Ohio Board of Regents' Resolution

Ohio Attainment Goal 2025

WHEREAS the Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce indicates that 64 percent of Ohio jobs in the year 2020 will require a postsecondary workforce certificate or degree; and

WHEREAS according to the Ohio Governor’s Office of Workforce Transformation, 56 percent of Ohio’s “in-demand” occupations currently require a certificate or degree; and

WHEREAS according to the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems dashboard, to produce the number of highly skilled workers with postsecondary credentials required to meet the needs of our state’s employers, Ohio will need to produce, by 2025, an estimated 1.7 million more adults with high-quality postsecondary certificates or degrees; and

WHEREAS the 2015 Report on the Condition of Higher Education in Ohio: Student Success for Adult Learners noted that 3.7 million Ohioans between the ages of 25 and 64 do not have a postsecondary credential, and recommended that the Ohio Department of Higher Education work with state institutions to develop statewide goals for adult postsecondary attainment as a part of overall attainment goal-setting efforts; and

WHEREAS the Lumina Foundation’s report based on 2012-2014 American Community Survey data found that Ohio has roughly a 14-percentage-point difference between degree attainment rates of whites and the attainment rates of African-Americans, and a 15 percentage point difference between whites and Latinos; and

WHEREAS according to the Appalachian Regional Commission review of the 2010-2014 American Community Survey data, Ohio has an 11-percentage-point difference in degree attainment rates between Appalachian Ohio and non-Appalachian Ohio; and

WHEREAS according to the 2014 American Community Survey, 29.8% of adults with less than a high school diploma and 13.8% of adults with just a high school diploma in Ohio live in poverty, compared to only 4% of Ohio adults with a baccalaureate degree or higher; and

WHEREAS Ohio has at least 12 local or regional partnerships focused on increasing educational attainment in their communities; and

WHEREAS credentials that benefit students and build a robust workforce may be in the form of certificates, industry licenses or certifications, associate degrees, baccalaureate degrees, and advanced degrees;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ohio Board of Regents, with the support of the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education, champions the pursuit of a statewide goal to have 65 percent of Ohioans between 25 and 64 years old hold a degree, certificate or other postsecondary workforce credential of value in the workplace by 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pursuit of this goal seeks to meet the needs of Ohio’s in-demand occupations and increase attainment to close demographic disparities to include more adults, students from low-income families, African-Americans, Latinos/Hispanics, residents of Appalachia, and residents of rural Ohio; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ohio Board of Regents, with the support of the Chancellor, encourages collaboration among the Ohio Department of Higher Education, the Ohio Department of Education, the Governor’s Office of Workforce Transformation, Ohio’s secondary and postsecondary institutions, and local community partnerships for attainment to pursue this goal.

John Carey, Chancellor

Vinod K. Gupta, Chair

Thomas Humphries, Vice-Chair

Virginia M. Lindseth, Secretary

Kurt Kaufman

Elizabeth Kessler