



February 2016

---

Complete College Wyoming (CCW) is continuing to grow and evolve as a statewide organization focused on access, success and completion. Many initiatives are underway with data becoming available. Our focus is scaling up our efforts to accomplish our goals. Highlights and general updates are included in this month's newsletter.

### 1. Goals Revisited

- a. **Increase completion at the community colleges** significantly by 2022. **The Community College goal, established by CCW in October 2013, is to increase community college certificate and associate degree recipients by 5% annually, with a base year of 2011-12 and a time period of 10 years to end in 2021-22.** This goal was approved by the Wyoming Community College Commission and all community college Boards of Trustees in October 2013. The UW President and UW Board of Trustees support the goal to **increase the number of baccalaureate degrees conferred at UW by 2% annually (base year of 2011-2012) beginning in the academic year 2016-2017 and ending in the academic year 2021-2022.**
- b. **Ensure that every degree-seeking student completes gateway courses in English and Math within their first 30 credit hours** at the Wyoming Community Colleges.
- c. **Develop capacity and support for Guided Pathways to Success** strategies.
- d. **Identify the progress and success metrics** that are important to Wyoming.
- e. **Create statewide stakeholder buy-in** for achieving Wyoming's completion goals.

### 2. Supplemental Goals for 2015-16

- a. Complete the feedback loop for the College Readiness Definition, approve, and forward to other key stakeholder groups for endorsement. **Done**

- b. Focus on educating key stakeholders on the completion agenda by developing strategies to inform different audiences and decision-makers. **In Progress**
- c. Create and distribute the first dashboard and annual update of our metrics. **Draft Complete**  
Gather success data on some of the initiatives. **Done**
- d. Develop stronger collaborative relationship with the Department of Education and K12 Partners. **In Progress**
- e. Add additional team members from under-represented groups (Industry, K-12, and Legislature). **Done**
- f. Continue to develop new approaches for remediation and sharing best practices. **In Progress**
- g. Continue expanding the Guided Pathways to Success initiative (2 year plans, 4 year plans, and 2 plus 2 plans). **In Progress**

### 3. The Metrics

The first draft of the metrics is complete and the CCW team is providing feedback to prepare it for general distribution. Highlights include:

- We serve over 31,000 student per semester and every county in Wyoming.
- Community colleges offer more than \$18M in aid annually.
- Numbers of graduates for community colleges have increased by 5% since the baseline year of 2011-12.
- Benchmarks have been developed for persistence, course completion, and completion of gateway courses in math and English.

## Individual Campus Results:

1. Casper College has redesigned its math courses by making it easier for students to petition placement scores; using high school grade point average in placement; and partnering with the local high schools to offer an early remediation program while students are still in high school. These changes have accelerated the remediation process for over 250 students.
2. LCCC has increased its number of certificate and degree completers by 25.7% since 2011-12.
3. WWCC has implemented required informed advising and academic plans for students and provides incentives for on-time completion.
4. CWC has developed co-requisite instruction in math and English and has seen 170% improvement in numbers of students who start in remediation and complete the college level course, and are starting to see returns in Math 1000.
5. UW is doing co-requisite instruction in Math 1000 and has found that students do as well or better than those testing directly to the college-level course.

### 4. College and Career Readiness Definition

The CCW College and Career Readiness definition has been shared with various groups including superintendents, principals, high school counselors and various audiences on the college and university campuses. The CCW team has approved a final draft. Next steps involve sharing it with the Department of Education as they work on their new approach to college and career readiness as well as getting key groups in higher education to formally endorse it.

### 5. Transfer from CCs to UW

Program articulation continues between the University of Wyoming and the community colleges. The first 17 programs (which represents over 100 individual 2 plus 2 plans) are almost complete and the plan development has begun for the next 18 programs. These 35 programs represent 70% of the incoming majors for transfer students. This collaborative effort is intended to make transferring from any of the WY CCs to UW a much more streamline process resulting in more students completing associate degrees in 2 years and baccalaureate degrees within 4 years.

### 6. Statewide Marketing Efforts

The CCW team distributed postcards to legislators and other decision makers in December through the WACCT. In addition, the second Wyoming Public

Television Wyoming Chronicles segment on student persistence and completion in Wyoming aired on January 29th. It showcased remediation, transfer and general progress of CCW initiatives. Jackie Freeze, Jake McIntyre, Saundra Meyer, Patrice Noel and two students from LCCC participated in the segment.

The video can be viewed on the Wyoming Public Television site <http://video.wyomingpbs.org/video/2365652962/> or by going to the CCW site and selecting the link under important links.

### 7. Completion Conference

The community college vice presidents of student services and academic affairs, along with CCW, hosted a completion conference on October 28th in Casper. The day was designed to provide best practices in student success programs (including admissions, orientation, financial aid, academic advising, remedial courses and academic plans) offered throughout the state. The day ended with a CCW update. Seventy-five people attended the conference.



*Complete College Wyoming encourages involvement from all stakeholders in our State. Visit the website, <http://completecollegewyoming.org>.*

*Complete College Wyoming, appointed by Governor Mead, facilitates cooperation among community colleges, the University of Wyoming and other key stakeholders in focusing on student access, success and completion.*