



News Release

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Higher Education Leaders Pursue 65 Percent Goal

OACOMA, S.D. – Leaders of public, private, and tribal colleges and universities, technical institutes, and state education and labor agencies will meet Tuesday in Oacoma to discuss strategies to advance South Dakota’s educational attainment.



Multiple agencies and institutions have signed on to a statewide attainment goal of 65 percent of South Dakota citizens, ages 25 to 34, holding some type of postsecondary credential by 2025. The goal addresses a full range of educational attainment from technical certificates and apprenticeships to associate, bachelor, and graduate degrees.

“It is important that all the stakeholders engaged in this work come together to discuss policies and practices for meeting a statewide attainment goal,” said Mike Rush, executive director and CEO of the South Dakota Board of Regents. “All of us have set our sights on a goal to educate more South Dakotans to higher levels for a knowledge- and service-based economy.”

Invited to the April 10 convening at Arrowwood Resort at Cedar Shore are presidents and key personnel from public universities, technical institutes, private and tribal institutions; representatives from the Board of Regents and Board of Technical Education; tribal higher education department leads; and staff from the South Dakota departments of Education and Labor & Regulation.

Sessions will focus on efforts to increase postsecondary access, engage adults who are ready for higher education, provide credit for apprenticeship and life experiences, and other strategies that will contribute to the state’s 65 percent attainment goal.

The convening begins at 9:30 a.m. (CDT) April 10. Presenters include higher education and workforce development experts representing the Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce, Indiana Commission for Higher Education, South Dakota Board of Regents, and the Lumina Foundation.