

"By participating in Early College, I graduated high school with college credits and had more freedom in scheduling my classes as a college freshman, because I had a lot of first-year class requirements completed. I was also more acclimated to the college workload and could navigate learning independently."





West Virginia's Dual Enrollment Pilot Program



Presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education January 10, 2023





What is the need?

In recent years, West Virginia has made several major economic announcements regarding new investments and expansions that mean more jobs for our citizens.

If we want to ensure the long-term success of these economic advancements and secure even more of them, we must provide the educated workforce that business and industries need.

However, West Virginia currently has one of the lowest college going rates and one of the lowest workforce participation rates in the country.

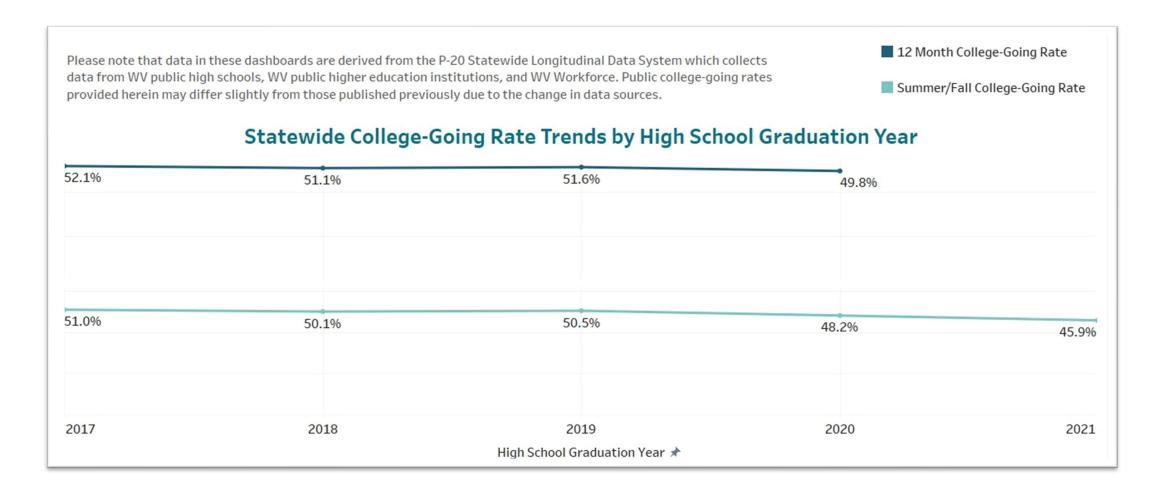








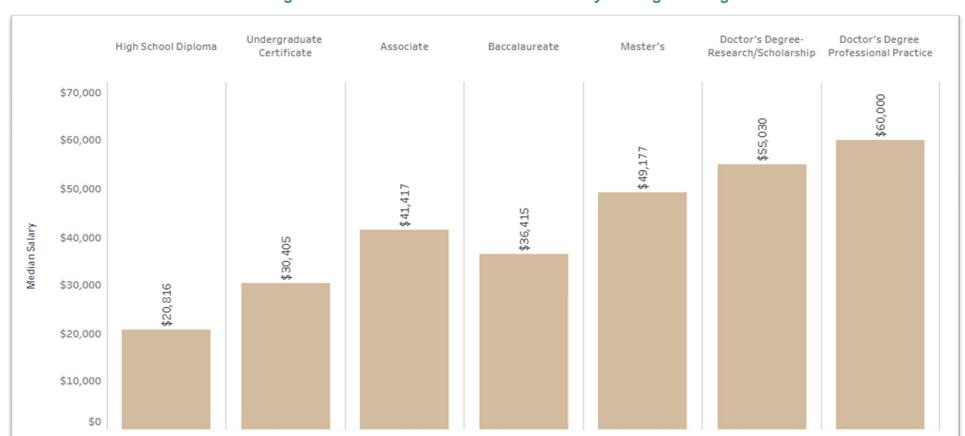
College-Going Rate of WV Public High School Graduates





Workforce Outcomes for Public High School and Postsecondary Graduates

Annual Median Wages for 2019-2020 Statewide Graduates by the Highest Degree Earned in WV



COHORT DEFINITION

This cohort includes West Virginia public high school and postsecondary graduates from the academic year 2019--2020 who earned wages in all 4 quarters during the year in West Virginia.

WAGE DATA

Wage data include graduates who were:

- a) Employed in West Virginia;
 and.
- b) Worked all 4 quarters during the year.

Wage data do NOT include graduates who were:

- a) Employed outside of West Virginia;
- b) Self-Employed;
- c) Worked less than a full year; and,
- d) Worked for the federal government.





Educational Outcomes

Research indicates dual enrollment leads to better educational outcomes in high school, including:

- Higher high school graduation rates
- Those benefits were even greater for low-income and first-generation students
- Greater levels of academic achievement
- Fewer days absent during the school year
- More likely to enroll in or plan to enroll in college

Additionally, dual enrollment has been shown to lead to better outcomes for students in college:

- Higher rates of continuing into second year of college
- More likely to earn a college credential. Those positive effects were greater for:
- Free or reduced lunch recipients/ low-income students
- First-generation college students



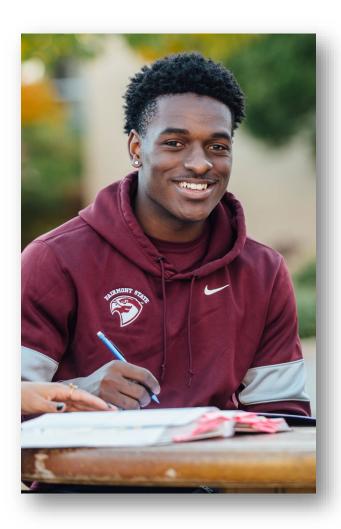








West Virginia's First-Ever Dual Enrollment Program



We will prioritize programs most vital to the state's industries and employers – such as health care, information technology, and manufacturing – and cover the cost of related dual enrollment courses for West Virginia high school students.

Through these career pathways, the state's public community and technical colleges and four-year institutions will work with high schools to define and drive participation, with a focus on equitable access for low-income students.



Student Successes



"This seemed like the best decision since it counted towards both my high school and college credits, both of which I would need in the future."

DARA LADNER CONCORD



By the time Dara graduated high school, she entered college with only three general studies courses left to take. This led her to graduate college a year early, making her a firm believer in dual enrollment courses.







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