

IOWA COLLEGE AID STRATEGIC PLAN



MISSION

We advocate for and support Iowans as they explore, finance and complete educational opportunities beyond high school to increase family and community success.

MOTTO

Because college changes everything.

VISION

All Iowans can achieve an education beyond high school.

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS FISCAL YEARS 2019–2022

1 BE A TRUSTED SOURCE OF INFORMATION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION STAKEHOLDERS ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY, SUCCESS AND COMPLETION.

- Develop and implement a research plan to organize and enhance current reports and for the creation of rigorous research in the form of working papers, policy briefs and reports.
- Collaborate with groups external to Agency and leverage existing datasets.
- Organize statewide conferences that examine research and interventions that improve college access, affordability, success and completion.

2 ALIGN PROGRAMS AND SERVICES WITH THE POSTSECONDARY NEEDS OF IOWA RESIDENTS AND KEY STAKEHOLDERS.

- Conduct a needs assessment of key stakeholders to identify gaps in Agency services and programs.
- Develop and implement a communications plan publicizing Agency resources to effectively engage Iowa residents and key stakeholders.
- Serve as a public advocate to align students' needs and success with Iowa educational and economic goals.
- Align implementation of services, programs and initiatives with service gaps, current data and research-based strategies.
- Develop Commission Subcommittee, with stakeholder representation, to guide decision-making and planning for Agency programs, initiatives and strategies for community engagement.

3 INCREASE AND ALIGN RESOURCES TO SUPPORT AGENCY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.

- Seek external funding to promote research, programs and initiatives.
- Implement budgeting and monitoring strategies to sustain existing funding sources that allow for continuous operations.
- Evaluate Agency programs and initiatives to determine impact and ensure alignment of outcomes/outputs to services/activities.
- Review Agency infrastructure and systems to identify necessary improvements.
- Develop a framework for Iowa College Aid's identity and involvement over the next 10 years in the state's higher education landscape, workforce development, and overall state economy.

GOVERNOR'S GOALS

Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds has set Iowa's educational goals as educating our children for the knowledge economy and training Iowans for the jobs of tomorrow. Iowa College Aid is working toward those goals in the following ways:

IOWA COLLEGE AID PROGRAM	GOAL: EDUCATING OUR CHILDREN FOR THE KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY	GOAL: TRAINING IOWANS FOR THE JOBS OF TOMORROW
Scholarships & Grants	Removing financial barriers to higher education by administering more than \$63 million in need-based state aid every year	Targeting specific areas of emphasis through the Skilled Workforce Shortage Grant and repayment programs that serve teachers and health care workers in the areas of highest need
GEAR UP Iowa	Helping students in low-income school districts access and achieve success in college	Providing early career exposure through job site visits and career academies
LCANs (Local College Access Networks)	Working with communities to build sustainable support networks that will ensure students are prepared to access and achieve success in college	Working with business and industry leaders to identify needs in individual communities and ensure students are trained to fulfill each community's future workforce needs
Course to College	Ensuring that students know the steps to successfully transition from high school to college or other postsecondary training	
Course to College Corps	Placing AmeriCorps members to work directly with school districts and communities to guide students through the college-going process	
Iowa College & Career Readiness Academy	Providing advanced training to develop the capacity of counselors and other school staff to support students on their paths to college and career readiness	
Research & Evaluation	Evaluating the impact of Iowa College Aid programs on students' college access, success and completion	
Postsecondary Registration	Authorizing higher education institutions to operate in Iowa to ensure consumer protection	