

ABOUT HIGHER ED *for* HIGHER STANDARDS

Higher Ed *for* Higher Standards (www.higheredforhigherstandards.org) is a growing coalition of college presidents, trustees, system leaders, and state executive officers committed to the implementation of college- and career-ready standards. The goal of the coalition is to elevate the voices of higher education leaders and support them in the adoption of aligned policies that leverage more ambitious K–12 standards and assessments. Colleges and universities have a vested interest in the successful implementation of high standards, as better prepared students will help reduce remediation rates and improve completion rates.

350 leaders in higher ed, including:

- 142** presidents of four-year institutions
- 122** presidents of two-year institutions
- 35** state SHEEOs/system leaders
- 39** states in the coalition

Leading national higher education organizations have endorsed HE/HS, including:



CATALYZING STATE ACTION

- The SUNY (NY) Board of Trustees passed an organizational resolution in support of higher K–12 standards.
- Higher education leaders in CA, CO, DE, IL, KY, MD, NJ, NM, NY, OH, SD, and TN published op-eds signaling support for college- and career-ready standards and assessments.
- Higher education leaders in CA, IL, NJ, OH, SD, and TN issued public letters in support of higher standards and assessments.
- Community college leaders in TN combined all these elements by holding a press conference, signing a public letter, and publishing op-eds in local media.

SUPPORTING STRONG K–12/HIGHER ED ALIGNMENT

- There is growing recognition that college- and career-ready standards in high school are critical to increasing postsecondary success rates.
- More states are committed to using newly aligned high school assessments for placement into first-year courses (CA, DE, HI, NV, OR, SD, WA).
- There are more states developing bridge courses and transition programs that take advantage of the senior year of high school to get students college and career ready.
- There is renewed interest among national higher education organizations to focus on the high school to college transition and reimagine freshman year.

OUR AGENDA MOVING FORWARD

Advocacy

- Grow and diversify the coalition by increasing strength in key states and growing representation of two- and four-year institutions.
- Leverage support of national higher education organizations to catalyze more system and institutional leaders to play an active role in their respective states.

Implementation

- Make a clear and compelling case for why higher education systems and institutions need to make P–20 alignment part of their policy and operational culture.
- Provide technical assistance to higher education systems and institutions committed to building aligned policies that leverage new K–12 standards to improve college readiness and success.