



Pennsylvania Department of Education

State Board of Education

November 08, 2017

Office of Postsecondary & Higher Education

Noe Ortega, Acting Deputy Secretary

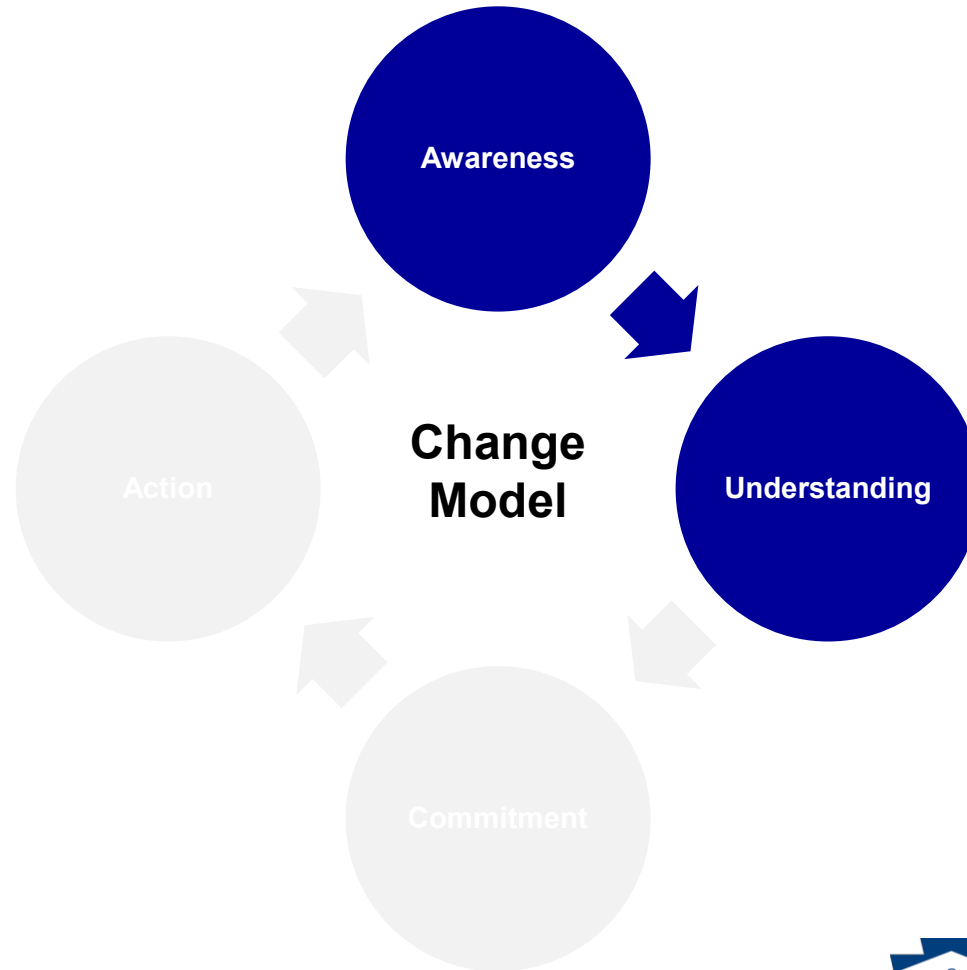
Office of Postsecondary & Higher Education

Mission: *To prepare Pennsylvania learners to compete in a knowledge-based, global economy by providing equitable access to high-quality Postsecondary and Adult Basic Education that leads to successful completion of a certificate, credential or degree.*

