_FINAL.pdf">https://www.kansasregents.org/resources/KansasBoardofRegents_2018ProgressReport_FINAL.pdf</a> (updated 2018)
<b>Kentucky</b>	Raise the percentage of Kentuckians with a high-quality	Kentucky Council on	<a href="http://cpe.ky.gov/ourwork/documents/201621strategicagenda.pdf">http://cpe.ky.gov/ourwork/documents/201621strategicagenda.pdf</a>

	postsecondary degree or certificate from its current level of 45% to 60% by 2030	Postsecondary Education [updated, 2016]	
<b>Louisiana</b>	60% of the working age population with a postsecondary credential by 2030	Louisiana Board of Regents [2018]	<a href="https://masterplan.regents.la.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Full-Report-FINAL.pdf">https://masterplan.regents.la.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Full-Report-FINAL.pdf</a>
<b>Maine</b>	60% of working-age adults will hold a high-value credential by 2025	Maine Workforce and Education Coalition [2016]	<a href="http://mainespark.me/">http://mainespark.me/</a>
<b>Maryland</b>	At least 55% of residents 25-64 years old hold an associate's or bachelor's degree by 2025	Maryland General Assembly [2013]	<a href="https://mhec.maryland.gov/About/Documents/2017_2021%20Maryland%20State%20Plan%20for%20Higher%20Education.pdf">https://mhec.maryland.gov/About/Documents/2017_2021%20Maryland%20State%20Plan%20for%20Higher%20Education.pdf</a>
<b>Massachusetts</b>	60% of Massachusetts 25-34 year olds hold a college degree by 2020	Massachusetts Department of Higher Education [2012]	<a href="http://www.mass.edu/visionproject/vision.asp">http://www.mass.edu/visionproject/vision.asp</a>
<b>Minnesota</b>	Increase to at least 70 percent by 2025 the number of Minnesota residents ages 25 to 44 years who hold postsecondary degrees or certificates	Minnesota State Legislature [2015]	<a href="https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/?id=69&amp;year=2015&amp;type=0">https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/?id=69&amp;year=2015&amp;type=0</a> (Section 6)
<b>Missouri</b>	60% of 25-64 year olds hold a 2- or 4-year degree or career or technical certificate by 2025	Governor / Missouri Department of Higher Education [2013]	<a href="https://dhe.mo.gov/documents/Blueprintexecutivesummary2016.pdf">https://dhe.mo.gov/documents/Blueprintexecutivesummary2016.pdf</a>
<b>Montana</b>	Adopt an overall attainment goal of 61% by 2025 and direct state agencies to align agency goals and strategic plans with this goal wherever possible	Future Ready Cabinet [2019]	<a href="https://mus.edu/board/meetings/2019/May2019/183-104-R0519_A1.pdf">https://mus.edu/board/meetings/2019/May2019/183-104-R0519_A1.pdf</a>
<b>Nevada</b>	Reach an attainment rate of 60% by 2020	Nevada State System of Higher Education [2015]	<a href="http://system.nevada.edu/tasks/sites/Nshe/assets/File/Publications/NSHE%20Strategic%20Plan-2015.pdf">http://system.nevada.edu/tasks/sites/Nshe/assets/File/Publications/NSHE%20Strategic%20Plan-2015.pdf</a>
<b>New Hampshire</b>	65% of the state's 25 to 64 year-old population holds a high-quality postsecondary credential or degree by the year 2025	New Hampshire Coalition for Business and Education [2015]	<a href="http://www.nhcbe.org/wp-content/uploads/6525CollegeCompletion.pdf">http://www.nhcbe.org/wp-content/uploads/6525CollegeCompletion.pdf</a>
<b>New Jersey</b>	65% of the state's population complete education beyond high school by the year 2025	Joint Policy Resolution of the Office of the Secretary of Higher	<a href="https://www.state.nj.us/highereducation/documents/pdf/StateEducationplan.pdf">https://www.state.nj.us/highereducation/documents/pdf/StateEducationplan.pdf</a>

