

Funding for Student Success

Performance-based Funding Council

January 14, 2025

**COMPLETE
COLLEGE
AMERICA**



Our Mission

Complete College America (CCA) is a **bold national advocate** for **dramatically increasing college completion rates** and **closing institutional performance gaps** by working with states, systems, institutions, and partners to scale **highly effective structural reforms** and promote **policies that improve student success.**

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We must commit to the right practices and policies, manage them well, and advocate for funding them in alignment with stated attainment goals

Implement the Pillars

PURPOSE	STRUCTURE	MOMENTUM	SUPPORT
Aligning the college experience to each student's goals for the future <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-Year Experience • Career Exploration • Academic & Career Alignment • Adult Learner Engagement 	Building course road maps that make the path to a degree or valued workplace credential clear <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math Pathways • Meta Majors • Academic Maps & Milestones • Smart Schedules • Stackable Certificates & Credentials 	Designing multiple avenues for students to get started, earn credits faster, and stay on track to graduate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit for Competency • Multiple Measures • Corequisite Support • Dual Enrollment • 15 to Finish/Stay on Track 	Addressing student needs and removing barriers to academic success <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Academic Support • Proactive Advising • 360° Coaching • Student Basic Needs Support

We know the reforms that work, that help combat the fact that time is the enemy of college completion. We must scale them – in policy, and in technology.

Manage the metrics



Four Cornerstones of Strong Measurement Systems

Progress on key metrics drive reform efforts. It is not enough to understand the nuances of student reality – you have to measure your own progress over time, relating the work to the KPI's.

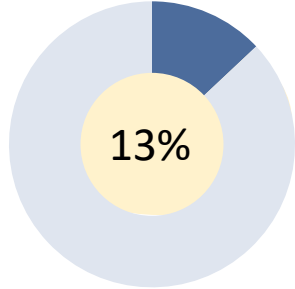
Fund Completion Goals



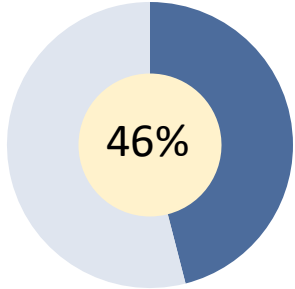
Adequately funding higher education is nothing without accountability, and vice versa. Both the size of the budgetary pie and its slicing require performance evaluation.

By 2031, 65 percent of jobs in Pennsylvania will require some college education. Current-state is 54 percent. (1/2)

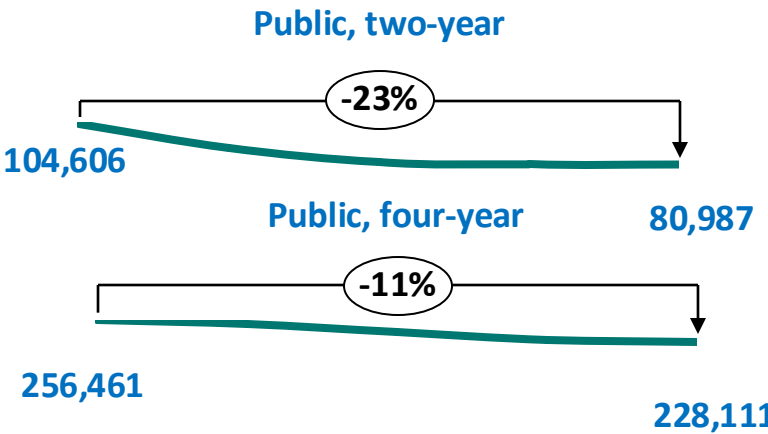
Percent of public two-year students graduating in two years



Percent of public four-year students graduating in four years



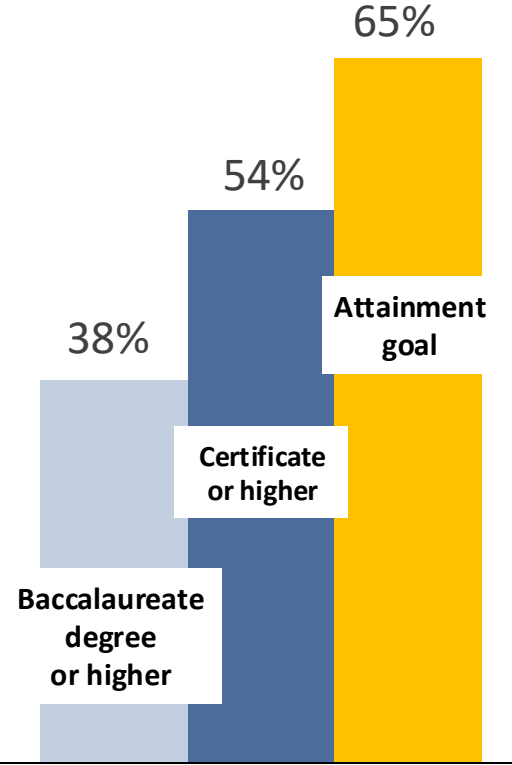
Enrollment trend, Spring 2020 – Spring 2024