OPHE Leadership



OPHE Leadership



▶ Access to High-Quality Postsecondary Education

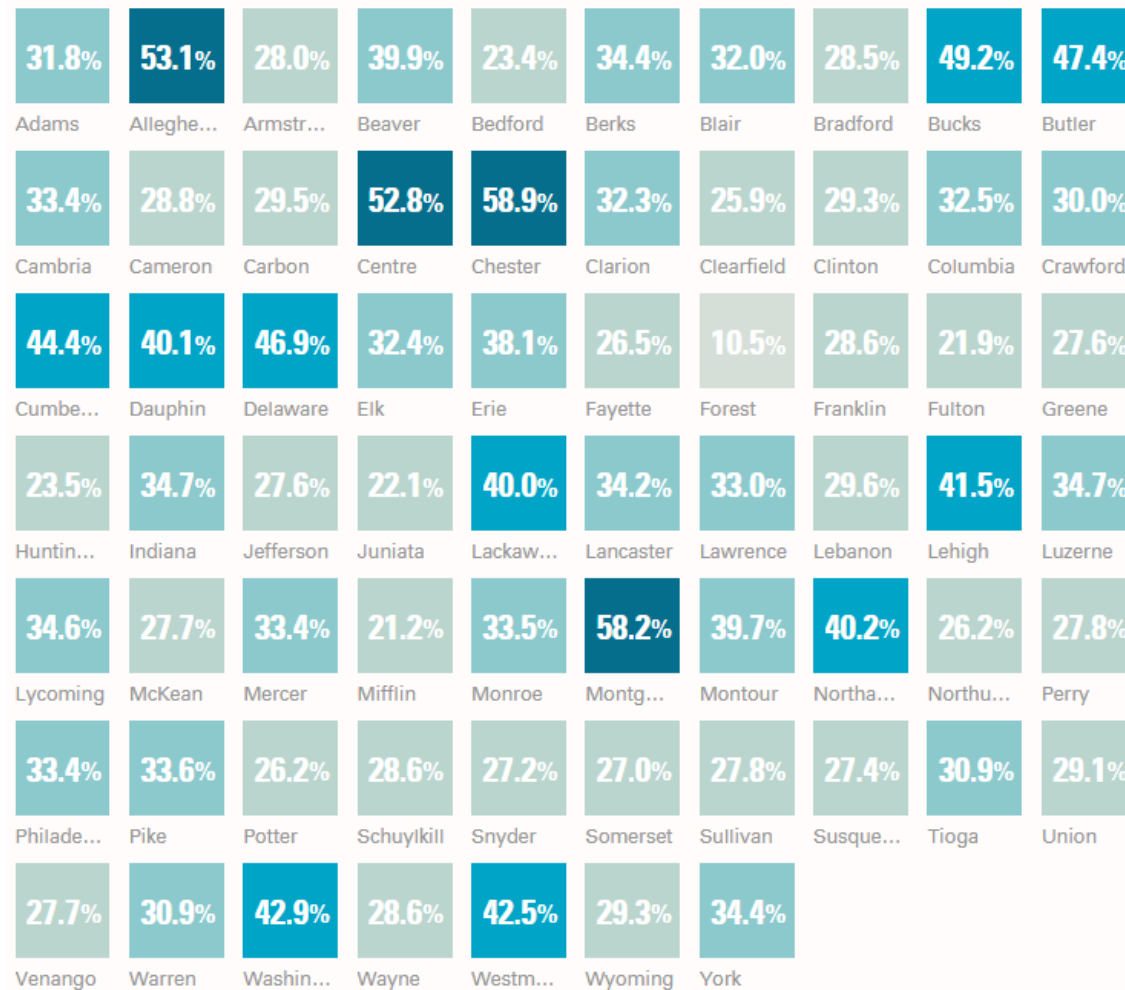
Postsecondary Attainment Goal: By 2025, 60% of Pennsylvania residents will hold a postsecondary credential, certificate, or degree.