		Education, Dept. of Labor and Workforce Development, and Governor's Higher Education Council [2017]	
<b>New Mexico</b>	66% of the state workforce population will have a postsecondary degree, certificate or training beyond high school by the year 2030	Governor [2016] <sup>1</sup>	<a href="http://www.governor.state.nm.us/uploads/FileLinks/5634a3c59b924b1ba8ca6072b986dc45/EO_2016_037_037_DECLARING_ROUTE_TO_66_AS_NEW_MEXICO_S_HIGHER_EDUCATION_ATTAINMENT_GOAL.pdf">http://www.governor.state.nm.us/uploads/FileLinks/5634a3c59b924b1ba8ca6072b986dc45/EO_2016_037_037_DECLARING_ROUTE_TO_66_AS_NEW_MEXICO_S_HIGHER_EDUCATION_ATTAINMENT_GOAL.pdf</a>
<b>North Carolina</b>	2 million 25- to 44-year-olds (66%) with a high-quality credential or postsecondary degree by 2030	Resolutions through the University of North Carolina and North Carolina Community College Systems [2019] endorsing goal recommendation of myFutureNC	<a href="https://www.myfuturenc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/A-Call-to-Action-Final-Report_040319.pdf">https://www.myfuturenc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/A-Call-to-Action-Final-Report_040319.pdf</a>
<b>North Dakota</b>	65% of North Dakota's workforce aged 25-64 will have education or training beyond high school by 2025, including postsecondary degrees, certificates and other high-quality credentials	State Board of Higher Education [2016]	
<b>Ohio</b>	65% of Ohioans between 25 and 64 years old will hold a degree, certificate or other postsecondary workforce credential of value in the workplace by 2025	Ohio Board of Regents' Resolution [2016]	<a href="https://www.ohiohighered.org/sites/ohiohighered.org/files/uploads/attainment/attainment-framing-paper_FINALb_050416.pdf">https://www.ohiohighered.org/sites/ohiohighered.org/files/uploads/attainment/attainment-framing-paper_FINALb_050416.pdf</a>
<b>Oklahoma</b>	70% of Oklahoma residents 25-64 years old having education training beyond high school by 2025	Governor Mary Fallin, Executive Order 2016-41 [2016]	<a href="https://www.sos.ok.gov/documents/Executive/1065.pdf">https://www.sos.ok.gov/documents/Executive/1065.pdf</a>
<b>Oregon</b>	40% of all adult Oregonians with a baccalaureate degree or	Oregon State Legislature - SB	Chapter 638, OR Law - <a href="http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_">http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_</a>

<sup>1</sup> The subsequent Interdepartmental Resolution on Postsecondary Attainment between the New Mexico Higher Education Department, the Public Education Department and the Department of Workforce Solutions clarified that the goal pertained to the attainment of credentials.

	<p>higher, 40% with a certificate or an associate's degree, and 20% with a high school diploma by 2025</p> <p>Oregon anticipates more than 120,000 additional jobs requiring post-secondary training or education between now and 2030. In order to meet this need, 300,000 additional adult Oregonians should earn a new degree, certificate or credential valued in the workforce during that time. Because Oregon has substantial attainment gaps among minority, low income and rural Oregonians, the state will also commit to reducing those attainment gaps by half during the decade.</p>	<p>253 established the 40-40-20 Goal in law, Chapter 638 [2011]</p> <p>Higher Education Coordinating Commission approved an adult educational goal at its November 8, 2018 public meeting. (this goal is in conjunction with the 40-40-20 goal)</p>	<p><a href="https://www.legis.or.gov/laws/statutes/2011orLaw0638.html">aws/laws/statutes/2011orLaw0638.html</a></p> <p>Adult Educational Goal  <a href="https://mailchi.mp/hecc/press-release/oregon-approves-new-adult-educational-attainment-goal-903009?e=c49bbfd968">https://mailchi.mp/hecc/press-release/oregon-approves-new-adult-educational-attainment-goal-903009?e=c49bbfd968</a></p>
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<p>60 percent of the population ages 25-64 hold a postsecondary degree or industry recognized credential by 2025, with a particular focus on closing attainment gaps for historically underrepresented populations.</p>	<p>State Board of Education's Council of Higher Education [2018]</p>	<p><a href="https://www.stateboard.education.pa.gov/Documents/About%20the%20Board/Board%20Actions/2018/Attainment%20Goal%20Memo.pdf">https://www.stateboard.education.pa.gov/Documents/About%20the%20Board/Board%20Actions/2018/Attainment%20Goal%20Memo.pdf</a></p>
<b>Rhode Island</b>	<p>70% of Rhode Islanders will have an associates or bachelor's degree by 2025</p>	<p>Rhode Island Board of Education [2018]</p>	<p><a href="https://www.riopc.edu/news/70by25/">https://www.riopc.edu/news/70by25/</a></p>
<b>South Carolina</b>	<p>60% of the adults in South Carolina will obtain a workforce-relevant credential – that is, a degree or certificate – by 2025</p>	<p>SC General Assembly / SC Commission on Higher Education (for 4 year institutions) [2017]</p>	<p><a href="http://www.che.sc.gov/CHE_Docs/executive/director/mailouts/TownHall/2017_CHE_Public_Agenda_FINAL.PDF">http://www.che.sc.gov/CHE_Docs/executive/director/mailouts/TownHall/2017_CHE_Public_Agenda_FINAL.PDF</a></p>
<b>South Dakota</b>	<p>65% of South Dakotans aged 25-34 will have a credential or degree beyond high school by 2025</p>	<p>Executive Proclamation by Governor Daugaard [2016]</p>	<p><a href="https://sdsos.gov/general-information/executive-actions/gubernatorial-proclamations/search/Document.aspx?CabId=523E2A2A&amp;DocGuid=20161206-1416-3230-3650-309e3a66630b">https://sdsos.gov/general-information/executive-actions/gubernatorial-proclamations/search/Document.aspx?CabId=523E2A2A&amp;DocGuid=20161206-1416-3230-3650-309e3a66630b</a></p>
<b>Tennessee</b>	<p>55% of Tennesseans earning a college degree or certificate by 2025</p>	<p>Governor and Tennessee General Assembly –</p>	<p><a href="http://www.driveto55.org">http://www.driveto55.org</a></p> <p>The Master Plan for Tennessee Postsecondary Education (2015-2025)</p>

