COVID-19 CALL TO ACTION

As the nation continues to grapple with the health crisis created by COVID-19, and as we enter the rebuilding phase for our economy, college in high school programs like dual enrollment, concurrent enrollment, and early college high school are more important than ever in preparing students for college completion and workforce readiness.

The fundamentals of our economy have not changed; a college degree or credential is increasingly essential for economic success and upward mobility in the modern economy. And now, at a time of learning loss and widening achievement gaps, we must advance solutions that promote equitable access to, and success in, postsecondary education, including through college in high school programs.

Research demonstrates the success of college in high school programs in helping students access and complete college, and that the positive impact of these programs is largest for students who are low-income and/or historically underrepresented in higher education. Policymakers should redouble their commitment to college in high school programs – both through financial and regulatory mechanisms – to help students stay on track for postsecondary success and to reimagine our education system to make it more effective in setting students up for success in the 21st century economy and society.

In these difficult times, we urge policymakers and community partners to take all available action to maintain or increase funding for college in high school programs, particularly with a focus on low income and underrepresented students, rather than subjecting these evidence-based programs that propel students to success in college and career to cuts.

Signed,

Achieving the Dream
Advance CTE
Alabama Possible, AL
Alliance for Excellent Education
America Forward
American Association of Community Colleges
Bard College, NY
The Bridge of Southern New Mexico, NM
Capital Region BOCES, NY
Career Ladders Project, CA
Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning, University of Indianapolis, IN
Colorado Community College System, CO
Complete College America
EdAllies, MN
Educate Texas, TX
The Education Trust – West
Empower Schools
Higher Learning Advocates
JFF
KnowledgeWorks
Maine's Public Universities, ME
Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL), MI
Michigan Early Middle College Association, MI
Middle College National Consortium
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, MN
National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP)
National Association for College Admissions Counseling (NACAC)
New America
Owensboro Community and Technical College, KY
Poetry in America
Workforce Career Readiness