

College Readiness and Completion *Proposal and Implementation*

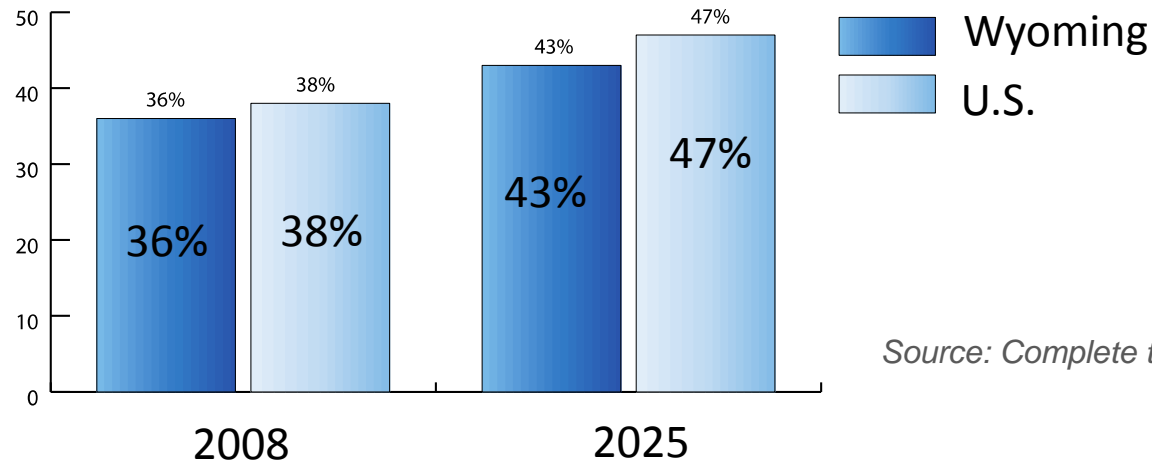
Offices of the President, Academic Affairs, & Student Affairs
UW Board of Trustees
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UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Introduction

- The Center on Education and Workforce projects that by 2018, 63% of jobs will require some college education.
- Wyoming lags behind the national average in percentage of adults with an associates degree or higher.



Source: Complete to Compete; Nat. Gov. Assoc.

- The University of Wyoming can help to improve Wyoming students' college readiness and completion, preparing them to enter an increasingly knowledge-based economy.



Wyoming compared to states with top high school graduation rates

State	9 th graders	High school graduates	Enter college anywhere in U.S.
Iowa	100	84	54
North Dakota	100	82	55
Massachusetts	100	77	58
Wyoming (numbers of students)	100 (7355)	75 (5494)	44 (3262)

Source: HigherEdInfo.org (2008 data)

Challenge



Wyoming compared to states with top high school graduation rates

State	Enter college	Full-time students still enrolled sophomore yr.	Graduate within 150% of time	Attrition after sophomore year
Iowa	100	78	61	-17
North Dakota	100	79	46	-33
Massachusetts	100	83	69	-14
Wyoming	100	72	53	-19

UW loses students in the first year

UW needs to retain students who persist into the sophomore year



Source: HigherInfoEd.org (2008 data)

Focus on undergraduate degree completion

1. K-12 to College Pipeline

- Improve college readiness
- Tie scholarships to high school preparation
- Create an aspirational culture in K-12 students

2. Increase rate of student completion

- Encourage academic performance and persistence
- Provide opportunities for student engagement
- Reduce time to degree

UW's Higher Ed Goals



UW's Goals

By adopting higher assured admissions standards we encourage better college readiness

Better-prepared UW students persist and complete degrees at a higher rate

Strategies for helping the less well-prepared students include academic transition programs at UW and community college experience prior to transferring to UW

Together we can increase college success in Wyoming



UW can guide students on college preparation through its admissions categories

Assured admission: for students who have the high school coursework, GPA, and test scores showing they are likely to succeed in college.

Conditional admission: for students whose high school transcripts, GPA and test scores suggest they may need additional support to succeed in college.



