

# SETTING THE GOAL

Through Achieve60AZ, Arizonans have set an ambitious goal for the state's future. **By 2030, we are committed to ensuring that 60% of adults, age 25-64, hold a certificate, license, or degree.**

We set this goal because educational attainment is critical for Arizona's economic viability and individual prosperity in an ever more globally competitive world. Attainment of a post-high-school education is critical to ensuring that individuals have economic mobility. Furthermore, shifts in workforce demographics mean workers increasingly need post-secondary training in order to enter and thrive in the workforce. Employers can choose to operate anywhere, but they will choose Arizona if the workforce is competitive and the educational system is strong.

Over the next year, Achieve60AZ will present a series of Issue Briefs outlining what it takes to be a top attainment state. In this first Issue Brief, we define the State Attainment Pillars and their corresponding strategies. In future briefs, we will dive further into each pillar.

Reaching our goal will only happen if we see ourselves in this work. The Achieve60AZ Alliance is designed to support organizations at all levels as they work toward attainment in their communities. Achieve60AZ stands ready to share your stories, support collaboration, bring successes to scale, and make sure that decision makers have the best data and information to support attainment across the state.

**If Arizona met our 60 percent attainment goal, it would pump an additional \$3.5 billion into our state annually.**

\*College Success Arizona "Doubling Arizona's Economic Growth" report

## PILLARS OF ATTAINMENT

### WORKFORCE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

### POSTSECONDARY ACCESS AND SUCCESS

### EARLY CHILDHOOD THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL

### SYSTEMS AND STRUCTURES



1. Attract businesses to Arizona with well-educated and highly skilled workers and jobs
2. Promote businesses with proven success in fostering certificates and degrees among employees
3. Develop and expand partnerships between industry and educational providers to align current and future workforce needs



4. Work collaboratively to address barriers to credential and degree completion through policies and innovation
5. Ensure pathways and options for education beyond high school are available to all
6. Champion strategies to make postsecondary educational options more affordable



7. Emphasize high school graduation and promote best practices for certificate, college and career readiness
8. Support students through a pathway process to certificates, college and career



9. Utilize metrics and data systems to support thoughtful partnerships and collaboration in pursuit of the 60% post high school attainment goal
10. Increase public awareness about the options and value of pathways for education beyond high school