Source: [A Stronger Nation: Pennsylvania State Report](#), Lumina Foundation, 2017

Access to High-Quality Postsecondary Education

Attainment Rates Across All 67 Counties

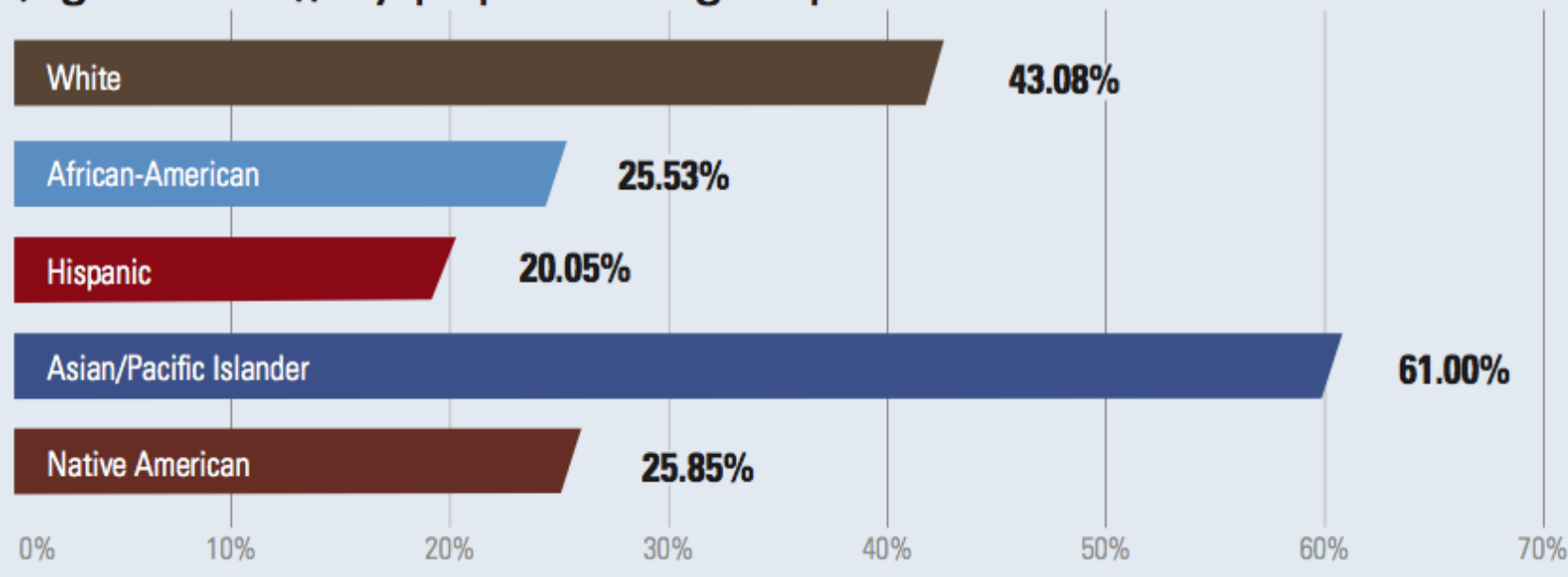




Reframing the Discourse: Opportunities for Change

Access to High-Quality Postsecondary Education

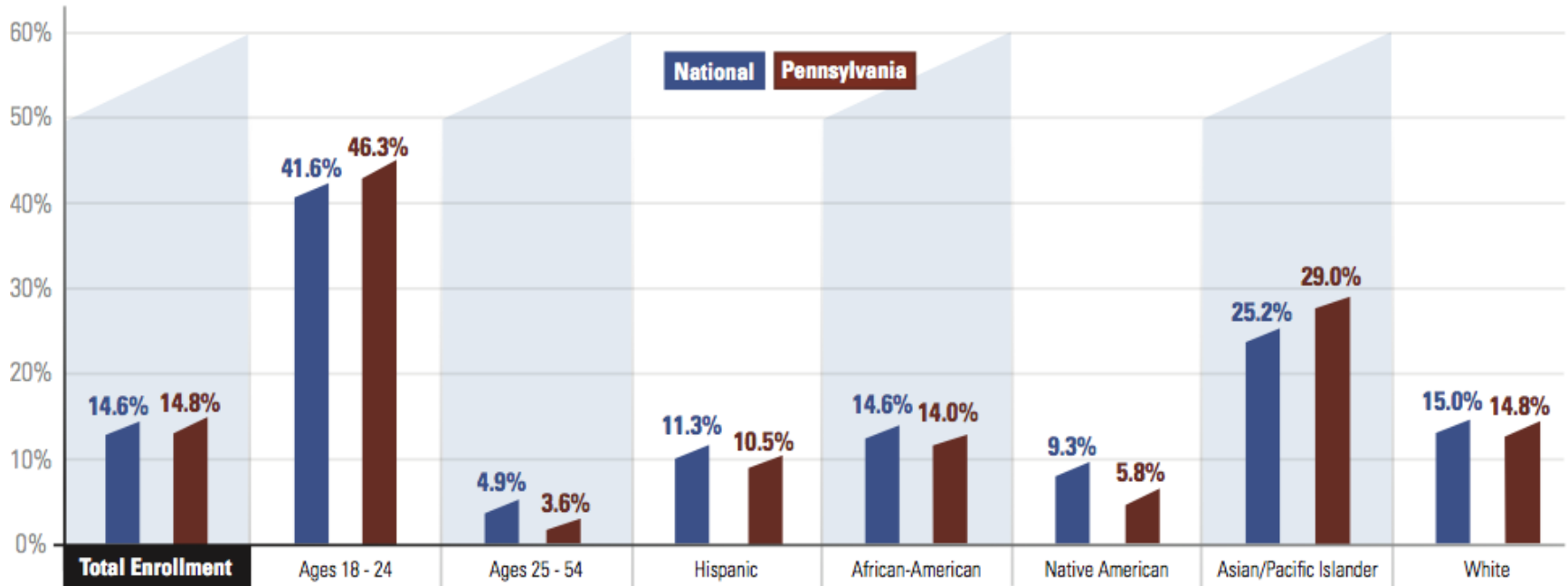
