



OREGON'S POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION ATTAINMENT GOALS

Senate Interim
Committee on Education

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Should Oregon Update its Statutory Goals for Postsecondary Education?

1. Current goals and our progress towards them
2. Why set educational goals?
3. A little bit of history
4. A potential 2025-2026 interim process

Existing State Goals for Postsecondary Education

Oregon's 40-40-20 Goal for Young Adults



Beginning with the high school class of 2025, 40 percent of young adult Oregonians will complete a four-year degree or more, 40 percent will complete a two-year degree or short-term career certificate, and the remaining 20 percent will earn a high school diploma or equivalent.

40%

4-year degree
or more

40%

2-year degree
or short-term
career certificate

20%

High school
diploma or
equivalent

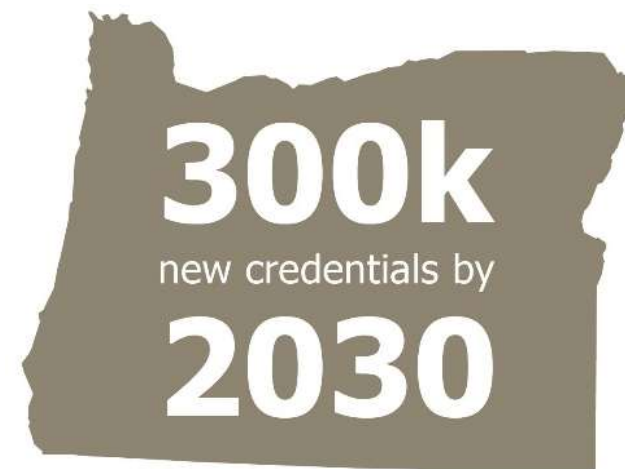


More on educational attainment goals and progress toward them [on our website here.](#)

Oregon's Adult Educational Attainment Goal

Between 2020 and 2030, 300,000 adult Oregonians will earn a new degree, certificate, or other credential of value.

Oregon will reduce the adult educational attainment gaps by half for underserved people of color, low-income learners, and rural learners during this decade.

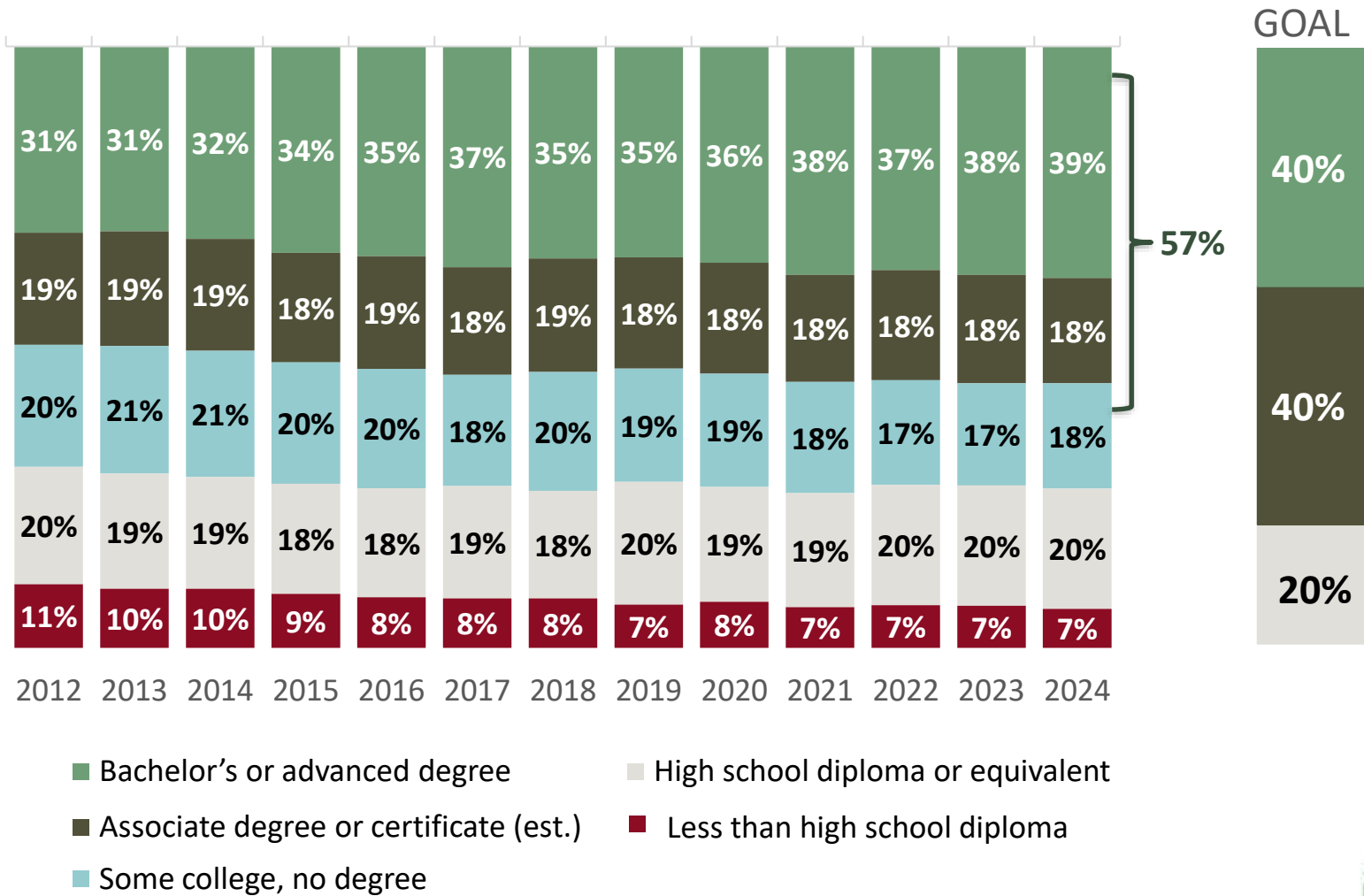


Progress Toward Oregon's 40-40-20 Educational Attainment Goal

Percent of all young adults by levels of education and training

The share of young Oregonians with a postsecondary credential has risen slightly in the last few years but remains below the 80% goal.

