

Legislative and Executive Mandates

Amended Substitute House Bill Number 119 of the 127th General Assembly

Section 375.30.25(C)

(C) In consultation with the Department of Development, the Chancellor of the Board of Regents shall commission a study on the needs of the business community relative to higher education in the state. The study shall include all of the following:

- (1) Determine the needs of Ohio's business community;
- (2) Determine whether state-supported institutions of higher education are meeting those needs;
- (3) Identify how state-supported institutions of higher education can improve to meet those needs;
- (4) Identify the necessary skills and talents required by the business community that Ohio's college graduates must have in order to perform in the workplace; and
- (5) Make any necessary recommendations as to how state-supported institutions of higher education can better meet the needs of the business community.

Not later than December 31, 2007, the Chancellor of the Board of Regents shall report the findings of the study to the Governor, the Speaker and the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, and the President and the Minority Leader of the Senate.

(D) In consultation with state-supported institutions of higher education, the Chancellor of the Board of Regents shall develop a plan that includes all of the following:

- (1) A plan to achieve the access goal of increasing the number of Ohioans enrolled in college by 230,000 by 2017;
- (2) A plan to achieve the success goal of increasing the graduation rate of those who first enroll in college on or after the effective date of this section by twenty per cent by 2017;
- (3) A plan to achieve affordability through tuition restraint and additional state support for higher education; such a plan shall include goals for establishing and implementing funding policies that provide for sufficient state funding support to reach tuition that matches or is lower than the national average and state support that matches or exceeds the national average;

- (4) A plan to enhance the state's competitiveness for attracting federal and other support for research and development at public research universities; such a plan shall include goals for reaching or exceeding the national average level of support, on a per capita basis, for research and development;
- (5) A plan to promote higher education throughout the state through the coordinated leadership efforts of the Governor, the Chancellor of the Board of Regents, and other stakeholders; such a plan shall include goals for using various media and other partnerships to raise awareness of college opportunities, to increase public awareness about the value of a college education, and to create a shared vision that a higher education is attainable by all Ohioans.

Each of these plans shall include key outcome measures and other appropriate indicators to allow for monitoring of progress made in meeting the established goals. Each state-supported institution of higher education shall provide any student and institutional outcome data in any program areas requested by the Chancellor of the Board of Regents, including program efficiency and utilization of state resources. Each state-supported institution of higher education shall also commit to increasing inter-institution collaborations and partnerships and enhancing efficiencies with the goal of achieving measurable increases in savings.

In consultation with state-supported institutions of higher education, the Chancellor of the Board of Regents shall study the feasibility of establishing and implementing a tuition flexibility plan that may allow state-supported institutions of higher education to charge per-credit-hour-based tuition or differential tuition.

Not later than March 31, 2008, the Chancellor of the Board of Regents shall report the plan and the tuition flexibility feasibility study to the Governor, the Speaker and the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, and the President and the Minority Leader of the Senate.



TED STRICKLAND
GOVERNOR
STATE OF OHIO

Directive to the Board of Regents

August 2, 2007

Establishing the University System of Ohio

1. **Ohio Has a Great Higher Education Tradition.** The State of Ohio currently supports thirteen public universities, twenty-three public two-year colleges, and numerous adult career centers. The state's biennial budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 increases funding for these schools, providing funds which will, among other things, enable them to freeze tuition for two years. For these schools to best serve the needs of all Ohioans, it is imperative that these funding increases be matched by increases in quality, productivity and sustained improvements in affordability.
2. **Collaborative Efforts will Improve Higher Education in Ohio.** The best state systems of public higher education across the nation are more than just a collection of institutions. They work together in a rational, coherent way that creates sums worth well more than the individual institutions themselves. The power of unifying resources and making sure each maximizes its potential allows the best public university systems to shine in seas of mediocrity. We need to build such a system here in Ohio.
3. **Establishing "The University System of Ohio".** In order to realize the benefits of collaborative and coordinated activity between Ohio's institutions of higher education, I direct the Chancellor of the Board of Regents to refer to those institutions, collectively, as The University System of Ohio. Further, I direct the Chancellor to manage the state's investments in higher education to build The University System of Ohio so that it ensures affordable, high quality higher education opportunities for all Ohioans.

4. **Planning for the Future.** In order to maximize the quality and affordability of higher education for all Ohioans, I further direct the Chancellor to prepare a ten-year plan for The University System of Ohio that sets clear goals for the System and provides a timeline for accomplishing those goals.



Ted Strickland
Ted Strickland, Governor