WSAC Overview

Rachelle Sharpe, Ph.D. | House Higher Education Committee | Jan. 10, 2017

WASHINGTON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL
EDUCATION · OPPORTUNITY · RESULTS

Council's statutory charge

Propose educational attainment goals to the Governor and Legislature

Propose strategies and resources necessary

Align the work of education and higher education programs, agencies, and institutions

RCW 28B.77.003, 020

THE COUNCIL

Maud Daudon, Chair
President & CEO of Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce

Karen Lee, Vice Chair
CEO of Pioneer Human Services, Western WA University Trustee

Paul Francis, Secretary
Executive Director of Council of Presidents
- Four year public institutions

Jeff Charbonneau
2013 National Teacher of the Year Chemistry, Physics, Engineering

Dr. Susana Reyes
Assistant Superintendent, Mead School District

Jessica Murillo-Rosales
Graduate Student, Central Washington University

Marty Brown
Executive Director of SBCTC
- Two year public colleges

Violet Boyer
Executive Director of ICW
- Independent Colleges of Washington

Dr. Gil Mendoza
Deputy Superintendent of K-12 Education, OSPI
- K-12 education

WSAC's PRIMARY DUTIES

Policy & Research

- Attainment goals
- System & workforce needs
- Student transition policies

Access & Support Programs

- Ready, Set, Grad
- GEAR UP
- 12th Year Campaign
- theWashboard

Savings & Financial Aid Programs

- Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET)
- Financial aid grant administration
- Workforce shortage loan programs

Consumer Protection

- Degree authorization
- Approval of Veteran's benefits
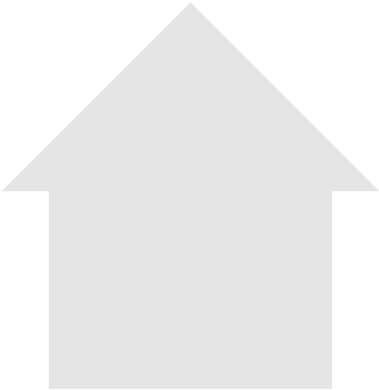- Complaint resolution
- Program compliance

STATEWIDE ATTAINMENT GOALS

By 2023

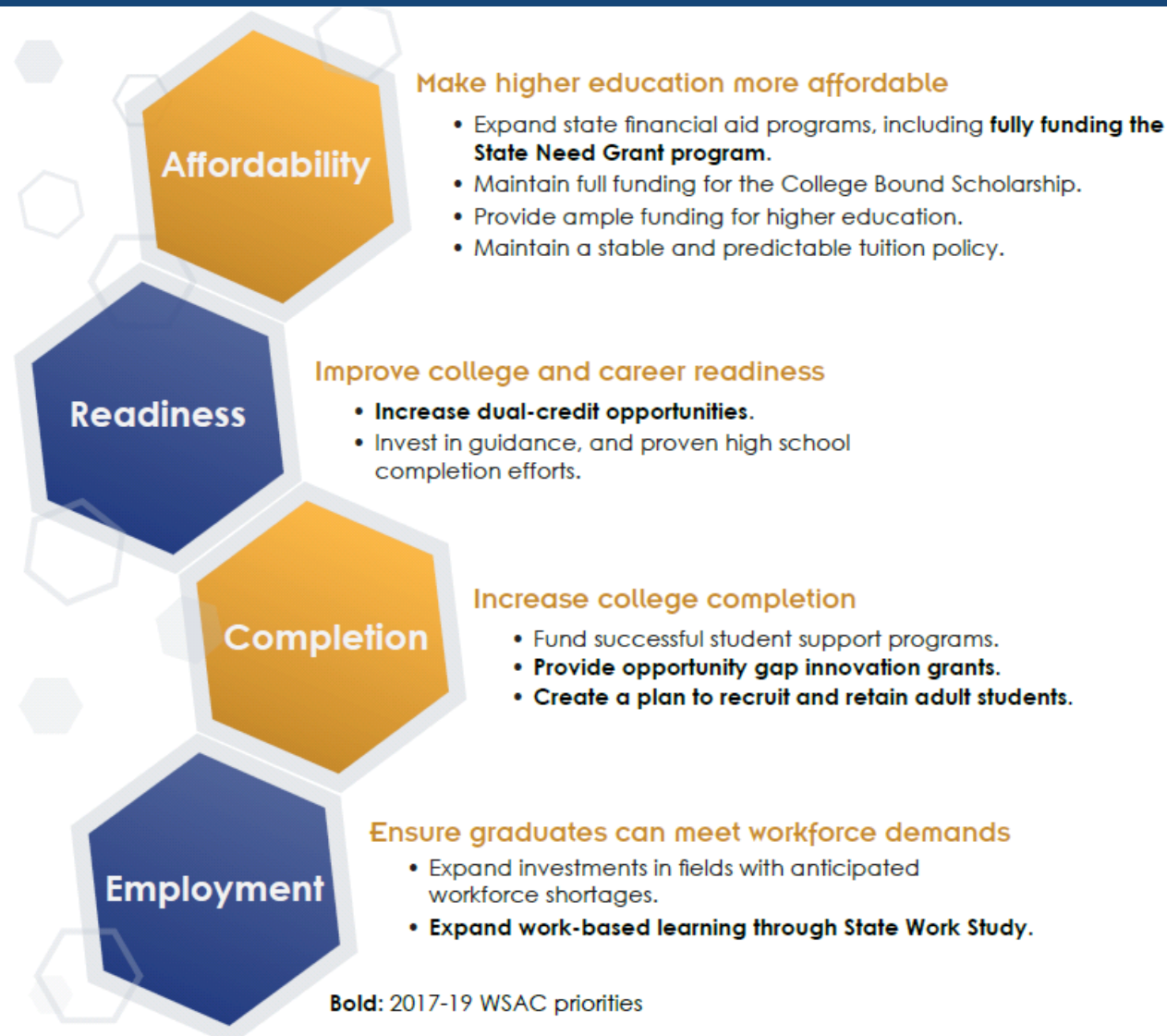**100% of adults* will have a high school diploma or equivalent.**

At least 70% of adults* will have a postsecondary credential.

