

Colorado Technical Working Group updates

September 7, 2023

Per HB22-1349 & CCHE Strategic Plan

- "...develop student success measures that measure the progression of students through postsecondary education and the impact of postsecondary pathways on a student's career opportunities and success," and
- Strategize to "create and maintain a statewide student success data system," to be administered by the Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE.)



Working Group members

Sarah Hughes, Chairwoman, Colorado Commission on Higher Education

Josh Scott, Vice Chairman, Colorado Commission on Higher Education

Britta Blodgett, Assistant Director of Communications and Collaboration, Colorado Workforce Development Council

Marcia Bohannan, Chief Information Officer, Colorado Department of Education

Dr. Sonia Brandon, Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness, University of Northern Colorado

Dr. Joyce Brooks, Former Chairwoman, Colorado NAACP

Mario Carrera, President, Colorado Latino Leadership, Advocacy and Research Organization

Diane Cheng, Vice President of Research and Policy, Institute for Higher Education Policy



Working Group members cont'd

Preston Cooper, Senior Fellow, Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity

Dr. Nate Easley, Secretary, Colorado State University Board of Governors

Dr. Landon Pirius, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, Colorado Community College System

Michelle Quinn, Vice President of Finance and Administration, Colorado Mesa University

Michael Vente, Chief Performance Officer, Colorado Department of Higher Education

Maggie Yang, Senior Director of Data Systems, Colorado Department of Higher Education



Step 1: Minimum value threshold - Coloradans should not be made financially worse off over their lifetimes because they pursue postsecondary education.

Colorado Value Threshold Model

Colorado Minimum Value Threshold

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Incremental Earnings

Costs specific to attending higher education



Colorado Value Threshold Model

Colorado Minimum Value Threshold (Median earnings by institution and field) - (Median earnings of high school graduate)]

[((Tuition & fees + books & supplies)

- Financial aid) +

(Median earnings of high school graduate)]



Data elements

Demographics

- Sex
- Race

Geographic

- High school city
- Current city

Attainment

- High school grad (0/1)
 - GED recipient?
- High school grad year
- HS GPA, test scores
- Any postsecondary (0/1)
 - Less than 1 year (0/1)
- Postsecondary institution
- Postsecondary credential (0/1)

Attainment cont'd

- Postsecondary grad year
- Degree type
- Major

Employment

- 1-, 5-, 10-year earnings
- Industry
- Occupation

Cost

- Tuition and fees (when enrolled)
- Financial aid
 - Pell
 - State financial aid

Control group

- High school diploma only vs. postsecondary credential
 - Concurrent enrollment while in high school? Yes.
 - Include those enrolled less than one year in postsecondary? Yes.
- Match on:
 - Sex
 - Race
 - Family income
 - Pell
 - Free meal eligibility



Calculating lifetime earnings

- Available data:
 - 1-, 5-, and 10-year post-graduation earnings
- Use 10-year earnings data to calculate lifetime earnings
 - Relatively linear
- Outstanding questions:
 - Graduate school?
 - Precision?
 - Need to go back 10 years (i.e., class of 2012) is there a need to account for economic context? (i.e., COVID, recessions, etc.)



Next steps

- Finalize control group, books & supplies estimate
- September meeting: discuss measures of success and value beyond financial value
- Late Fall/early Winter: data systems, data sharing, etc.



Thank you! Questions?

