



In 2013, Governor Haslam launched the Drive to 55 to increase the number of Tennesseans with a postsecondary degree or certificate to 55 percent by 2025. The Drive to 55 has established a number of statewide programs aimed at reaching the state's ambitious attainment goals. The Drive to 55 includes five program categories which each provide strategies to reach a 55 percent educational attainment rate.

Get Students Ready

The Drive to 55 is working to ensure that students are prepared to enter postsecondary education with the skills needed to be successful. Strategies include co-requisite remediation, intensive summer bridge programs, and programming in middle schools and high schools to build a college-going culture across Tennessee.

Program Highlight: Seamless Alignment and Integrated Learning Support (SAILS)

SAILS targets students that have not achieved college readiness benchmarks by introducing college developmental curriculum into the high school senior year. SAILS embeds postsecondary remedial content into senior year math and English courses, allowing students to begin postsecondary prepared for credit-bearing coursework.

SAILS Outcomes to Date: Since implementing SAILS Math in 2012, there has been a **15.6 percent decrease in entering community college students requiring remediation**. By the end of the 2016-17 academic year, SAILS will have reached over 50,000 students in Tennessee.

Other "Get Students Ready" Initiatives: Tennessee Promise Summer Bridge Program | Student Success Course | Path to College Events

Get Students In

Tennessee, through the Drive to 55, is committed to ensuring that students are able to afford and attend a college that provides a strong fit for their academic needs and career trajectories.

Program Highlight: Tennessee Promise

Tennessee Promise provides recent high school graduates with two years of tuition-free attendance at a Tennessee community or technical college. Promise also provides students with a mentor to assist with navigating the college-going process.

Tennessee Promise Outcomes to Date: In the first year of implementation, 16,291 students enrolled using Tennessee Promise. The state's college-going rate rose by 4.6 percentage points; **first-time freshmen enrollment grew by 10.1 percent statewide**, including a 25 percent growth at community colleges.

Other "Get Students In" Initiatives: Advise TN | TN College Advisor

Get Students Through

Getting students into college is an important step in reaching the Drive to 55, but if students don't graduate, Tennessee won't meet its goals. The Drive to 55 is working closely with institutions to develop strategies to ensure that students get the advising and support services they need to graduate.

Program Highlight: Tennessee Promise Forward Grants

Tennessee Promise Forward provides funding to community colleges to develop and expand academic and advising programs, that are potentially scalable statewide, targeted to Tennessee Promise students.

Tennessee Promise Forward Outcomes to Date: Cleveland State Community College, recipient of a Promise Forward grant, **retained Tennessee Promise students at a rate that was 9 percentage points higher** than the overall population through their case management approach to student advising.

Other "Get Students Through" Initiatives: Degree Compass | MOOCs

Reconnect Adults

Nearly 900,000 Tennesseans have some college credits but no degree. If the Drive to 55 were to focus on just recent college graduates, the state would not reach its attainment goals. Getting adults to "Reconnect" through targeted outreach and advising is a key strategy of the Drive to 55.

Program Highlight: Tennessee Reconnect Communities (TRCs)

TRCs provide individualized advising services to adults considering returning to college. The eight locally-based collaboratives, based on The Graduate! Network model, develop community-based partnerships to reach out to potential adult learners and assist them in navigating the process of returning to college.

TRC Outcomes to Date: In the first nine months of implementation in 2016, the TRCs provided **services to 6,521 adults across Tennessee**.

Other "Reconnect Adult" Initiatives: TCAT Reconnect | Community College Reconnect | Ready to Reconnect | Veteran Reconnect | Tennessee Reconnect + Complete

Partner with Industry

For the outcomes of the Drive to 55 to be meaningful, students must graduate in fields that match the demands of employers and provide a skilled workforce to support Tennessee's economy.

Program Highlight: Labor Education Alignment Program (LEAP)

LEAP ensures that Tennessee is graduating skilled workers ready to take on the jobs offered by our state's employers and industry leaders. LEAP projects create tailored workforce pipelines designed to provide students with the requisite technical skills that meet local employers' needs.

LEAP Outcomes to Date: In the first full year of implementation, 938 students completed a postsecondary program of study or industry certification in a targeted field; 608 students were hired in the field in which they studied.

Other "Partner with Industry" Initiatives: Tennessee Employer Toolkit