

# Measuring Progress Toward Attaining Connecticut's Goals: An Initial Set of Accountability Metrics



Planning Commission for Higher Education  
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**NCHEMS**

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## Goal 1: Education Attainment

- Increase education attainment of the adult population of the state

### Direct Measures

- Trends in proportion of population aged 25-64 with
  - An associate degree or higher
  - Associate degree only
  - Baccalaureate degree or higher
- Trends in the education attainment gap between whites and underrepresented minorities
  - 25-34 year-olds
  - 25-64 year-olds
- Trends in education attainment gaps between residents of cities' urban cores and the rest of the state
  - 25-34 year-olds
  - 25-64 year-olds

- \* – Trends in quality of degrees awarded – extent to which degrees reflect deeper learning required in the workforce and by modern society

# Connecticut Goals

(Goal 1 continued)

## Supporting Metrics

- \* – Trends in proportion of recent high school graduates entering community colleges as first-time students who test as needing remedial-level work
  - In one subject
  - In two subjects
  - In more than two subjects
- \* – Trends in the number and proportions of students who test at the remedial level and complete a college-level gateway course within one year of enrolling
- Trends in numbers of adults completing academic programs (individuals 25 and older at the time the award is received)
  - Baccalaureate
  - Associate
  - Certificates of value

\*Requires new data collection.

# Connecticut Goals

- **Goal 2: Competitive workforce, regions and communities**
  - Increase higher education's contributions to a globally competitive economy and workforce and sustainable regions and communities

## Direct Measures

- Trends in numbers of degrees produced in fields identified as state priorities (STEM, health, digital media, high-value certificates – advanced manufacturing)
  - Doctoral degrees
  - Masters degrees
  - Baccalaureate degree
  - Associate degree
  - Certificates

# Connecticut Goals

(Goal 2 continued)

## Direct Measures

- \* – Trends in new business activity resulting from research
- \* – Partnerships in every region – metrics to be developed
- \* – Trends in number of students in community service, internships, and workplace-based learning activity

## Supporting Metrics

- Proportion of jobs in regions and communities that are “living wage” jobs – they pay twice the poverty level wage
  - Cities
  - Regions
- Net import/export of individuals with baccalaureate degrees or higher (who have/had) “high wage” jobs
  - Regions
- Trends in per capita income relative to the state average
  - Regions

\*Requires new data collection.

# Connecticut Goals

- **Goal 3: Affordability**

- Ensure that higher education is affordable for Connecticut residents

## Direct Measures

- Trends in net cost of attendance relative to median family income
  - Research Universities
  - 4-year comprehensives
  - Community colleges
- Trends in net cost of attendance relative to low quintile family income
  - Research Universities
  - 4-year comprehensives
  - Community colleges

# Connecticut Goals

(Goal 3 continued)

## Direct Measures (continued)

- Trends in proportion of Connecticut undergraduate students with student loans
- Trends in the average size of student loans – benchmarked to the national average

## Supporting/Contextual Measures

- Trends in proportion of Connecticut high school graduates who enroll in Connecticut
- Trends in percent increases in undergraduate tuition (sticker price)
  - Research Universities
  - 4-year comprehensives
  - Community colleges
- Annual % change in
  - State need-based aid
  - Institutional need-based aid
    - Research Universities
    - 4-year comprehensives
    - Community colleges