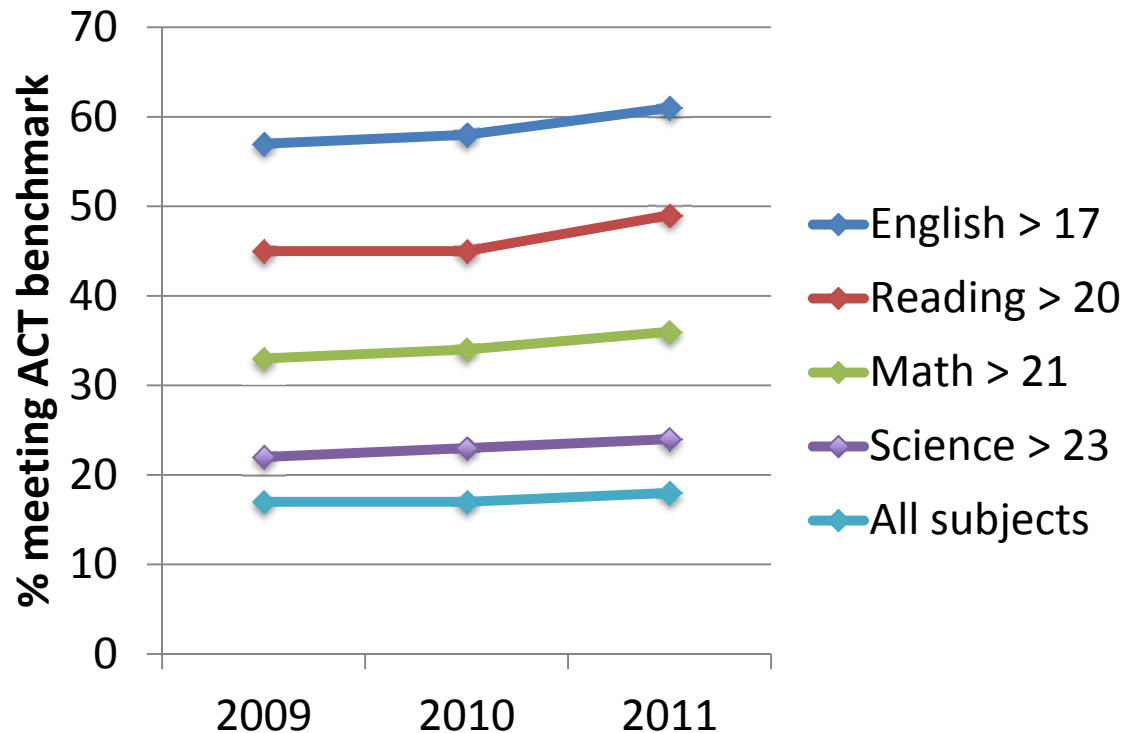
Proposed assured admission standards:

1. *Raise UW admission standards to 4 years of English, Math (including Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry), Science, 3 years of Social Studies, and 2 years of a single Foreign Language*
2. *Include minimum high school GPA requirements of 3.0*
3. *Include ACT requirement of 21 or higher (SAT \geq 990)*
4. *Conditional admission for those not meeting assured standards, require participation in Synergy or other transition program*
5. *No change in transfer student admission requirements, encourage completion of associates degree or ~60 credits prior to transfer*



Curricular standards improve college readiness

Improving ACT scores reflect rigor of Wyoming high school preparation



(First students completing Hathaway Curriculum entered UW Fall 2011;
All Wyoming 11th grade students have taken ACT since 2009)



Standards improve college success:

LIFE 1010: General Biology

Prerequisites: grade of C or better in MATH 0921 (Basics of Algebra)
or Level 2 on the Math Placement Exam
or Math ACT of 21

Prior to prerequisite of Math ACT score of 21 for LIFE 1010:

73% of students with Math ACT of <21 earned D, F, or withdrew

After instituting prerequisite:

Students with Math ACT <21 take Math 921 in the fall

72% of these students earned A, B, or C in LIFE 1010 in the spring



Wyoming students coming to UW are completing the Hathaway Success Curriculum

2011 WY grads with Hathaway	Large High Schools	Medium High Schools	Small High Schools	Total
Success Curriculum	333	188	124	645
Opportunity Curriculum	14	7	8	29
Curriculum unverified	24	8	8	40
Total Hathaway Scholars	371	203	140	714
2011 WY grads total	426	221	151	798
% with Hathaway	87%	92%	93%	89%

Large: Kelly Walsh, Jackson Hole, Natrona, Cheyenne Central, Campbell County, Cheyenne East, Laramie

Medium: Kemmerer, Pinedale, Torrington, Newcastle, Riverton, Evanston, Worland, Powell, Lander, Douglas, Rock Springs, Cody, Rawlins, Green River, Star Valley, Sheridan

Small: all others



Wyoming assured admission standards compared to neighboring universities

Institution	ACT	GPA	Minimum Curriculum: English/Math/Science/Soc. Stud./Foreign language
Black Hills State	18	2.6	4/3/3/3/0
University of Nebraska	20	--	4/4/3/3/2
New Mexico State	21	2.5	4/3/2/0/1
North Dakota State	21	2.5	4/3/3/3/0
Oregon State	--	3.0	4/3/3/3/2
University of Wyoming proposed standards	21	3.0	4/4/4/3/2
Montana State-Bozeman	22	2.5	4/3/2/3/0
University of Nevada-Reno	22	3.0	4/3/3/3/0
Colorado State	--	3.25	4/4/3/3/2
University of Arizona	Top 25% of class		4/4/3/2/2
Washington State	--	3.5	4/3/2/3/2
University of Denver (<i>average student</i>)	28	3.74	4/4/4/4/4
Colorado College (<i>average student</i>)	31; top 5% of class		20 solid academic courses

Proposed Implementation Timeline

Summer 2011—briefings within UW:

- Board of Trustees

- Faculty Senate Executive Committee; Faculty Senate (Sept. 26)

- President's Executive Council

- Academic Deans and Directors

- ASUW Senate

Fall 2011—engage our Wyoming education partners:

- Community College administrators (Sept. 22)

- WEA Professional Stds & Practices Commission (Oct. 21-22)

- WY Assoc. of Secondary School Principals (Oct. 16 or Nov. 2)

- WY School Boards Assoc. & WY Assoc. School Administrators
(superintendents) (Nov. 16-17)

- High School Counselors and school district leaders (TBA)

Spring-Summer 2012—publish adopted standards and communicate them

Fall 2013—first class enters with new assured admission standards