Rates come from survey data, which can have slight fluctuations from year to year.



Source: US Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS), Table #B15001, 1-year estimates. Includes current Oregon residents who completed their education and training in other states, before becoming an Oregon resident. Estimates of certificate attainment derived with estimates from Ewert, S. & Kominski, R. (2014). [Measuring alternative educational credentials: 2012](#). *Household Economic Studies*, 70-138.



Progress Toward Oregon's Adult Attainment Goal

Annual progress toward adult attainment goal: 300,000 adults age 25+ with new credentials by 2030



The number of Oregonians 25+ earning a postsecondary credential is higher than expected but not as high as needed to meet the goal.

Attainment gaps by rural/urban location, race/ethnicity, and income level have not narrowed.

Some Purposes of Education Goals

A blurred background image of a classroom with several students sitting at desks, some looking at laptops and others talking. The image is semi-transparent to allow the text boxes to be visible.

An expression of our
state's values and
beliefs

A “North Star” to
guide the state's
education policies
and investments

A rough yardstick for
measuring our
progress

The process of
creating them
can build momentum
and foster inclusivity

How were Oregon's existing goals developed?

40/40/20 Goal

Adopted by the Legislature in 2011 following an interim workgroup process.

Sought to balance Oregon's labor market needs with a theory about what would catalyze economic transformation and uplift.

HB 2311 (2017) clarified the goal's focus on young adults.

Adult Attainment Goal

HB 2311 (2017) directed the HECC, in coordination with the WTDB, to establish adult educational attainment goals.

Goals had to connect to current and projected job opportunities for adult Oregonians and be designed to promote labor market success.

In November 2018, following a collaborative process, the adult attainment goal and its sub-goals were adopted by the Commission.

What about other statutory goals for postsecondary education?



“roles in a democratic society”

“globally competitive workforce to drive this state’s economy”
“high quality learning”



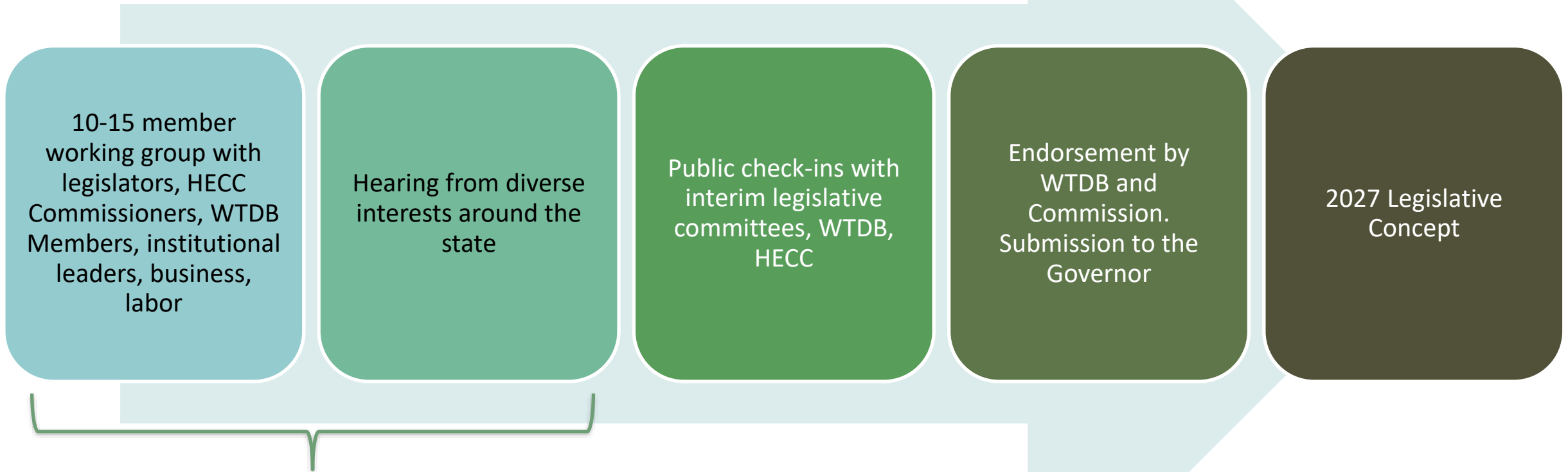
“creating original knowledge and advancing innovation”

“economic, civic, and cultural life”



- **ORS 350.009:**
“Creating an educated citizenry to support responsible roles in a democratic society and provide a globally competitive workforce to drive this state’s economy, ensuring a high-quality learning environment that allows students to succeed, creating original knowledge and advancing innovation, and contributing positively to the economic, civic and cultural life of communities in all regions of Oregon.”
- **Economic, workforce, cultural, civic, and community goals**

Setting the Next State Attainment Goal: Proposing an Interim Process



With support from the Lumina Foundation. Learn more about Lumina's national attainment goal work [here](#).

Measuring What Matters



Potential metrics¹:

- Degrees and certificates
- Job/career advancement
- Employer satisfaction
- Economic prosperity
- Knowledge creation

Challenge:

Balancing our deepest purposes with what is measurable and controllable.