**College Access & Completion**

**P-20 Education Policy: School to College Transition Policy in Washington State**

The quest to improve access to higher education is occurring throughout the country. Due to the lack of decentralization of transition efforts, the state of Washington is experiencing a low ranking in four-year public higher-education participation. In this case study, a profile of the state is developed on key access related characteristics. The study also addresses the lack of transition services within the P-20 pipeline and the need for a clearer focus on providing access to higher education.

**Pathways to Prosperity**

One of the most fundamental obligations of any society is to prepare its adolescents and young adults to lead productive and prosperous lives as adults. The Pathways to Prosperity Project was launched in October, 2008, and was initially known as “The Forgotten Half Project.” The work has focused on encouraging creation of a regional, collaborative effort to address the challenge of preparing all young people with a solid enough foundation of literacy, numeracy, and thinking skills for responsible citizenship, career development, and lifelong learning.

**College Completion Tool Kit**

The Tool Kit discusses ideas on how to boost college graduation rates, including using data to make decisions and simplifying the process for students transferring from one college to another.
Mind the Gaps

This policy report describes the current state of college readiness among high school students. Although nonacademic factors also influence college success, the report examines several academic factors—including level of academic achievement, coursework preparation, and educational and career planning in high school—that contribute to students’ success during their first year in college and their likelihood of returning to college for a second year.

"With Their Whole Lives Ahead of Them"

The question bedeviling many of those concerned about higher education and the economy is why so many college students drop out. Some 2.8 million students enroll in some form of higher education each fall, in two- and four-year programs and in public, private, online, and for-profit institutions.

American Dream Academy

The American Dream Academy at Arizona State University works directly with low-income, first-generation and under-represented parents and focuses on retention, graduation, and academic success issues. Through a 10-week program, parents gain knowledge and skills necessary to improve the educational and personal development of their children. The program is offered at no cost to the participants.
Promoting a Culture of Student Success

State policy-makers and the public across the nation now recognize the severe consequences of low high school graduation rates and the need to raise those graduation rates significantly. But relatively few state leaders and Americans realize that average college-completion rates fall well below high school graduation rates.