



THE PATH TO 70% CREDENTIAL ATTAINMENT FOR WASHINGTON STUDENTS

With 740,000 projected job openings by 2021, there are great opportunities for young people growing up in Washington state. **One thing is certain: A postsecondary credential—such as a degree, apprenticeship, or certificate—is essential to compete for most of those opportunities.**

However, just 31% of students in Washington's high school class of 2006 earned a postsecondary credential by age 26. That number is projected to increase to 40% for the high school class of 2015. Washington is making progress in better preparing its kids for the jobs being created here, but improvement isn't coming fast enough.

63%

OF CAREER JOB OPENINGS WILL BE FILLED BY WORKERS WITH BACHELOR'S DEGREES OR HIGHER

11%

BY WORKERS WITH TWO-YEAR DEGREES



THE CREDENTIAL IS ESSENTIAL IN WASHINGTON STATE.

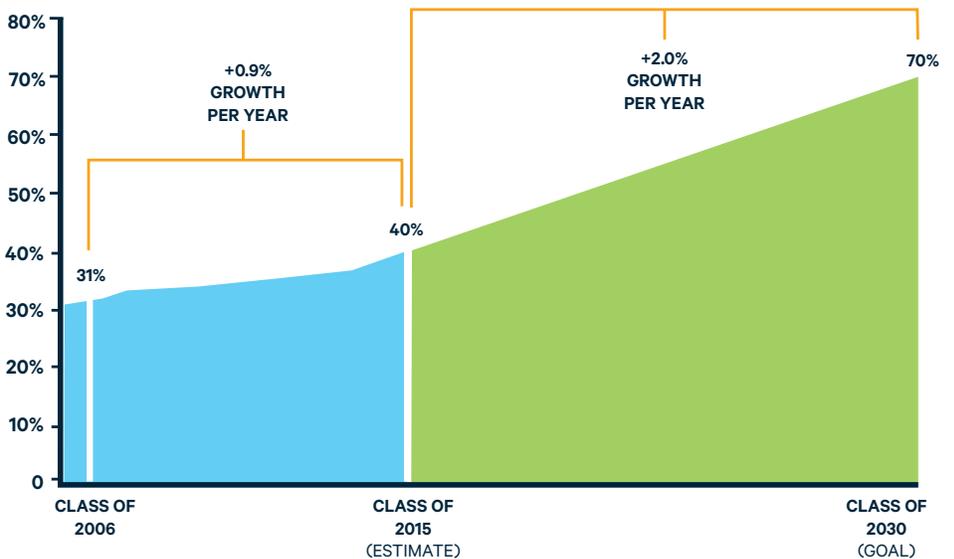
OUR GOAL:
70%

of Washington students from the high school class of 2030 will complete a postsecondary credential by age 26.

CREDENTIAL ATTAINMENT: CURRENT GROWTH RATE vs. WHAT IS NEEDED

To get there, annual average growth in the credential attainment rate for Washington students must more than double—increasing from 0.9% to 2% growth per year.

It will require improvement throughout the education pipeline and an unrelenting focus on closing achievement gaps and improving outcomes.



MOVING FROM 40% TO 70% CREDENTIAL ATTAINMENT REQUIRES NATION-LEADING PERFORMANCE:

To achieve the 70% credential attainment goal for students in the high school class of 2030, Washington must deliver a nation-leading performance on key metrics, including high school graduation rate, the enrollment rate of high school graduates in postsecondary programs and two- and four-year institutions, and the rate at which those postsecondary students graduate and earn a credential. In addition, Washington must effectively reengage students who drop out of the education pipeline prior to credential completion.



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