

Title	Adult Re-Engagement Through Innovative Program Delivery
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Synopsis	Re-engaging adults who have not completed or never accessed postsecondary education is critical for meeting the state’s education attainment goals. The Council will hear three presentations on strategies to re-engage adults in postsecondary education. The presentation will include representatives from the University of Washington, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, and Western Governor’s University - Washington.
Guiding questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do these programs or initiatives address the needs of working adults? • What are the opportunities for collaboration among the sectors and the Council as we pursue a statewide strategy to increase the number of adults who obtain a postsecondary credential?
Possible council action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Only <input type="checkbox"/> Approve/Adopt <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Documents and attachments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brief/Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PowerPoint <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Third-party materials <input type="checkbox"/> Other

Adult Re-engagement through Innovative Program Delivery

Council Action

None required. For discussion purposes only.

Brief Description

At the August meeting, Council members reiterated the importance of pursuing strategies in the Roadmap aimed at increasing the attainment of adults who do not have and who are not pursuing a postsecondary credential. During this agenda item, Council members will hear from representatives of three of the state's postsecondary education sectors about specific programs and initiatives aimed at increasing attainment of this population.

Overview

Meeting the state's Roadmap goals will require innovative strategies and programs. Postsecondary institutions and leaders will need to draw from all possible populations and initiate a variety of strategies to improve recruitment, access, and completion. One segment of the population we need to attract to postsecondary education is adults without a postsecondary credential.

About 50 percent of Washington's adult population, age 25-44, has a postsecondary credential. Successful recruitment and retention strategies for this population can dramatically increase individual career prospects and the economic prosperity of our state.

Adults returning to postsecondary education have needs that differ from the needs of younger, more traditional students. Yet at the same time, they are not a uniform group. They come from varied life experiences and face a range of barriers that may include unemployment, underemployment, family obligations, health issues, and prior negative experiences in the educational system. Adults are also more likely to attend postsecondary institutions part-time while working full-time, a challenging circumstance that has shown to be a risk factor for success.

The 2013 Roadmap Report

The community and technical college system, the Western Governors Association, regional four-year institutions and research institutions, are all educating adults and developing new and better ways of delivering programs to meet their needs and improve completions. Some of the strategies include e-learning and hybrid offerings, providing credit for prior learning, delivering education through a competency-based model, providing online support services, and mentoring, among others.

See over.

Potential Questions for Council Members

1. How do these programs or initiatives address the needs of working adults?
 - a. How do these programs or initiatives overcome barriers of cost, time, and place?
 - b. What elements of the program are designed to meet the needs of these students?
2. What are the opportunities for collaboration among the sectors and the Council as we pursue a statewide strategy to increase the number of adults who obtain a postsecondary credential?