

Update on Statewide Strategic Plan Priority Initiatives

SCHEV Council
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**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER
EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA**

Council Objectives for Today

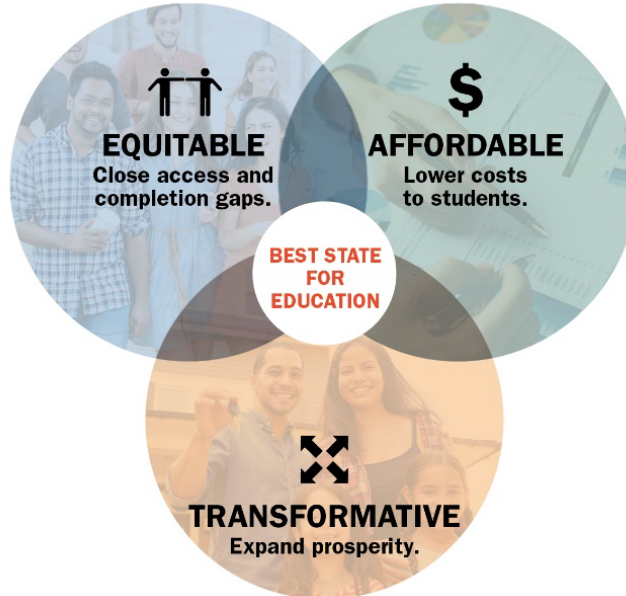
- Review SCHEV's strategic plan responsibility.
- Summarize Plan framework and relate to priority initiatives.
- Provide an update on priority initiatives.

SCHEV's Strategic Plan Duty

- The *Code of Virginia* charges SCHEV with the responsibility to develop a statewide strategic plan that:
 - Reflects statutory goals for higher education in the Commonwealth,
 - Identifies a coordinated approach to such state and regional goals, and
 - Emphasizes the future needs for higher education in Virginia.
- Approved in January 2021, *Pathways to Opportunity: The Virginia Plan for Higher Education* identifies trends that the Commonwealth must address if it is to continue to prosper and succeed.
- The Plan must be created/updated at least every six years.

Pathways to Opportunity Plan - Goals

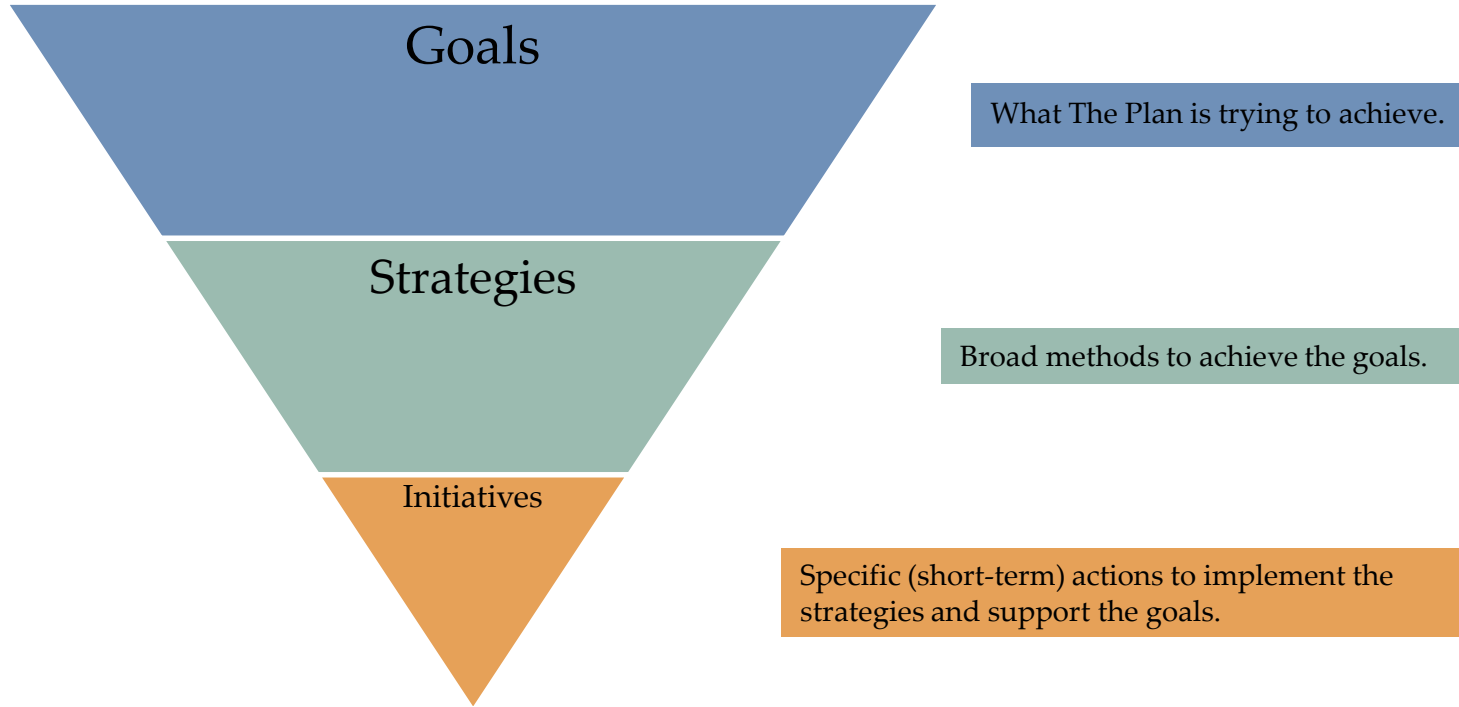
Remove barriers to access and attainment, especially for Black, Hispanic, Native American and rural students; students learning English as a second language; students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds; and students with disabilities.



