

State Strategic Plans for Higher Education



Structure

▶ Data

- Demographics
- College Completion Rates
- Achievement Gap
- College/Career Readiness
- Affordability & Financial Aid
- STEM or Other Ec Dev Challenges/Strengths

▶ Goals

- K12 education and college readiness
- Number of Degrees
- Access & Affordability
- Graduation & Retention Rates

Purpose of State Strategic Plans

- ▶ Illinois—“The purpose of the planning initiative is to develop an *action agenda*, based on *quantifiable evidence*, for institutions, state education agencies, and the Governor and General Assembly to address the education, workforce, social, and economic needs of the State by setting *priorities*, developing *policies*, and allocating *resources*.”

Maryland

- ▶ Goals:
 - Quality and Effectiveness
 - Access, Affordability, Completion
 - Diversity
 - Innovation
 - Economic Growth and Vitality
 - Data Use and Distribution

Maryland Structure

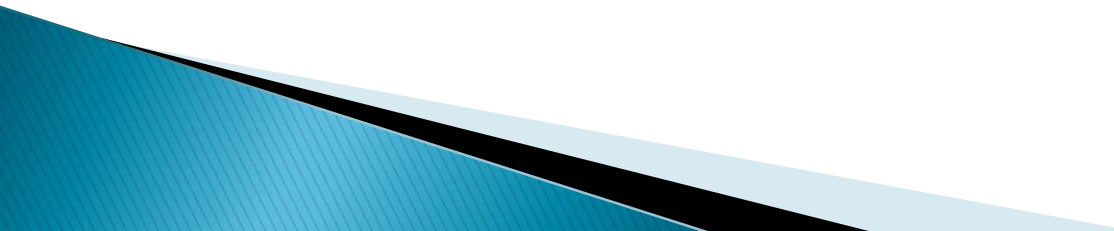
- ▶ **Quality & Effectiveness Goal**
- ▶ Point #2–The Commission and Maryland postsecondary institutions will strengthen efforts to prepare and support students making transitions into and within postsecondary education.
- ▶ *Implementation Measures/Strategies:*
- ▶ In preparation for the 2016–17 academic year, the Commission will assist the Maryland State Department of Education with the development of *transition courses and other instructional opportunities for 12th grade students* who have not achieved college and career readiness by the end of the 11th grade.
- ▶ The Commission, in collaboration with Maryland public colleges and universities, will create and implement a *statewide transfer agreement* whereby at least 60 credits earned toward an Associate's degree at a community college in the State are automatically transferrable to a public four-year institution in the State before July 2016.

Colorado

- ▶ **Priorities**– Affordability, Access, Quality, and Accountability
- ▶ We envision a Colorado with a *globally competitive* system of higher education that builds our economy and enhances our quality of life for our citizens by:
 - Meeting the current and future needs of our *workforce* and our business community;
 - Providing *access* to every qualified student through a tiered system of institutions;
 - Maximizing *quality, efficiencies*, collaborations and affordability;
 - Offering *seamless transitions* to appropriate levels of learning for all students; and
 - Developing responsible citizens for a successful civic enterprise.

Kentucky-

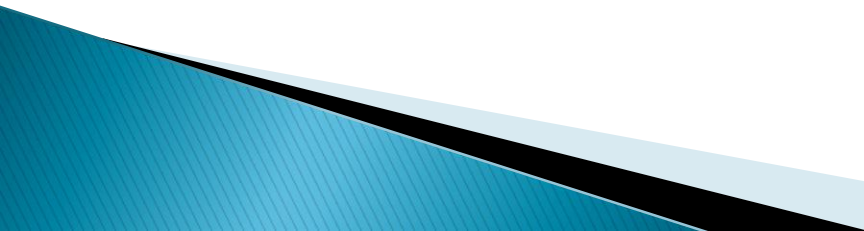
STRONGER BY DEGREES 2011-15

- ▶ VISION: All Kentuckians will be prepared to succeed in a global economy.
 - ▶ MISSION: To deliver a world-class education to students, create and apply new knowledge, and grow the economy of the Commonwealth.
 - ▶ Plan sets out overarching goals then articulates strategies in support and then policy objectives.
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Kentucky Example

- ▶ **Goal–College Readiness–** KY will be stronger by ensuring more high school graduates, GED graduates, and working–age adults enter college prepared for credit bearing work.
 - **Policy Objective 1:** Increase the number of college–ready Kentuckians entering postsecondary education.
 - **Strategies:**
 - Align K–12, adult education, and postsecondary education standards, curriculum, and assessment processes
 - Support effective intervention strategies for underprepared students prior to postsecondary admission.
 - Strengthen the college–going and completion culture in Kentucky.

