

Action on Initiatives Supporting The Pathways to Opportunity Plan

**SCHEV Council
September 14, 2021**



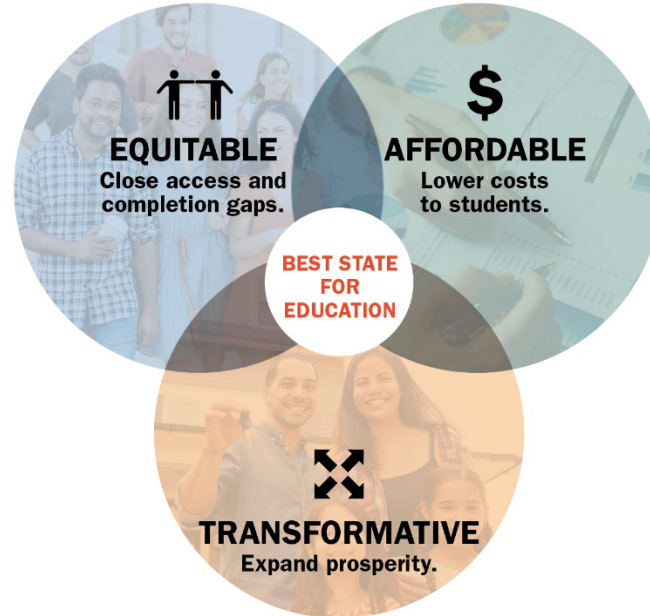
**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER
EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA**

Council Objectives for Today

- **Identify minor modifications to the initiatives based on July input.**
- **Summarize initial steps for implementation.**
- **Consider action on the initiatives.**

Pathways to Opportunity Plan - Goals

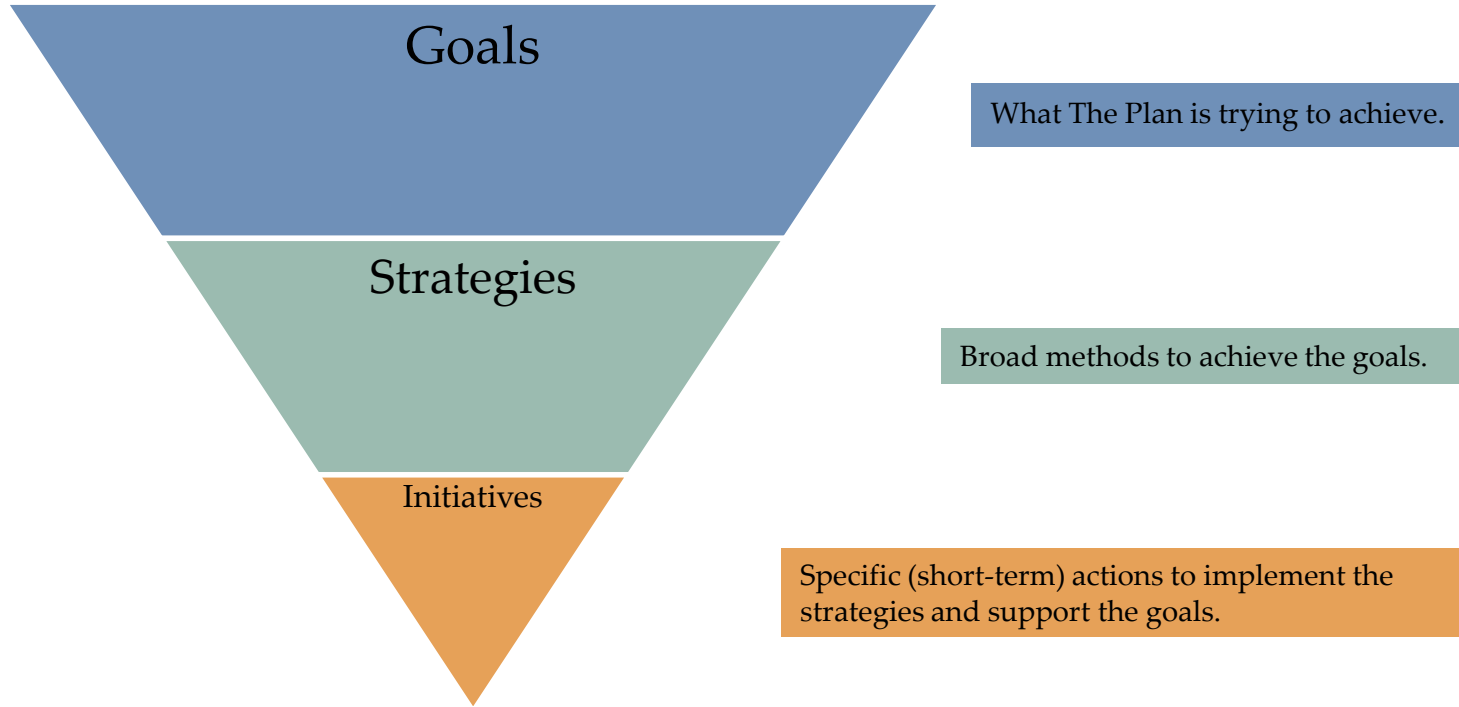
Remove barriers to access and attainment, especially for Black, Hispanic, Native American and rural students; students learning English as a second language; students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds; and students with disabilities.



Invest in and support the development of initiatives that provide cost savings to students while maintaining the effectiveness of instruction.

Increase the social, cultural and economic well-being of individuals and communities within the Commonwealth and its regions.

Plan Goals, Strategies and Initiatives



Goal 1: Equitable – Close Gaps



Proposed Initiatives

I.1: Form an enhanced partnership between VDOE and SCHEV through the commitment of a shared goal to increase post-secondary enrollments to include a shared position and strategic planning.

I.2: Identify and assess hybrid-learning access gaps and quality issues as well as potential solutions and define SCHEV's role in addressing these findings.

I.3: Identify critical student-support-services issues and formulate recommendations that will positively affect the student experience, persistence and completion.

Goal 2: Affordable – Lower Costs



Proposed Initiatives

I.4: Determine strategies to better assess higher education costs and implement approaches to allocate limited public resources to institutions through the cost and funding need study.

I.5: Identify improvements in the transfer process (e.g., transfer-grant program; dual enrollment); facilitate formal transfer alliances and coordinate a unified communication campaign to improve two-year community college student connectivity with and transition to four-year institutions.

I.6: Educate new legislators and administration on the value, needs and priorities of higher education.

I.7: Fund an initiative focusing on institutional collaboration and innovations to improve equitable student persistence and completion.

Goal 3: Transformative – Expand Prosperity



Proposed Initiatives

I.8: Facilitate collaboration between the Virginia Office of Education Economics (VOEE) and institutions of higher education, and identify new ways to integrate VOEE tools and resources with SCHEV initiatives and processes—these may include: use of graduate outcomes survey results; development of labor market criteria for evaluating academic programs and assessing the need for proposed academic programs; and relationship building between higher education and business.

I.9: Advance equity in higher education by fostering a culture of inclusion that supports DEI efforts on campus and tells the institutional and SCHEV stories of how “Equity Works.”

Next Steps

1. Approve initiatives and direct staff to develop action plans for implementation.
2. Incorporate language into budget and/or policy recommendations as needed for implementation.
3. Report on progress.