Degree-attainment rates among Pennsylvania residents (ages 25-64), by population group



Source: [A Stronger Nation: Pennsylvania State Report](#), Lumina Foundation, 2017

Access to High-Quality Postsecondary Education

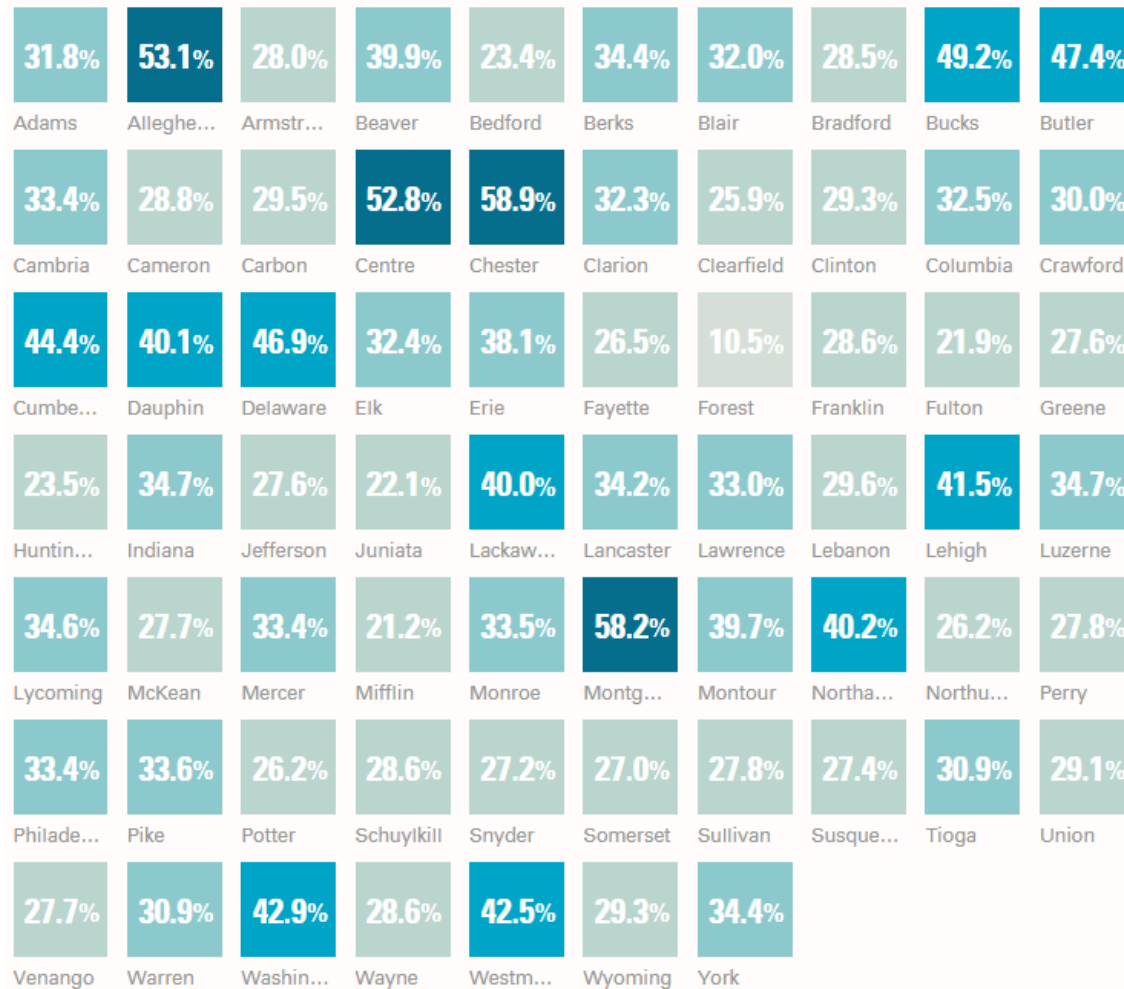
College enrollment among Pennsylvania residents, ages 18-54