Number of Pennsylvania residents with some college but no degree

1,023,642

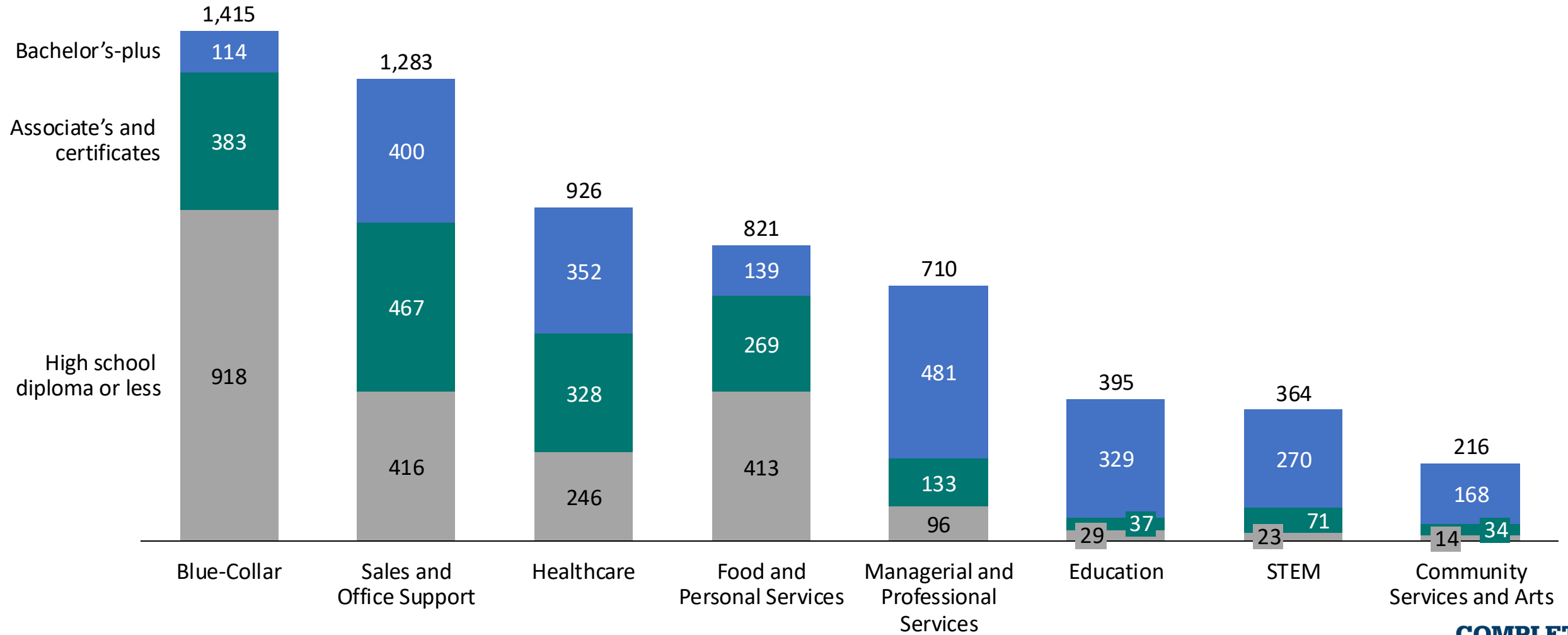
Postsecondary Attainment



Source: <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/>; <https://nscresearchcenter.org/some-college-no-credential/>; <https://nscresearchcenter.org/current-term-enrollment-estimates/>; <https://www.luminafoundation.org/stronger-nation/report/#/progress>

By 2031, 65 percent of jobs in Pennsylvania will require some college education. Current-state is 54 percent. (2/2)

2031 projections for occupational sectors are listed below, expressed in thousands of jobs



Source: <https://cew.georgetown.edu/cew-reports/projections2031/#resources>; <https://www.luminafoundation.org/stronger-nation/report/#/progress/state/PA>

Evolution in performance-based funding: combining accountability and transparency with student success goals (1/2)

The need to accelerate towards college completion

- Even under funding models that prioritize college completion, most states are not on track to meet completion goals—or to meet workforce needs, or needs for engaged citizenship and a vibrant democracy.
- Outcomes-based funding pushed appropriations mechanisms and actors to have a student success orientation, which is a critical step
- We now must tighten appropriations to college completion and prioritize fields of study and institutions required to meet attainment goals.

Completion-goals funding

- Funding is based on the actual cost of educating enough students to reach statewide completion goals—specifically increasing attainment of degrees that meet workforce needs, allow students to earn a livable wage, and can lead to ongoing education.
- Colleges get upfront dollars to implement proven strategies rather than after-the-fact rewards.
- States and institutions work together to determine the actual cost of giving every student the highest chance of earning credentials, using cost-per-graduate as the adequacy base.
- Funding includes both investing in proven success strategies and eliminating inefficiencies.

Evolution in performance-based funding – combining accountability and transparency with student success goals (2/2)

Completion-Goals Funding Model

1

Base Funding

2

Strategic Investment

3

Accountability

4

Administrative Efficiencies

5

Tuition Reduction

Beyond Enrollment: Building Success-Oriented Funding Models

- Strategic investment funding is upfront for institutions to use to implement proven reforms—and scale change so they produce more credential holders.
- Each institution will set targets, with time frames, for improving leading indicators related to completion, which ultimately leads population-wide attainment.
- Process metrics will be as important as outcomes metrics



- ✓ **Create base funding** grounded entirely in completion goals, rather than only some student success metrics atop mostly enrollment numbers or historical precedence.
- ✓ **Embrace strategic investment** for reform efforts because sustainable improvements require not just one-off funding but consistent, committed investment in innovative strategies and proven best practices.
- ✓ **Uphold - and introduce new - accountability metrics** to ensure that every dollar spent yields tangible, meaningful progress toward shared educational objectives.