There will be 740,000 job openings in Washington state by 2021. Most will be filled by workers with a postsecondary credential—such as a degree, apprenticeship, or certificate. But, right now, only 40% of our high school students go on to earn such a credential by age 26. Our goal: Raise that number to 70% by the high school class of 2030.

Here's a path to how we get there.

If Washington hits the benchmarks for high school graduation, postsecondary enrollment of high school graduates, and postsecondary graduation, the credential attainment rate will be 63%. To reach the 70% goal, we also must reengage more students who drop out of education or training.

REENGAGEMENT RATE OF STUDENTS WHO LEFT EDUCATION OR TRAINING 70% CREDENTIAL ATTAINMENT FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2030

If 95% of students graduate high school, then 95% of those graduates must enroll in postsecondary programs at two- and four-year institutions. That's an 18-point gain compared to the estimate for the

high school class of 2015.

95%

POSTSECONDARY
ENROLLMENT
OF HIGH
SCHOOL
GRADUATES

If 95% of high school graduates enroll in postsecondary programs at two- and four-year institutions, then 70% of those enrollees must also graduate. That's a seven-point gain compared to estimated performance for the high school class of 2015.

First, more students must graduate high school. Increasing the high school graduation rate to 95% will set a course to the credential attainment goal. That's a 13-point gain over the graduation rate for the high school class of 2015.

95%
HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATION
RATE



THE CREDENTIAL IS ESSENTIAL.

SEE THE ACTIONS WE MUST TAKE TO KEEP ON TRACK

GRADUATION