		Complete College TN Act [2010]	<a href="https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/thecc/cm/2015/sum15I.D._2015-20_Master_Plan_for_Tennessee_Higher_Education.pdf">https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/thecc/cm/2015/sum15I.D._2015-20_Master_Plan_for_Tennessee_Higher_Education.pdf</a>
<b>Texas</b>	By 2030, at least 60% of Texans ages 25-34 will have a certificate or degree	Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board [2015]	<a href="http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/reports/PDF/6862.PDF?CFID=32864269&amp;CFTOKEN=91124181">http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/reports/PDF/6862.PDF?CFID=32864269&amp;CFTOKEN=91124181</a>
<b>Utah</b>	To have 66% of Utah's men and women age 25 to 64 with a postsecondary degree or certificate by the year 2020	Governor and Governor's Education Excellence Commission [2017]	<a href="https://www.utah.gov/governor/docs/priorities/education/UT_Education_Roadmap_FINAL1130.pdf">https://www.utah.gov/governor/docs/priorities/education/UT_Education_Roadmap_FINAL1130.pdf</a>  <a href="https://www.utah.gov/governor/">https://www.utah.gov/governor/</a> (Priorities dashboard)
<b>Vermont</b>	By the year 2025, 70% of VT's working-age adults will possess a postsecondary degree or credential of value, particularly gaining credentials aligned to Vermont's workforce needs	Advance Vermont Cross-Sector Resolution [2016]	<a href="https://advancevermont.org/">https://advancevermont.org/</a>
<b>Virginia</b>	Virginia will be the top state in educational attainment and reach the 60.5%/10% benchmarks of working adults having a degree/certificate by 2030	State Council for Higher Education in Virginia [2015]	<a href="http://www.schev.edu/index/statewide-strategic-plan/annual-report">http://www.schev.edu/index/statewide-strategic-plan/annual-report</a>
<b>Washington</b>	At least 70% of Washington adults aged 25-44 will have a postsecondary credential by 2023	Washington Student Achievement Council [2013]	<a href="http://www.wsac.wa.gov/the-roadmap">http://www.wsac.wa.gov/the-roadmap</a>
<b>Wisconsin</b>	60% of adult population aged 25-64 will hold a high-quality credential by 2027	Joint Council: presidents of UW, WAICU, WTCS [2016]	<a href="https://www.60forward.org/">https://www.60forward.org/</a>
<b>Wyoming</b>	67% by 2025 and 82% by 2040 of Wyoming's working population 25-64 years possess a valuable post-secondary credential (degree or certificate)	Executive Order [2018]	<a href="https://communitycolleges.wy.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Order2018-01-EducationalAttainment.pdf">https://communitycolleges.wy.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Order2018-01-EducationalAttainment.pdf</a>