

POSTSECONDARY STUDENT SUCCESS ACT

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Postsecondary Student Success Act

Background:

Over the past two decades, a concerted effort to expand access to higher education has led to a significant increase in high school graduation and college enrollment rates. However, despite these strides, there remains a troubling reality: a number of students embark on their college journey, at both two-year and four-year institutions, who do not complete their degrees. Today, only 62 percent of college enrollees nationwide successfully achieve their educational aspirations.

It is imperative that we prioritize investments in evidence-based initiatives aimed at enhancing retention and completion rates. Scaling up such evidence-based support programs is paramount to helping students overcome obstacles and achieve academic success. By bolstering college graduation rates, we can unleash the untapped potential of the American workforce, fostering economic growth and prosperity.

The Postsecondary Student Success Act of 2024 will award colleges and universities funds for a variety of evidence-based practices that support student retention, completion, and success, including:

- Faculty and peer counseling services,
- Collecting real-time data on student progress,
- Incentives for students to re-enroll and stay on track, and
- Reforms to developmental education, including career pathways and improving transfer student success.

Postsecondary Student Success Grant Appropriations:

- In FY22, H.R. 2471, the Consolidated Appropriations Act provided \$5 million for the Postsecondary Student Success Grant.
- In FY23, the Postsecondary Student Success Grant received \$45 million in the FY23 Consolidated Appropriations Act.
- The FY24 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill maintained funding for the Postsecondary Student Success Grant at \$45 million.

Endorsed by a broad coalition of educators and community advocates:

- University of New Mexico
- New Mexico State University
- Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
- Association of Community College Trustees
- Complete Collage America
- Campaign for College Opportunity
- National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs (NASSGAP)
- New America
- Results for America
- State Higher Education Executive Officers Association
- The Education Trust
- The Institute for College Access & Success (TICAS)
- Third Way
- UnidosUS

