

CSI WEBINAR: INCENTIVIZING COLLEGE COMPLETION

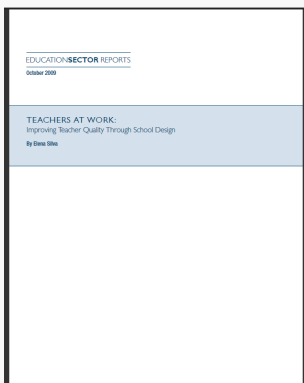
[Thursday, November 19, 2009, 3pm - 4 pm EST](#)

While college enrollment has increased steadily over the past three decades, the number of students who obtain a degree or post-secondary credential remains low. This webinar will focus on state and federal strategies to increase post-secondary degree and credential completion rates.

Presenters: Sara Goldrick-Rab (University of Wisconsin), Stan Jones (National Consortium for College Completion), Rob Denson (Des Moines Area Community College)

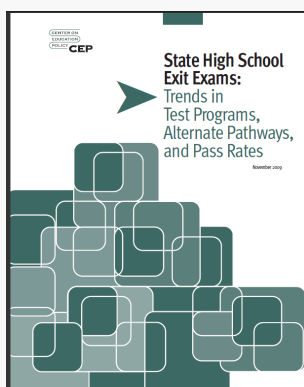
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Recent Reports in Education



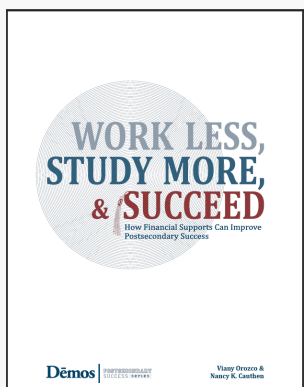
[State High School Exit Exams: Trends in Test Programs, Alternate Pathways and Pass Rates](#)
November 2009

This report by the [Center on Education Policy](#) analyzes state graduation exam data to identify long-term trends in state policy and student performance. The study finds that states have made progress in improving the overall initial pass rate and closing initial pass rate gaps between student subgroups, but that progress has varied across states and subject matter.



[Teachers at Work - Improving Quality through School Design](#)—October 2009

Many schools, especially schools in impoverished areas, find it difficult to attract talented teachers and to retain them once they are hired. Teachers in these schools have little financial incentive to perform, are given insufficient professional support and rarely have a defined career pathway established to improve their skills. The management model discussed in this report by [Education Sector](#) represents a new way of thinking about teacher quality, and seeks to solve these design problems through the strategic use of people and time.



[Work Less, Study More & Succeed - How Financial Supports Can Improve Post-Secondary Success](#)
September 2009

As college costs rise, many students have turned to community colleges as one of the last bastions of affordable post-secondary education. Most of these students work more than 20 hours a week and attend school part-time, which decreases the likelihood that they will complete a degree. This report by [Demos](#) argues that states should increase financial supports and reform financial aid to help students cover educational costs so that students can work less, study more and complete their degrees.

Spotlight on State Innovations

Restructuring to Build a Green Economy

October 30, 2009

Michigan [Governor Jennifer Granholm](#) announced that the [Michigan State University Extension](#), an institution traditionally focused on promoting and disseminating best practices in the agricultural sphere, has shifted its focus to promoting the state's green economy. MSU Extension will work with local communities to promote energy efficiency and alternative energy projects in the State of Michigan. Amongst the planned projects will be the development of a number of local wind and solar installations. In addition, MSU Extension is partnering with the [MSU Agricultural Experiment Station](#) to promote and support the biomass energy sector throughout the state.



On-Line Technology Education

November 2, 2009

Missouri [Governor Jay Nixon](#) announced the state's participation in the [Microsoft Elevate America](#) program. The program provides e-learning vouchers to state residents for training on Microsoft applications like Excel, Word and Access. The state will distribute 24,750 vouchers in the first year of operations through the Missouri Department of Economic Development. Missouri is one of seven states participating in the program along with [Illinois](#), [Iowa](#), [Maryland](#), [Mississippi](#), [Virginia](#) and [Washington](#).

Microsoft Elevate America

Performance Scholarship

October 6, 2009

Alaska [Governor Sean Parnell](#) announced a \$400 million proposal for an Alaska Governor's Performance Scholarship. This merit based scholarship would offer qualifying students financial assistance for tuition at in-state universities, job training programs and other post-secondary institutions. To qualify, students would be required to pass four years of classes in math, English and science as well as three years of social studies. Awardees would receive a 100% scholarship for an A average, a 75% scholarship for a B average and a 50% scholarship for a C+ average.



UPCOMING US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY WEBINAR: [Financing Program Support for ARRA Recipients](#)

November 12, 2009 1:00P.M. EST, 60 min.

This will be the first in a series of webinars to support ARRA recipients who are launching energy efficiency and renewable energy financing programs. This session will highlight some of the resources that are now available and will review a range of financing program options that cities and states can consider. Learn more and register at: <http://www.eere.energy.gov>.

CONTACT US

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