



Wyoming and the nation face a shortage of employees with the skills necessary to compete in an increasingly complex, global economy. Studies estimate that by 2020, 65 percent of the jobs in Wyoming will require some form of postsecondary credential. Indeed, Wyoming employers continue to demand higher numbers of skilled employees.

During the 2009 joint session of Congress, a national goal was established to increase the college attainment rate for certificates and degrees to 60 percent. Numerous initiatives including Complete College America started in 2010. Wyoming joined this initiative late in 2012 and committed to set goals in 2013. Governor Matt Mead appointed Wyoming's team to join the Alliance of States and committed to developing action plans to improve college readiness and remediation, as well as identifying methods to improve student progress and success. The team includes representatives from the University of Wyoming, the Community Colleges, the Community College Commission, Community College Trustees, the Governor's office, Wyoming Legislature, and business and industry. The Complete College Wyoming (CCW) team has been working hard to establish goals and metrics.

The University of Wyoming's University Plan 4, has a focus on access, retention, persistence, and completion. State community colleges list those as well and are refreshing the WCCC current strategic plan by increasing participation, progress, performance, and placement.

- Ensuring access to all educational opportunities.
- Ensuring progress and completion.
- Ensuring student attainment of quality learning outcomes.

What CCW is:

- An effort to help students make better decisions and achieve their educational goals
- A forum for consider and adopting best practices and leveraging resources
- A coordinated effort to identify key performance indicators and utilize data for accountability and to improve programs and services to our students
- A way to stay current on employment needs in our State and to create strategies to impact economic development in the State
- A coordinated way to maintain high and relevant education standards in Wyoming
- A strategy to increase college completion among Wyoming citizens

What CCW is not:

- About reducing access to higher education Wyoming and moving to more selective admissions
- Designed to reduce quality of our courses, programs, and degrees
- Punitive toward any educational entity
- A comprehensive review of all functions and services provided by community colleges and UW

The team has made its first recommendations

- Establish metrics for performance.
- Advance effective "Guided Pathways to Success."
- Enable students to complete "Gateway Courses" within their first 30 hours.