WI CHE At Your Service: An Update on Projects, Activities, and Resources
Public Policy and Research - Projects

- Non-traditional No More: Policy Solutions for Adult Learners
- Getting What You Pay For: Understanding Higher Education Appropriations, Tuition, and Financial Aid
- Workforce Development
- College Access Challenge Grants
Non-traditional No More: Policy Solutions for Adult Learners

- Lumina Foundation for Education
- Two-year project
- $755,100

http://www.wiche.edu/Policy/ReadyAdults/
Project Goals

- To increase access and success for the adult learner population in postsecondary education
- To stimulate and guide policy and practice changes that will make it easier for “ready adults” – those who are just shy of having enough credits to obtain a degree but haven’t yet returned to college – to earn their diplomas
Five Areas of Focus

- Data
- Academic Affairs
- Communications
- Financing and Financial Aid
- Student Services
Three States

- Arkansas
- Colorado
- Nevada

$65,000 per state
Project Activities

**YEAR ONE**
- WICHE-facilitated meeting by June 30, 2008
- Intrastate meeting by September 15, 2008
- Team leader meeting (October 16-17, 2008)

**YEAR TWO**
- WICHE-facilitated meeting by April 30, 2009
- Intrastate Meetings: first no later than February 28, 2009, and the second set by July 31, 2009
- Team leader meeting (September 2009)
Getting What You Pay For

- Lumina Foundation for Education
- 9-month project (June 1, 2008 – February 28, 2009)
- $250,000
- Project Partner: National Conference of State Legislatures
Project Goal

- Promote informed decision-making and the alignment of higher education appropriations, tuition, and financial aid policy by educating state legislators; news media, especially state house and higher education reporters; and others about these issues in an effort to increase student access and success.
Project Activities

- Eight policy briefs targeted to legislators
  - Policy integration and alignment
  - How state policy intersects with federal policy
  - Tuition policy and practice
  - State financial aid
  - Appropriations
  - Economic development and higher education
  - Mission differentiation and the cost dilemma
  - Productivity

- Presentations to target audiences about these issues
Other Projects

- College Access Challenge Grant Program
- Workforce Development
  - Escalating Engagement: State Policy to Protect Access to Higher Education
Public Policy and Research – Activities

- Legislative Advisory Committee (LAC)
- Knocking at the College Door
- Funding of Academic Collaborations (in partnership with WCET)
Legislative Advisory Committee

- Inform the WICHE Commission’s Executive Committee and staff about significant legislative issues related to higher education
- Provide input on WICHE initiatives
- Advise staff on program and participant considerations related to WICHE’s policy workshops
- WICHE staff serves the LAC by informing members about emerging policy issues in the West
Focus for the Future

- Promote participation
- Improve service

http://www.wiche.edu/states/lac.asp
Funding of Academic Collaborations

- WCET and the Policy Unit partnered to survey academic collaborations about their funding structures.

- Academic collaborations – foster interinstitutional partnerships that share resources to increase institutional capacity for, sharing of, and access to technology-mediated courses and programs.

Public Policy and Research - Resources

- State Policy Inventory Database Online (SPI DO)
- Policy Publications Clearinghouse
- Policy/Stat Alerts
State Policy Inventory Database Online (SPI DO)

- Resource for state policymakers, researchers, education leaders, and others
- Searchable database of state-level policies (statute and board rule) related to higher education preparation, access, affordability, and success of all students
- Partnership of three organizations
  - WICHE
  - Pathways to College Network
  - NCSL – Research Assistance
- Significant investment from Jobs for the Future’s Making Opportunity Affordable Initiative funded by Lumina Foundation for Education
SPI DO – 12 Domains

- Accelerated Learning Options
- Adult Learners
- Articulation and Alignment
- Data and Accountability Systems
- Early Outreach Programs
- Equity Issues
- Remediation
- Residency
- Retention
- Student Financial Aid and Other Assistance
- Teacher Quality Initiatives
- Tuition and Fees
Major Upgrade (Expected Completion August 31, 2008)

- **Database System Upgrade:** SPIDO is currently supported by MS-Access; WICHE will upgrade to a more robust platform.

- **Blogging Capability:** SPIDO will include a blogging feature so users can comment on policies or provide information about what is happening in their states.

