

# TRENDS AND CONDITIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN ARKANSAS

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2018 ANNUAL TRUSTEES CONFERENCE

# ABOUT THE AGENCY

- MISSION

*THE MISSION OF THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION IS TO ADVOCATE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION; TO PROMOTE A COORDINATED SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE; AND TO ASSIST EACH OF THE PUBLICLY AND LOCALLY SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE IN IMPROVING THE DELIVERY OF HIGHER EDUCATION SERVICES TO THE CITIZENS OF ARKANSAS*

- BALANCING ADVOCACY ROLES

- INSTITUTIONS
- STUDENTS
- TAX PAYERS
- GOVERNOR
- LEGISLATORS
- ARKANSAS CITIZENS

# NOW TRENDING

- DECLINING ENROLLMENTS
- RENEWED FOCUS ON STUDENT SUCCESS
- INDUSTRY RESPONSIVENESS
- ADULT STUDENTS

# HOW ARKANSAS STACKS UP

- GOVERNANCE
- FUNDING
- PLENTY OF "OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT"

Bachelor's Degrees

49<sup>TH</sup>  
OUT OF  
50 STATES

*Source: US Census Bureau, when considering percent of population 25 years of age and older with a bachelor's degree or higher.*

ATTAINMENT  
GAP  
WHERE DOES  
ARKANSAS RANK?

47<sup>TH</sup>  
OUT OF  
50 STATES

*According to a 2017 study by WalletHub which measured the share of Arkansans who have earned a high school diploma, Associate Degree, Bachelor's Degree or Graduate/Professional Degree.*

All degrees

# MASTER PLAN GOALS

## GOAL 1

**Raise completion and graduation rates of colleges and universities by 10%.**

- Reduce the percentage of students needing remediation to prepare them for college-level course work
- Reduce the time needed for students to complete remedial requirements
- Raise first year retention rates of students to SREB regional averages

## GOAL 2

**By fall 2018, increase the enrollment of adult students, age 25 to 54, by 50%.**

- Reduce the remedial course enrollments for adults by 50% through alternative means of preparing adults for college-level work
- Improve communication of the value of higher education to non-traditional students

## GOAL 3

**Raise the attainment rates of under-served student groups in the state by 10%.**

- Raise the overall college-going rate for all student groups by 5% from 50.1% to 55.1%
- Raise the under-served student college-going rate to equal that of other students
- Raise completion rates of under-served student groups equal to other students

## GOAL 4

**Improve College Affordability through Effective Resource Allocation**

- Reduced time to degree for students
- Allocate 25% of state scholarship funds to need-based programs
- Re-allocate institutional spending to maximize efficiency and effectiveness

# ON THE HORIZON

- NEEDS BASED AID
- COORDINATING BOARD
- TWEAKS TO FUNDING
- COMMON COURSE NUMBERING
- STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2020-2025