



ACHIEVE60AZ
EDUCATION ADVANCES EVERYONE

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Achieve60AZ Releases First-of-its-Kind State of Attainment Report

The State of Attainment Report showcases where Arizona stands on attainment and where the state needs to go to reach our 60 percent goal.

Phoenix, AZ— Today, Achieve60AZ released the organization’s first State of Attainment Report. The Report details where Arizona currently stands on attainment, areas for improvement and opportunities to grow, including examples from across the state and across the country. Along with unveiling the Report, Achieve60AZ announced a big opportunity for communities to work on localizing the postsecondary attainment goal through a grant from the Arizona Community Foundation (ACF).

“This State of Attainment Report shows the progress we have made in attainment since the launch of Achieve60AZ, and the importance of Achieve60AZ as a community initiative,” **said Vince Yanez, Senior Vice President - Arizona Community Engagement for Helios Education Foundation and Achieve60AZ Board Chair.** “Attainment is truly the North Star for education in the state, and we must all work towards that goal for the future of our state.”

The State of Attainment Report was released this morning at an event for business, education, non-profit, and community leaders and state legislators. The State of Attainment Report Convening included speakers like **Helios Education Foundation President and CEO Paul Luna, Maricopa Community Colleges Chancellor Maria Harper-Marinick, AGM President and CEO Howard Stewart, Senior Advisor to the Governor Dawn Wallace, Achieve60AZ Executive Director Rachel Yanof,** and video messages supporting Achieve60AZ and the Report from **Governor Doug Ducey, Arizona Board of Regents Chair Ron Shoopman, Arizona State University President Michael Crow, Northern Arizona University President Rita Cheng,** and **University of Arizona President Robert Robbins.** Attendees participated in a discussion around what they could do in their communities to increase attainment.

Achieve60AZ also announced a new opportunity for communities to get involved in attainment on a local level, through a partnership with ACF. This \$150,000 from ACF, with another \$150,000 for matching with local community grantors, will support efforts to localize the Achieve60AZ goal through community empowerment strategies.

“The amount of progress made on the postsecondary attainment goal so far has been good. But to reach our 60 percent attainment goal, as a state, we all need to see ourselves and our place in this work,” **said Rachel Yanof, Executive Director of Achieve60AZ.** “We are excited to see how people will take use of this Report and this new opportunity with Arizona Community Foundation in increasing their community and our state’s attainment.”

This is the first State of Attainment Report for Achieve60AZ a grassroots alliance dedicated to increasing the percentage of adults in Arizona with a postsecondary degree or certificate to 60 percent by 2030. Prior to this Report, Achieve60AZ put out two Issue Briefs in October and December, and the organization will continue releasing their series of Issue Briefs later this year.

The State of Attainment Report can be found at bit.ly/StateofAttainment

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About Achieve60AZ: More than 75 organizations in Arizona form Achieve60AZ that is fueled by a community-based effort to ensure Arizona remains competitive through the power of education. Their collective goal is to generate greater awareness of the importance of increasing Arizona's level of educational attainment while building support to improve college entry and completion; boost adult education and training; and fuel a pipeline of competitive talent for Arizona's employers. Achieve60AZ promotes support for the long-term steps needed in college entry and completion, adult education and training, and identifying and closing skills gaps to better prepare our workforce and our state for the future when the majority of jobs in Arizona will require some type of higher education.

For more information, visit: achieve60az.com.