



WYOMING



Wyoming has addressed six of the 10 Blueprint policies to improve college readiness in the state. It has systems in place for three of four high school benchmarks and has adopted rigorous college and career readiness standards for its students. Wyoming is watching students' progress toward college and career readiness across the high school grades, administering the ACT Explore in ninth grade, the ACT Plan in 10th grade, and the ACT Plus Writing in 11th grade. WorkKeys is an optional assessment for students in 11th and 12th grade, and COMPASS is an optional assessment for students in 12th grade.

It also has instituted policies for two of the four college anchors. The state has uniform systemwide requirements for admission to its four-year colleges and has statewide policies on the transfer of course credits. Wyoming has met one of two bridge benchmarks with a P-20 data pipeline.

POLICY REVIEW	WYOMING	NATIONAL
1. CCR STANDARDS AP, IB and/or dual credit required	YES No	48 states + D.C. 25 states
2. ASSESSMENTS	YES , ACT; Other	14 - SBAC 11 - PARCC 18 - ACT 4 - SAT 10 - state developed 14 - end-of-course
3. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS H.S. course requirements match statewide college admissions	NO , policies exist but not aligned	18 states match courses Including 6 states that align all courses and 12 states that align all courses but foreign language
4. K-12 ACCOUNTABILITY CCR is indicator in system	YES	24 states use CCR to determine performance
5. ADMISSION STANDARDS Statewide or systemwide	YES Systemwide (single system) GPA; Assessments; High school coursework	28 - common admission standards 15 - systemwide 13 - statewide
6. REMEDIAL AND PLACEMENT POLICIES Statewide or systemwide remedial policies Statewide or systemwide placement policies	NO	27 - both remedial and placement policies 39 - remedial policies 27 - placement policies
7. TRANSFER (3 OUT OF 4 POLICIES) Transferable core of lower-division courses Common course numbering Guaranteed transfer of associate degree Credit by assessment	YES Yes Yes Yes Partial	23 have at least 3 of the following policies: 36 - transferable core 16 - Common course numbering 36 - guaranteed transfer of associate degrees 16 - credit by assessment
8. HIGHER-ED ACCOUNTABILITY (ALL 3) Statewide attainment goals Completion or attainment goals in master plan Performance-funding model and metrics	NO No Yes No	19 have all 3 of the following policies: 26 states have a statewide attainment goal 36 states have completion or attainment goal in master plan 32 states have performance-funding
9. STATEWIDE CCR DEFINITION	NO	32 states + D.C. have CCR definition
10. P-20 DATA High school feedback report annually	YES Yes	50 states + D.C. have data system 42 states + D.C. have feedback report
TOTAL	6 out of 10	

STRENGTHS

Wyoming has developed a comprehensive statewide transfer policy for course credits between community colleges and the state's university. Wyoming has adopted all four transfer policies included in ECS' analysis. Wyoming is one of 35 states with a statewide transferable core of lower-division courses, and one of 36 states with a guaranteed transfer of associate degree policy. Its Wyoming Course Identification System makes it one of only 15 states that has a statewide Common course numbering system.

Wyoming also has a P-20 data pipeline that includes early warning systems for students falling behind and for high school feedback reports on how their graduates have done in college. The statewide systems are able to provide student-level data to the people who need to make decisions about students' education, such as principals, teachers and parents.

CONSIDERATIONS

Wyoming should consider aligning its high school graduation course requirements with its public higher education admission course requirements. It is one of eight states with course requirements for both that are not aligned. Six states have aligned all core classes and 12 others have aligned all core classes except foreign language. Coordinating these two policies can lead to higher postsecondary enrollment, persistence and graduation rates.

Wyoming also should consider joining the 26 states that have set a college attainment goal as a strategy to better align postsecondary credentials with workforce demands. A clear attainment goal also would complement Wyoming's efforts to increase college completion rates.

RESOURCES AND STATE EXAMPLES

Competency-Based Education, CAEL, <http://www.cael.org/what-we-do/competency-based-education>.

Recovery: Job Growth and Education Requirements Through 2020, Georgetown Public Policy Institute, <https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/tll0zkxt0puz45hu21g6>.

Washington – Collaboration of high school and college systems

The State Board of Education and the Washington Student Achievement Council met in 2010 to align the high school graduation requirements and the statewide admission requirements. They established the **College Academic Distribution Requirements** (CADRs). The CADRs provide high school students with a blueprint of what colleges will, at a minimum, require for students to be admitted to four-year public institutions. Aligning the two sets of requirements helps students develop an academic plan early in their high school careers.

Illinois – Set college attainment goals

In 2012, Gov. Pat Quinn declared support for the **60 X 25** goal, which states that 60 percent of adults in Illinois will have a college degree, an associate degree or a career certificate by 2025. The 60 X 25 plan is an initiative from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC). This plan stems from Lumina Foundation's strategic plan, which provides multiple strategies for reaching the goal of a 60 percent attainment rate across the United States.

The Public Agenda Task Force adopted Illinois' Public Agenda for College and Career Success in 2008. ISAC supported this agenda and focused on its Big Goal of 60 percent attainment. The agenda highlights four goals: increase educational attainment, improve college affordability, strengthen workforce development and link research and innovation to economic growth.