Surfacing the Top Ten Trends from the 2012 Legislative Session

1. Veterans’ Education
2. State Authorization
3. Career Pathways for Adult Learners
4. Tools & Strategies for Awarding Prior Learning
5. Increased Use of Program Pilots, Competitive Grants
6. Creation of High-Need Degree Programs
7. Promotion of Industry-Recognized Certifications
8. Student Debt, Earnings Reports
9. Early Graduation Scholarships
10. Replication of Remedial Instructional Models

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### Trends in Context

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trend</th>
<th>Intended Outcome</th>
<th>States</th>
<th>Policy Example</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Veterans’ Education</td>
<td>Improve persistence and degree completion rates for veterans</td>
<td>AL, CO, FL, HI, ID, LA, OK, OR, SD, TN, VA</td>
<td>Hawaii S.B. 2639: Awards credit for military service. Requires development of learning assessment to determine college-level learning.</td>
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<td>State Authorization</td>
<td>Regulate operations, finances, marketing of nonpublic institutions, especially for-profits</td>
<td>CO, IN, IA, KY, MD, MO, OR, SD</td>
<td>Iowa S.F. 2267: Requires disclosure of all costs and establishes licensing, regulation procedures for online and virtual programs.</td>
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<td>Career Pathways</td>
<td>Increase access to postsecondary programs for adults</td>
<td>FL, IA, KY, LA, ME, MS, NE, WI</td>
<td>Nebraska L.B. 1079: Provides grants for education bridge programs, which coordinate ABE and postsecondary resources for low-income adults.</td>
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<td>Awarding Prior Learning</td>
<td>Decrease time-to-degree and recognize worth of non-credit experiences</td>
<td>CO, FL, HI, ME, OK, OR, VA, WI</td>
<td>Oklahoma S.B. 1056: Authorizes institutions to apply academic credit to prior learning gained through military service using ACE framework.</td>
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<td>Program Pilots, Competitive Grants</td>
<td>Study programs and strategies for statewide replication</td>
<td>CO, FL, KS, MS, NE, OK, OR, WI</td>
<td>Mississippi S.B. 2792: Creates pilot where recent dropouts receive a diploma while pursuing a career-ready certificate.</td>
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<td>High-Need Degree Programs</td>
<td>Improve student access to high-demand, high-wage careers</td>
<td>CO, FL, HI, KY, MN, WA, WV</td>
<td>Washington H.B. 2156: Develop and implement aerospace and advanced manufacturing degree programs to meet local employer demand.</td>
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<td>Industry-Recognized Certifications</td>
<td>Increase employability, especially in conjunction with postsecondary credential</td>
<td>IA, KY, MS, NE, OK, UT, VA</td>
<td>Kentucky S.B. 38: Directs the community college system to develop evidence-based models for adults to obtain a diploma and an industry-recognized credential concurrently.</td>
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<td>Student Performance, Debt &amp; Earnings Reports</td>
<td>Increase transparency on expected student debt and earnings, by program of study</td>
<td>CO, CT, FL, VA, WA</td>
<td>Florida H.B. 7135: Requires universities to provide students with electronic access to top 25% and bottom 10% of degrees in terms of job placement and earnings.</td>
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<td>Early Graduation Scholarships</td>
<td>Accelerate college entry for the most ready students</td>
<td>AZ, FL, ID, MN</td>
<td>Arizona S.B. 1254/1255: Creates competency-based, alternative diploma pathways. Ties pathways to early graduation scholarship.</td>
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<td>Innovative Remedial Models</td>
<td>Improve completion rates for underprepared students</td>
<td>CO, CT, GA, MO</td>
<td>Connecticut S.B. 40: Allows all students open access to entry-level courses. Direct institutions to offer embedded remediation and intensive summer programs by 2014.</td>
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</tbody>
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For a view of all 2012 policies in the Boosting College Completion database, please visit [https://boostingcollegecompletion.socrata.com/Education/2012-Policies/6rah-s4cx](https://boostingcollegecompletion.socrata.com/Education/2012-Policies/6rah-s4cx)