Indiana–Achieving More 2012

- **Student-centered**–recognize changing needs and demographics of students.
 - **Mission-driven**– recognize diverse landscape of public and private postsecondary education providers, each filling a distinct but integrated role within the higher education system.
 - **Workforce-aligned**–recognize the increasing knowledge, skills and degree attainment needed for lifetime employment and economic competitiveness.
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Indiana-Specific Targets

- ▶ **College Completion:** Increase on-time college graduation rates for Hoosier students to at least 50 percent at four-year campuses and 25 percent at two-year campuses by 2018.
- ▶ **Degree Production:** Double the number of college degrees and certificates produced currently by 2025 (requires increasing annual degree production from approximately 60,000 degrees to 120,000 degrees).
- ▶ **Education Attainment:** Increase higher education attainment of Hoosier adults to 60 percent of Indiana's population by 2025 (45 percent by 2018).

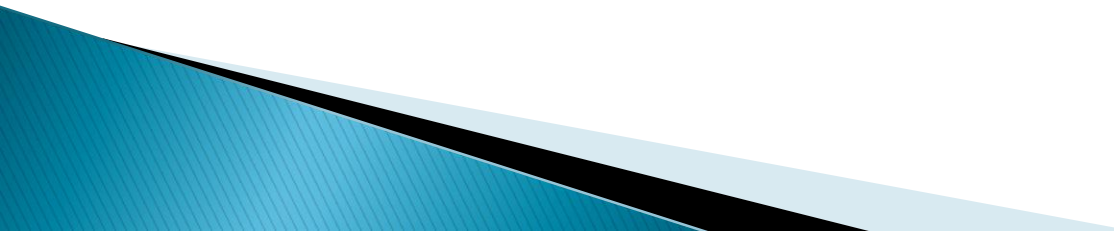
Indiana–Action Steps Example

- ▶ **COMPLETION:** Must increase overall completion rates and reduce the time it takes for students to complete degree programs. This will require:
 - Increasing *preparation* of K–12 students.
 - Transforming *remedial education* policies and practices to ensure students successfully complete gateway college courses.
 - Establishing clear, efficient pathways for *on–time college completion*.

Others

- ▶ **Ohio**– Key goals:
 - graduate more people
 - keep them here after graduation
 - attract more talent to Ohio so that we become a net importer of people with college degrees
- ▶ **Texas**-- 15 year plan ending in 2015, called *Closing the Gaps by 2015*
 - CLOSE THE GAPS IN PARTICIPATION--add 500,000 more students.
 - CLOSE THE GAPS IN SUCCESS--increase by 50 percent the number of degrees, certificates from high quality programs
 - CLOSE THE GAPS IN EXCELLENCE--increase number of nationally recognized programs or services at colleges and universities in Texas
 - CLOSE THE GAPS IN RESEARCH--increase the level of federal science and engineering research funding to Texas institutions by 50 percent
- ▶ **Illinois**–Illinois will provide effective and quality education for all people. The (Plan) is the pathway to *one Illinois*, where all residents have affordable access to high-quality educational opportunities that prepare them for the jobs of the present and the future.

Implementation Requires:

- ▶ Adequate Funding
 - ▶ Accountability
 - ▶ Performance Metrics
 - ▶ Implementation Plans
 - ▶ Reporting and Benchmarking
 - ▶ Incentives
 - ▶ Balance of Quality and Quantity
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Caveat

- ▶ Many plans....little implementation.
 - ▶ “Many plans were produced by the board over the years that were trumpeted loudly and then quietly abandoned when it became clear that the legislature had no intention of providing the major funding increases the plans called for.”
 - ▶ “A strategic plan for higher education does exist, but like a recurring episode of Seinfeld, its mostly a “show about nothing.”
 - ▶ “There was implementation only when the different systems bought into the recommendations, embraced them as their own and sought funding and other changes required for implementation.”
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