Source: [A Stronger Nation: Pennsylvania State Report](#), Lumina Foundation, 2017

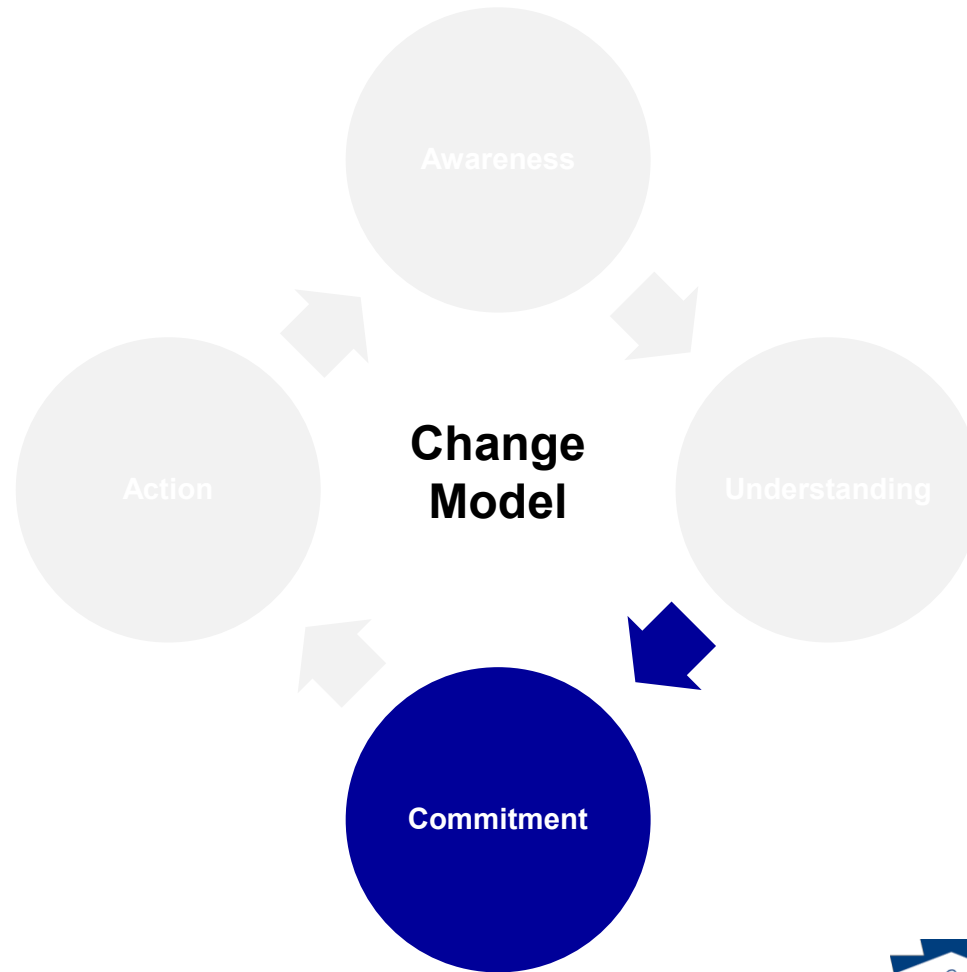
Access to High-Quality Postsecondary Education

