

## Key opportunities and themes for higher education from discussions by the SCHEV Ad Hoc Committee on Educational Attainment

1. Professional development in the field of early childhood education that supports active learning by all providers and healthy development in young children.
2. All-court press on completion for people who have almost gotten their degree, with a special focus on low-income communities.
3. Better alignment of need-based financial aid and ability to complete, particularly for first generation students and students from low-income communities.
4. Continued attention on articulation agreements (dual enrollment, traditional transfer, reverse transfer, “all access” guaranteed admission) with added monitoring and reporting on completion rates at the receiving four-year institution.
5. Outreach, advising, counseling and mentoring that leads to greater enrollment, retention, graduation and employment.
6. Elevated presence of institutions, especially community colleges, serving rural, first-generation, low-income and other individuals who might not ordinarily pursue education beyond high school.
7. Stabilizing population loss and increasing prosperity in all regions of the state through innovations to recruit and retain students and talent.
8. Leadership by Council of Presidents to be key players in ongoing educational attainment initiatives, starting with a small list of top issues (i.e., early childhood, addiction crisis, entrepreneurship, rural broadband deployment).
9. Ongoing discussion, monitoring, research and reporting on educational attainment, through an organized effort with policy makers, communities and educational leaders at all levels.

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