Washington’s Goals For 2023:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Goal Description</th>
<th>Attainment in 2013</th>
<th>Attainment by 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>of adults* will have a high school diploma or equivalent.</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70%</td>
<td>of adults will need a postsecondary credential or degree.</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>70%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Both high school and postsecondary attainment levels increased only one percentage point between 2011 and 2013.

*Throughout this document, the term adults refers to those ages 25-44, unless noted otherwise.

Overall attainment gains are inadequate to meet the state’s goals by 2023.

To keep pace with population growth and workforce demand:

- About 360,000 more adults will need to complete high school.
- And about 500,000 more adults will need a postsecondary credential.
Success depends upon serving populations we have not adequately reached within our education system.

Roughly 700,000 Washington adults ages 17–54 have earned some college credit, but haven’t completed a degree.

- Two out of three of these adults have a year or more of college credit, but don’t have a degree.
- Earnings remain stagnant until workers earn their associate degree.
- Enrollments of students ages 25 years and older declined by almost 14,000 during the reporting period.

The fastest growing student populations are historically underserved in K-12 and underrepresented in higher education.

- Although Hispanic/Latinos are about 13% of Washington’s adult population, they are almost 50% of the adult population that hasn’t completed high school.
- African Americans are 4% of Washington’s adult population, but they account for only 2.8% of adults with an associate degree or higher.

Affordability remains an issue:

Despite the Governor and the Legislature lowering tuition at public institutions in 2015-16, students are covering 58 percent of the cost at public four-year institutions, far above the pre-recession share of 38 percent. And financial need remains high, as financial applications have increased 50 percent since the great recession. Every year since 2009, approximately one-third of eligible and enrolled students did not receive the State Need Grant due to underfunding. Financial constraints are the key reason that many students don’t finish their credential.