



State Example: Colorado

*Illinois Commission on Equitable
Public University Funding*

Reimagine possible

April 22nd, 2022

Higher Education in Colorado

31 public institutions of higher ed

- universities, community colleges, area technical schools
- 3 statewide systems, several single campus institutions

Approximately **250,000 students** served by public higher ed institutions



Colorado Rises: Higher Ed Master Plan

The state has set a **credential attainment goal of 66 percent by 2025** for Colorado's adult population.

Attainment levels as of 2020:

- 65% for white Coloradans
- 30% for Hispanic/Latinx Coloradans
- 30% for Native American and Alaska Native Coloradans
- 41% for African American and Black Coloradans

STRATEGIC GOAL #1
Increase
Credential
Completion

STRATEGIC GOAL #2
Erase
Equity
Gaps

STRATEGIC GOAL #3
Improve
Student
Success

STRATEGIC GOAL #4
Invest in
Affordability
and
Innovation

HE Funding in Colorado



Historically based on proportionate changes driven by increases/decreases in state budget, **perpetuating disparities** across institution types and sizes



In 2014, some performance metrics introduced though **~80% of funding remained rooted in enrollment factors**



In 2019, legislature passed SB 19-095, requiring CCHE to **review formula to better align to state's master plan goals**

2020 Funding Formula Revision

Step 1 Ongoing Additional Funding Base-building

- To recognize progress toward state goals
- Address historic disparities
- Award other metrics beyond S2



Step 2 Performance Funding Base-building

- Growth of--
- Enrollment
 - Credential production
 - Special population enrollment
 - Grad rates (4/6 yr)
 - Retention



Step 3 Temporary Additional Funding One-time

- Special purpose, as designated by the legislature

2021 Colorado Case Study



Use of Step 2 of formula was replicating disparities resulting from prior funding model

Leveraged Step 1 to focus investment on state share of enrollment and retention of focus student populations

- Pell-eligible
- Underrepresented minorities
- First gen

Funded with new monies invested to higher ed, resulted in disproportionate growth in funding for access institutions, community colleges and rural campuses

Looking Ahead



Colorado's formula to be revised in 2022

- Metrics that capture students beyond “first time, full time”
- Considering role and mission in goal-setting
- Incentivizing innovation

Q&A