Attainment Rates Across All 67 Counties



Source: [A Stronger Nation: Pennsylvania State Report](#), Lumina Foundation, 2017

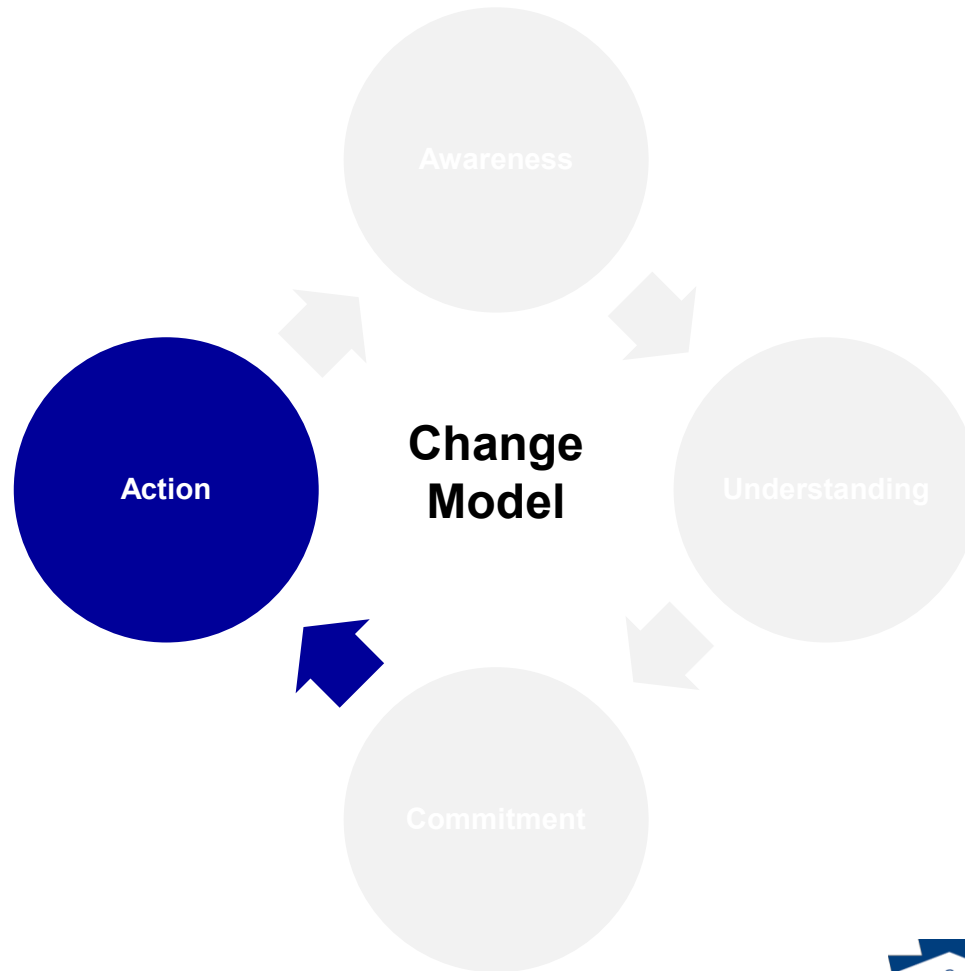
OPHE Leadership



OPHE is committed to the following:

- *Ensuring that Pennsylvania residents have access to high-quality postsecondary education*
- *Ensuring that every class has a highly effective teacher through rigorous preparation and evaluation of personal and institutional performance*

OPHE Leadership



Access to High-Quality Postsecondary Education

Complete College America (CCA): A state team has been identified by the Secretary which will encourage broad postsecondary participation. Next CCA meeting to be held from 11/29-12/01.

