



## Federalism in Postsecondary Education: Descriptions of Policy Briefs

Author(s)	Job title	Organization	Description
James L. Applegate	Executive Director	Illinois Board of Higher Education	This brief outlines the current structure of federal/state higher education policies and funding that emerged somewhat haphazardly over previous decades. The current structure is misaligned with the needs of 21st century college students and has allowed increased federal investment in higher education to merely supplant state funding. The result is far too little progress in increasing college attainment. A new federalism is needed guided by the goals of (a) meeting the talent demands of a 21st century society and improving economic competitiveness (b) ensuring college affordability for low and middle income students and (c) promoting fairness in college opportunity for underserved population. The latter groups make up most of the talent pool the country must tap to be competitive. Policy and practice changes are described that address one or more of these overlapping goals.
Mary Fulton	Senior Project Manager/Policy Analyst	Education Commission of the States	
Colleen Campbell	Senior Policy Analyst	Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT)	This brief will look at how to increase coordination between institutions and regional workforce needs. Because of the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA) states can capitalize on federal investment to improve this alignment.
Ivy Love	Policy Analyst	Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT)	
William Doyle	Associate Professor of Higher Education	Vanderbilt University	This brief will focus on three aspects on state financial aid: (1) how states use financial aid programs to make college more affordable; (2) how federalist solutions can assist state-only efforts to make college more affordable; and (3) how federal funds can help to level out state volatility in tighter economic times. It will also look at estimates of the impact of different program designs.
Sarah Pingel	Policy Analyst	Education Commission of the States	



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Mary Nguyen Barry	Senior Policy Analyst	Education Reform Now	In order to smooth the high school to postsecondary pipeline, this brief will focus on 12th grade students who are ready for postsecondary work, but are spending unnecessary time in high school. The author will focus on options for paying for this transition, including k-12 funds reimbursing families for tuition or 12th graders being eligible for Pell.
Christopher Michael Mullin	Executive Vice Chancellor	Florida College System	This brief will outline the appropriate interplay between federal, state, and institutional actions to ensure a coordinated higher education system. It will look at 4 options for future action: (1) a stacked approach; (2) a centralized approach; (3) a sequential approach; and (4) a segmented approach.
Michelle Asha Cooper	President	Institute for Higher Education Policy	There is a constant push and pull between state governments and the federal government to find the right balance of federalism. By applying this "push-pull" framework to higher education, this brief will look at past policy interventions and how this framework can help to understand the "free college" movement.
Kristin D. Conklin	Founding Partner	HCM Strategists	Thirteen states have outcomes-based funding policies that work to align sought-after outcomes with state funding. The authors argue that it is desirable to align federal financial aid policies (like Pell) with metrics in state outcomes-based funding policies. This paper will also offer options for federal Title IV financial aid changes.
Martha Snyder	Director	HCM Strategists	
Jeffrey M. Stanley	Chief of Staff	HCM Strategists	



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Brian Prescott	Associate Vice President	NCHEMS	This brief will explore how federal data policies are intertwined with states' and argue that a more effective partnership could equip states with information they can use to more precisely target policies on the barriers to postsecondary access and success. The federal government can encourage states to share data between themselves and make federal data available to the states.
Demarée Michelau	Director of Policy Analysis	Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)	
Patrick Lane	Project Manager	Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)	
Ben Cannon	Executive Director	Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission	During Oregon's first year of its Oregon Promise program, this brief will describe how the program is being funded, describe program limitations, examine costs and opportunities associated with a more intentional state/federal partnership, and respond to arguments against the policy directions proposed by this paper.
Jennifer Joyalle	Public Affairs and Policy Ph.D. Student and Instructor, Civic Leadership Minor	Mark O. Hatfield School of Government, College of Urban and Public Affairs, Portland State University	
Thomas Harnisch	Director of State Relations and Policy Analysis	American Association of State Colleges and Universities	In this joint brief, the authors will examine the "triad" of state governments, the federal government, and accrediting agencies. By shining light on the unique role that state governments play in this partnership, the authors will propose reforms that will strengthen the role of state governments, without neglecting the two other legs of the higher education stool.
Arthur L Coleman	Managing Partner	EducationCounsel, LLC	
Barmak Nassirian	Director of Federal Relations and Policy Analysis	American Association of State Colleges and Universities	
Amber Saddler	Policy Assistant	EducationCounsel, LLC	