In order lower unemployment rates in Ohio, we must better prepare our population for the workforce. OCAN provides low-income and first-in-the-family students access to education beyond high school.

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Ohio College Access Network

More Education = Better Chance of Employment & Higher Annual Salaries

1972

- The median earnings for males with bachelor's degrees or higher were 22% greater than the median earnings for male high school graduates.
- The earnings premium for female college graduates was over 40%.

2003

- The typical male college graduate earned 60% more than the typical male high school graduate.
- The premium for females was 69%.

Source: College Board, Education Pays

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According to one Ohio survey, a majority of voters see a connection between a good education and a future quality of life.

Earning Power

Full-time year-round worker in the U.S.

Four-Year College Degree  = $49,900/year

High School Diploma = $30,800 /year  (62% LESS)

Masters Degrees earned almost twice as much as high school graduates

Professional degrees earned over three times as much per year as high school graduates

Source: College Board, *Education Pays*

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U.S. Population 25 Years & Over By Educational Attainment

- Less than 9th grade: 7%
- 9th to 12th grade, no diploma: 7%
- High School graduate (includes equivalency): 9%
- Some college, no degree: 10%
- Associate's degree: 17%
- Bachelor's degree: 20%
- Graduate or professional degree: 30%

Source: U.S. Census American Community Survey, 2008
College Access & Success

College retention is about addressing the entire education pipeline; it is not about simply creating programs once students have started their college journey.

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College Access & Success

Percentage of 9th graders who graduate from HS on time, go directly to college, return for their second year, and graduate within 150% of program time (approx. 6 years).

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<td>17</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>21.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>18.4</td>
<td>19.7</td>
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Source: U.S. Census American Community Survey, 2008

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College Access & Success

In 2008, the average first-year retention rates for college freshmen were:

- 70% for 4-year college-goers, and
- 50% for community college-goers.

National Rates (2008):

- *Overall* First-Year Retention Rate: 74.7%
- First-Year Retention Rate of *Full-Time* Students: 76.6%
- First-Year Retention Rate of *Part-Time* Students: 45.5%

Source: Higeredinfo.org

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College Access & Success

Multiple research studies conducted over the past 25 years have demonstrated the following as the strongest predictors of college attendance and completion.

- Academic Preparation
- Social Support
- Access to Information
- Knowledge about College/Parental Involvement
- Financial Aid

Sources: Adelman, 1999; Alexander, Pallas & Holupka, 1987; Cabrera & La Nasa, 2000a and 2000b; Horn & Kojaku, 2001; Kane & Spizman, 1994; McDonough, 1997; Stage & Rushin, 1993

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College Access & Success

Working to retain college students through graduation starts during their earliest conversations about pursuing education beyond high school. Earning a college degree must be introduced as the goal.

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Who We Are:
Thirty-nine OCAN member college access organizations across Ohio help more than 150,000 students pursue and complete education beyond high school each year. These programs focus on low-income students and those who are first in their families to go to college.

Why We Do It:
• Strengthen Ohio’s workforce by educating more Ohioans
• Impact Ohio’s economic stability
• Increase citizens’ quality of life

How We Do It:
• Inspirational Programming
• Caring Adults/Mentors
• Community Support/Advocacy

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What We Do:

**MOTIVATE** students to pursue college

**COUNSEL** students how to apply for college and financial aid

**SUPPORT** students with scholarships, internships and retention programs

**SERVICES:**
- Early Awareness Advising
- College Information Sessions
- Alternative Paths to Degree Completion
- College Research and Application
- Financial Aid Advising
- College Visits
- Standardized Test Preparation
- Last Dollar Scholarship Administration
- Scholarship Search Assistance
- Counseling Adult Learners
- College Retention Services
- Student Tracking

- Career Awareness and Planning Activities
- Encourage Rigorous Curriculum
- Mentoring
- Elementary-Level Programming
- Financial Literacy
- FAFSA Completion Workshops
- Fee Waiver for Testing & College Applications
- Collaboration with Federal Programs (TRiO, GEAR UP)
- AmeriCorps College Advising Programs
- Summer Academic Enrichment Programs
- Two-Year to Four-Year Transition Counseling

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Our Successes:
Created in 1999, OCAN is the first and leading statewide coordinating body for college access programs in the nation. OCAN links its members by providing program development, sustainability and advocacy.

• High schools with OCAN member programs have an average 3.8% increase in college-going rates among their graduates.

• High schools with OCAN member programs have an average and a 4.5% higher graduation rate than students at schools with similar demographics.

• Programs serve nearly 200 school districts in 73 counties.

• Last year, member programs secured $90 million for students in the form of financial aid.

• OCAN leveraged an $8.5 million investment from the state legislature, to raise $104 million for need-based scholarships and new internships.

• Through OCAN’s Web-Enabled Student Tracking (WEST) system, college access professionals track student activities.

• OCAN works in partnership with OACAC, OASFAA, AmeriCorps, TRiO, GEAR UP, Tech Prep, Early College, P-16 Councils, OBR, ODE, OFIC, KnowHow2Go, Business Roundtable, Kids Ohio and more.

• Last year college access communities raised nearly $18 million in private funding to provide college access and support services.
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Where We Are Going:
OCAN developed an aggressive network expansion and advocacy agenda to implement in 2010 -2011 with help from:

• Lumina Foundation for Education
• OCAN Board of Directors
• OCAN Members
• Key Partners & Stakeholders

Guiding Principles & Priority Strategies for Advancing College Access & Success drive OCAN’s work to evolve:

• From support services for programs and limited advocacy, to a voice for the needs of Ohio students;
• From a few members that were maturing, to many programs on-the-ground at varying maturity;
• From monthly professional development programming that targets young /newer local programs to greater emphasis on now-established programs/programming that caters to their evolving needs;
• From a focus on starting programs to increased attention on program maturity and quality;
• From functioning almost inside the government to fully outside of it;
• From a network that drove most work through a central communications hub to a network of equal partners that utilize multiple communications channels.

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In its second decade, OCAN will evolve from simply providing support services for programs and limited advocacy to...

The voice for the needs of Ohio students

- Developing a state policy agenda
- Providing issue briefs to state legislators
- Creating the College Access & Economic Opportunity Caucus in the state legislature

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Modeling OCAN

20 States Modeling OCAN
Lumina Foundation for Education/KnowHow2GO

Notable Progress

Michigan
Washington
Nebraska
Tennessee
Illinois
Florida
California

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The National College Access Network (NCAN) connects college access colleagues, experts, and funding opportunities. To find programs in your area:

National College Access Program Directory
www.collegeaccess.org/accessprogramdirectory

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