

THE ISSUE

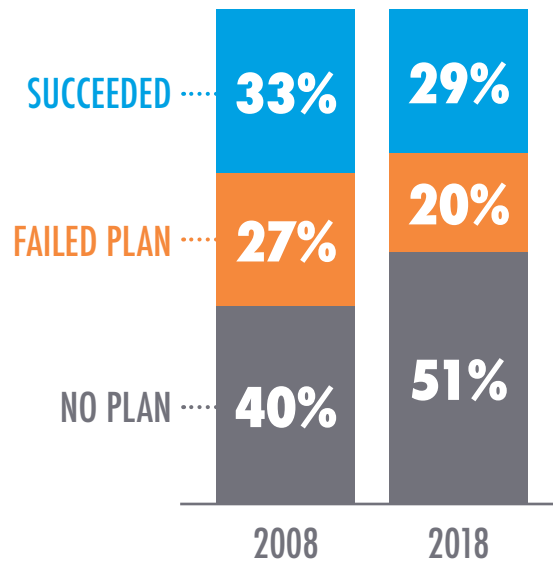
Fewer than one third (29%) of our Texas high school graduates earn a college degree or other post-secondary credential. This costs them and us a fortune.

Today's economy requires some post-secondary credential to reach a sustainable wage.

Our ability to transfer Texas high school graduates from diploma to a sustainable wage has declined, according to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. In 2008, 60% of our high school graduates attempted a post-secondary credential and 33% succeeded. By 2018, only 49% attempted and 29% succeeded.

Outcomes are significantly worse for first-generation, low-income students.

STUDENTS NEED SUPPORT FINDING THEIR WAY TO A PROMISING CAREER, NOW MORE THAN EVER



GOALS

Statewide initiatives call for 60% of our high school graduates to earn a post-secondary credential by 2030 and 75% by our bicentennial in 2036.¹

To meet these worthy goals, we must improve advisement in our high schools.

THE ROOT CAUSE



Our high school advisement currently does not ensure that every graduate has a plan that makes sense for each individual, and that the plan's results are tracked.

We invest \$150,000 in each high school graduate's K-12 education, but more than half are stuck in poverty wages or unemployable, while jobs go unfilled due to a shortage of a qualified workforce.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO SUPPORT STUDENTS

The single highest impact we can make is to define a statewide success model for high school advisement and measure the results. The model should ensure that:

- ✓ **Every high school graduate has a plan to reach a sustainable wage.**
- ✓ **We increase enrollment in our community colleges appropriately for vocational and associate degrees for those not yet ready for an undergraduate degree.**
- ✓ **We place high school graduates in degree plans that fit them academically and financially to maximize their odds for success.**