

News Release

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ABOR Sets Metric to Measure Bachelor's Degrees Awarded Within Four Years for Arizona Community College Transfer Students

(Tucson, Ariz.) – As part of its strategic plan, the Arizona Board of Regents approved today a metric that measures bachelor's degrees awarded in four years to Arizona community college transfer students.

With this new metric, the board has set 13 overarching performance metrics and goals to achieve by 2025 to manage and measure university and system productivity and progress in four key areas: driving student success, advancing educational attainment within our state, creating new knowledge to enhance society, and impacting Arizona. These core categories are the base for the regents' updated strategic framework aimed at increasing degree attainment among Arizona residents, enhancing the state's economy and improving the overall quality of life for Arizonans. The ABOR website includes dashboards for each of the metrics.

"Arizona's outstanding community college system provides affordable and accessible pathways to our public universities," said Greg Patterson, chair of the ABOR Academic and Student Affairs Committee. "It is important that our students graduate in a reasonable time frame so our critical resources are being used efficiently and our educated students are entering the workforce in a timely manner to support the economy."

The updated metrics adopted last November refine the original targets set for 2020. Each goal includes aligned measures and quality markers that demonstrate how the goal is being met as well as challenges and risks that are inherent to each goal.

"Our students appreciate the opportunity to move seamlessly from community colleges to the universities in an affordable manner, and it is important that we measure how many students are transferring to the universities and the timely manner in which they graduate," said Mark Bryce, J.D., president of Eastern Arizona College as well as the chair of the Arizona Community College Coordinating Council.

The 2025 goal for the number of Arizona community college transfer students awarded bachelor's degrees for Arizona's public universities is 9,342. The current number of community college transfer students graduating in four years from the universities is 7,596. The board will receive periodic updates on progress for this metric that also include updates on Arizona community college transfer student enrollment.

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The Arizona Board of Regents is committed to ensuring access for qualified residents of Arizona to undergraduate and graduate instruction; promoting the discovery, application, and dissemination of new knowledge; extending the benefits of university activities to Arizona's citizens outside the university; and maximizing the benefits derived from the state's investment in education. For more information visit <u>AZRegents.edu</u>.