Invest in and support the development of initiatives that provide cost savings to students while maintaining the effectiveness of instruction.

Increase the social, cultural and economic well-being of individuals and communities within the Commonwealth and its regions.

Plan Goals, Strategies and Initiatives



Priority Initiatives

Council's Role:

- Shape and approve a slate of biennial priority initiatives to:
 - Address the Plan's generalities and lead by example.
 - Emphasize topics of concern to Council.
- Approved the current biennial (2023-2025) slate of priority initiatives on October 24, 2023.
- Receive regular updates from staff on specific/all initiatives.

Goal 1 – Close Access and Completion Gaps

Plan Biennial Initiative

Updated Actions to implement initiative

I.1 Promote access to postsecondary education

Level Up Virginia website and social media campaign launched; Led financial aid and FAFSA outreach/assistance efforts and access programming for GEAR UP cohort. (May)

I.2 Support Online Virginia Network (OVN) market survey

Survey developed by VCU Survey and Evaluation Research Laboratory and completed by 243 former VA college students that have not completed a degree.

I.3 Develop resources for mental health and disabilities supports

Mental Health Pilot Round one pilot continues to increase counseling capacity, reduce staff burnout. Round two pilot grants awarded.

Virginia Mental Health Access Program (VMAP) collaboration yielded two webinars for CME credit; more than 60 on-campus medical health professionals participated in each webinar.

Best practice guidelines document and SB 21 report produced by advisory committee/work group to support students with disabilities. (July)

Goal 2 – Lower Costs to Students

Plan Biennial Initiative

Updated Actions to implement initiative

1.4 Establish consensus on higher education cost and funding needs.

Cost and Funding Needs Study (2022) failed to produce operational model. Consider building on framework to produce a working model for next budget cycle pending JLARC study.

1.5 Establish Pathways Maps as a means to lower the cost to students via smooth transfer process.

Common curriculum development of 28 disciplines and 350 student-facing transfer guides. (March)

1.6 Report on student choices and outcomes to ensure commitment to completion and student success.

Biennial postsecondary education outcomes report in planning stages to be completed in spring 2025. Survey of high school students completed in Spring 2024 (July).

1.7 Automate database for private postsecondary education

Currently working with selected vendor to meet VITA requirements before contract can be signed and work can commence.

Goal 3 – Expand Prosperity

Plan Biennial Initiative

Updated Actions to implement initiative

I.8 Scale Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership (V-TOP).

Statewide staffing agency engaged 149 small/mid-sized employers and placed 83 students in internships. Completed academic data governance work group activities. (January and May)

I.9 Establish criteria for high demand jobs.

Collaborating with Virginia Office of Education Economics (VOEE) on “Degree Program Alignment Report” to be released in spring 2025. Approved 12 new education licensure degree programs for four institutions. Second round of approvals will culminate at the March 2025 Council meeting. (January)

I.10 Foster activities/partnerships that improve students’ civic knowledge and ability to contribute effectively to civic life.

Fourteen institutions have signed on as members of the SCHEV-Constructive Dialogue Institute cohort.

Staff led a faculty learning community in Spring 2024 on “Integrating Dialogue Skills into Classroom Teaching.”

Completed May 30 Day of Dialogue at Virginia Tech and worked with VMI/College Debates and Discourse Alliance on how to build a campus debate model. (March and July)