Act 55 of 2017: Omnibus Bill

- **Higher Education Master Plan:** Act 55 extends the time period between which the State Board of Education shall adopt a master plan for Higher Education from every 5 years to every 10 years.
- **Statewide College Credit Transfer System:** Act 55 expands the transfer system to include standards for awarding credit for prior learning, such as AP, IB, CLEP and DANTES exams. Over the next year, PDE will work with the state Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee (TAOC) and the participating colleges to develop and implement these standards.

Access to High-Quality Postsecondary Education

Community Colleges:

- We are continuing to review the Erie Community College plan and anticipate providing a report of our findings to the subcommittee in early 2018.

State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA): SARA is a voluntary agreement among member states and U.S. territories that reduces the regulatory burden on colleges and universities that offer distance education across state borders. PDE serves as the 'portal agency' through which **90** PA institutions participate in SARA.

College Textbook Policies Advisory Committee: The committee, chaired by the Deputy Secretary, continues to examine national and international efforts related to college textbook affordability and accessibility. The committee is preparing to establish recommendations for its 2018 report.

Accountability :

- We are identifying meaningful ways of measuring success and to hold ourselves accountable to our educational goals.
- Act 55 of 2017 repeals the requirement for the Community College Annual Report.

Access to High-Quality Postsecondary Education

Engaging School Counselors: OPHE has provided technical assistance for school counselors by providing PS attainment and college-going data for LEAs in meeting the new Career Readiness Indicator.

PHEAA Board and Outreach Committee: In collaboration with PHEAA, OPHE continues to support efforts designed to ease the financial burden of higher education for students, families, and taxpayers.

Governor's It's On Us PA Grants: In 2016-17 and 2017-18, Gov. Wolf secured \$1 million to address campus sexual assault. Last year, 36 institutions in PA received grants to support prevention, reporting, and response systems. PDE will release 2017-18 RFAs before the end of 2017.

Ensuring that Every Class has a Highly Effective Teacher

Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO): A state team attended a 2017 CCSSO meeting to develop strategies for developing more *Learner-Ready Teachers* and *School Ready-Principals*.

LEA-IHE Meetings: Consistent with 2015 Equity Plan and PA ESSA Plan, OPHE has facilitated meetings between Local Education Agencies and Institutions of Higher Education. Last meeting was Oct. 2017 in Phila. Next meeting is Feb. 2018 in NEPA.

Chapter 49 Review: The Board is required to conduct a major review of certification regulations at 10-year intervals. OPHE is preparing for the next major review.

Ensuring that Every Class has a Highly Effective Teacher

Higher Education, Early Child Care and Community-based Partnerships: In the very near future, OCDEL will be announcing three partnerships that will be collaborating to design innovative pathways for current early childhood practitioners to earn an industry-recognized credential.

Troops to Teachers (TTT) Grant: An MOU is in progress for Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, in partnership with West Chester University of Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh Public Schools, Allegheny Intermediate Unit #3, Chester Upland School District, and Delaware County Intermediate Unit #25, to provide support, counseling, specially-prepared instructional coaching, high-quality year-long residency programs, and course work to enable veterans to have success their first day in school.

Priority Review for Veterans: Act 55 of 2017 gives veterans priority in the processing of applications for provisional college certificates. The new law requires PDE to process the application of a veteran within 14 days of receipt.

OPHE Leadership



Thank You

The mission of the department is to academically prepare children and adults to succeed as productive citizens. The department seeks to ensure that the technical support, resources and opportunities are in place for all students, whether children or adults, to receive a high quality education.