

Office of the Governor

**STATE OF WYOMING
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
EXECUTIVE ORDER**

Order 2018-1

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

WHEREAS, the State of Wyoming seeks to increase economic opportunity for our citizens, communities and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the economic growth and economic diversification of the State will depend on citizens and workers with a wide array of knowledge and skills; and

WHEREAS, in the next seven years, over 60 percent of America's workers will need education and training beyond high school graduation; and

WHEREAS, 92,976 students are enrolled in Wyoming public schools today, and they should have an opportunity to participate fully in our economy with access to post-secondary credentials and degrees; and

WHEREAS, educational attainment through quality industry credentials and higher education degrees is connected to higher employment and increased earning power; and

WHEREAS, 45.8 percent of Wyoming citizens have a high quality credential or degree; and

WHEREAS, an increase in educational attainment will have a significant positive impact on the economy and on the quality of life for all citizens in Wyoming; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wyoming supports efforts to address achievement gaps focusing on underserved populations, including first generation, low-income, minority, and adult students; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming's community colleges and the University of Wyoming have committed to increasing educational attainment; and


WHEREAS, the Wyoming Department of Education is committed to increasing the number of high school graduates;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State, I, Matthew H. Mead, Governor of the State of Wyoming, do hereby issue this Executive Order providing as follows:

1. I join the Wyoming Community College Commission and the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees in establishing an educational attainment goal of 67 percent by 2025 and 82 percent by 2040 of Wyoming's working population 25 – 64 years who possess a valuable post-secondary credential (certificate or degree).
2. The Wyoming Department of Education, the Wyoming Community College Commission, Wyoming's seven community colleges, and the University of Wyoming will collaborate on a plan necessary to achieve Wyoming's educational attainment goal, implement strategies and programs necessary to fulfill the goal, and provide annual progress reports. Wyoming's plan should meet the need of the State's businesses and be aligned with priority economic sectors identified by the ENDOW Executive Council in its 20-year comprehensive economic diversification strategy as approved by the Governor.

This Executive Order takes effect upon my signature and remains in effect until replaced or rescinded.

Given under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Wyoming this 26 day of January, 2018.


Matthew H. Mead
Governor