- **Link to Policy Publications Clearinghouse:** WICHE also maintains a *Policy Publications Clearinghouse*, an organized list of policy publications from national, regional, and state sources. WICHE will link SPIDO and the Clearinghouse so that documents in the Clearinghouse will show up as additional resources in SPIDO.
Major Upgrade (Expected Completion August 31, 2008)

- **Video and Instructional Application of How to Use SPIDO:** This interactive feature will help new users learn how to get the most out of what SPIDO has to offer.

- **Additional Domain Summary Paragraphs:** WICHE will expand the number of domains that have summary paragraphs and update the ones that are currently displayed.

- **Quarterly Digest:** WICHE will email a quarterly digest of SPIDO changes and updates to subscribers.
Welcome to SPIIDO: The State Policy Inventory Database Online is a joint project between WICHE and the Pathways to College Network. SPIIDO is designed to provide state and national policymakers, education leaders, practitioners and education consumers with an inventory of state-level policies and resources in key policy domains related to student achievement, access and success in higher education.

KEY FEATURES

The State Policy Inventory Database Online is designed to provide state policymakers, educational leaders, and education consumers with an inventory of state-level policies in key policy domains. These policy domains are those that most directly impact student achievement, access and success in higher education.

This policy inventory can be utilized to monitor, describe, organize and analyze state level policies. It is designed as a method of taking stock of policies that exist in each state to support the preparation, access and success in higher education of educationally and economically disadvantaged populations.

- LINKS TO STATE POLICY SOURCES:
  These links will take you directly to the web page for locating state statutes or state higher education board policies. From this source page, click on the hyperlink where available to go directly to the policy. Link to State Policy Sources

- POLICY DOMAINS AND DEFINITIONS:
  This page provides brief definitions of the policy domains utilized to categorize the state policies that are included in this database. Link to Policy domains and Definitions

- LINKS TO STATE GOVERNANCE WEBSITES:
  At the top of each state and policy issue report page, you will find a governance link to state strategic plans, governor’s web pages, and state education agencies. Additional Resource Hyperlinks:

  Included with each state and policy issue report are hyperlinks to additional information and resources.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Occasionally, SPIIDO users can run into trouble when trying to click on the statute hyperlinks. This is a result of states using many different databases and systems for presenting data. The following information is intended to help users navigate through some of the more common problems.

Some state websites are created in a way that prevent SPIIDO from linking directly to their statutes. To access laws in these states, follow the links below to the main statute pages (also located on the output pages generated by SPIIDO) and conduct the search from that web location:

- District of Columbia:

- New Mexico:
  http://www.nmsu.edu/best.dlffl+template+h=main-h.html#2.0

- Other states websites require you to access their site before the links on SPIIDO will function correctly.

If you are still having trouble, please contact Damaréé Michelau, senior policy analyst and director of special projects, at 303.541.0223 or dmichelau@wiche.edu.

Add new comment:
Policy Publications Clearinghouse

- Database of higher education policy publications in 35 categories
- Documents include studies, reports, surveys and policy briefs published by various research and public policy organizations

www.wiche.edu/policy/Clearinghouse
Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

WICHE's Policy Publication Clearinghouse

The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education compiled this list of policy publications in a continuing effort to serve as a clearinghouse for our Western state members. The documents include studies, reports, surveys and policy briefs published by various research and public policy organizations.

Issues have been categorized in the index listed below. After clicking on your area of interest, you will find the title of each publication, followed by the name of the organization that completed the research, date of publication, and a link to the web site where that document may be found or requested. Some of the publications are free of charge, others may have costs associated with them.

- ACCELERATED LEARNING OPTIONS
- ACCESS AND SUCCESS
- ACCOUNTABILITY
- ADMISSIONS
- ADULT LEARNERS
- AFFORDABILITY
- ARTICULATION, TRANSFER, AND ALIGNMENT
- COMMUNITY COLLEGES
- DATA, STATISTICAL REPORTS AND FACT BOOKS
- DEMOGRAPHICS
- DISABLED STUDENTS
- DIVERSITY
- ENROLLMENT
- FACULTY AND STAFF, REWARD STRUCTURES AND SALARIES
- FINANCE, BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES
- FINANCIAL AID
- GOVERNANCE
- GRADUATE EDUCATION
- INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
- OUTREACH PROGRAMS
- P-16
Policy/Stat Alerts

- Weekly subscriber-based email distribution list that provides links to current higher education policy publications
For More Information:

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