

THE MOMENTUM METRICS

SUPPORTING STUDENTS ON THE JOURNEY TO SUCCESS

While each student will follow his or her own path through high school and into life after graduation, there are common, key conversations that all students — as well as their families, counselors, and district and state leaders — need to have as they progress. Critical decisions made in high school are often predictive of postsecondary access and success. Students who may be entering the military or the workforce following graduation should have similar conversations.

- ▶ PREPARING
- ▶ APPLYING
- ▶ ENROLLING

9th Grade

10th Grade

11th Grade

12th Grade

Postsecondary Enrollment

POSTSECONDARY ATTAINMENT

2 POTENTIAL FOR ADVANCED COURSEWORK

1 9TH-GRADE GPA

3 HIGH-QUALITY PATHWAY PARTICIPATION

4 COLLEGE APPLICATION

5 FAFSA COMPLETION

6 COLLEGE MATCH

7 SEAMLESS ENROLLMENT

8 GATEWAY COURSE COMPLETION

HIGH SCHOOL



What are the **key momentum points** in high school that will **prepare me for postsecondary success**?

Where will I **apply**?

What are my **interests**?

How will I **pay** for higher education?

What **courses** should I take?

Where should I **enroll**?

What are my **postsecondary interests** and how do I get there?

Which **courses** do I take?

How do I start college **on the right foot**?

How do I **maximize my preparation** for higher education?

What steps do I need to take to **enroll directly after high school graduation**?

CONVERSATIONS FOR STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES, EDUCATORS, AND COUNSELORS

▶ States and districts have a role to play in assisting each student on his or her journey. See the back for a set of questions to guide state and district support for improved postsecondary access and success.

THE MOMENTUM METRICS

CONVERSATIONS FOR DISTRICT LEADERS

- ? Do our administrators, educators, and partners have access to the data on student progress?
- ? Do our staff know the key momentum points for students' postsecondary success?
- ? How are we targeting interventions to students who have fallen behind academically?
- ? To what extent are students of color enrolling and succeeding in advanced coursework?
- ? Do students in my district have a postsecondary plan?
- ? What opportunities are we providing to expose students to their postsecondary options (e.g. college visits, college fairs, work-based learning, etc.)?
- ? How can we ensure that students are applying to multiple institutions and selecting one that will be a good fit for them?
- ? What steps can we take to improve student financial literacy? How are we ensuring students complete the FAFSA?
- ? How do our postsecondary enrollment and attainment outcomes differ by student groups?
- ? How do our alumni fare at different postsecondary institutions?
- ? How can we work with partners (e.g. institutions, nonprofits) to support our students after they graduate from high school?

CONVERSATIONS FOR STATE LEADERS

- ? How are our students faring at key momentum points to and through postsecondary education? How does that differ by student groups?
- ? How can we provide data systems and capacity to support our districts while also ensuring student privacy?
- ? How can we help students make informed choices about their next steps after high school?
- ? How can we support access to advanced coursework to enable more students to participate?
- ? How can we facilitate partnerships between local districts and higher education institutions?
- ? What can we learn from leading schools and districts about strategies to improve success on the momentum metrics?
- ? How can we increase FAFSA completion rates across our state?
- ? What steps can we take to combat “summer melt” and bridge the gap between high school graduation and college enrollment?
- ? What policies should we consider to promote smooth postsecondary transitions (e.g. co-requisite remediation, multiple measures for course placement, automatic enrollment)?