The ten-year Roadmap outlined the goals adopted by the 2014 Legislature.

*Adults in Washington aged 25-44.

Affordability

Make higher education more affordable

- Expand state financial aid programs, including **fully funding the State Need Grant program.**
- Maintain full funding for the College Bound Scholarship.
- Provide ample funding for higher education.
- Maintain a stable and predictable tuition policy.

Readiness

Improve college and career readiness

- **Increase dual-credit opportunities.**
- Invest in guidance, and proven high school completion efforts.

Completion

Increase college completion

- Fund successful student support programs.
- **Provide opportunity gap innovation grants.**
- **Create a plan to recruit and retain adult students.**

Employment

Ensure graduates can meet workforce demands

- Expand investments in fields with anticipated workforce shortages.
- **Expand work-based learning through State Work Study.**

Bold: 2017-19 WSAC priorities

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

We promote high school completion, college readiness, access and success.
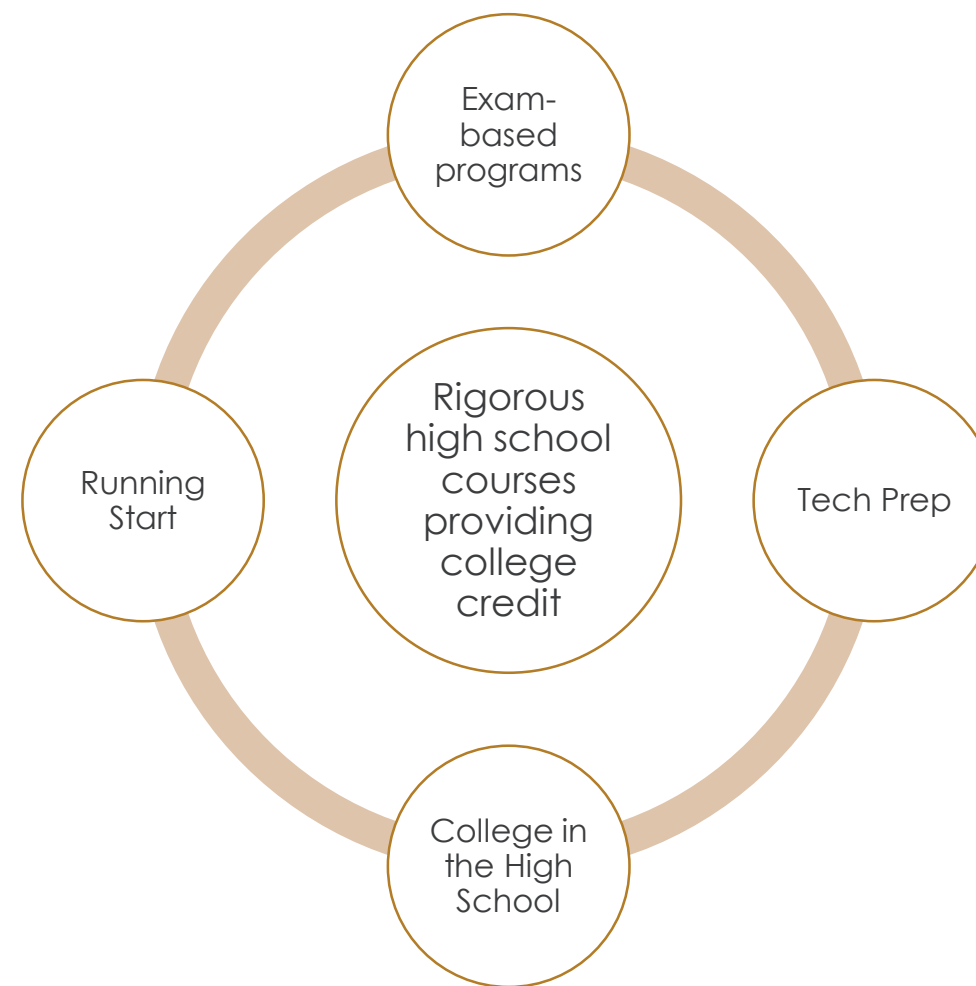

- Dual credit
- Student transitions
- College readiness
- College admission standards
- Affordability
- Student success

Dual credit leads to postsecondary opportunity

Dual-credit students are more likely to meet college readiness benchmarks, enter college—and enter shortly after high school graduation—and they are less likely to place into remedial English or math.

They have higher first year college GPAs, second year college retention rates, and higher four- and six-year college completion rates.

Exam-based programs

Running Start

Rigorous high school courses providing college credit

Tech Prep

College in the High School

WASHINGTON STATE GEAR UP

WSAC administers this direct service grant to 27 low-income districts, serving 8,000 students and their families.

In collaborations with UW and CSF, GEAR UP provides professional college readiness trainings to school staff, counselors and leaders.

GEAR UP Program objectives

- Increase academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education.

- Increase high school graduation and postsecondary participation rates.

- Increase students' and their families' knowledge of postsecondary options, preparation, and finances.

STATEWIDE APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

College Application Campaign → College Goal Washington → FAFSA Completion Initiative

Bit.do/FAFSACompletionData

12th Year Campaign WASHINGTON

Key partnerships

OSPI

DSHS

CSF

TRiO