

ROADMAP FOR P-20 EDUCATION FUNDING

SAMPLE NEWSLETTER AND BLOG

Where a family lives, how much money they make, or their race or ethnicity should not dictate the quality of education that a student receives, but that's not always the case in Arizona. There are really amazing things happening in classrooms and communities across the state, but ongoing opportunity gaps are leading to growing achievement gaps. Strengthening education and ensuring the success of every student is an issue everyone should care about.

Investments in students, educators and classrooms have an enormous return for our state. A strong P-20 education system will create and support a talent pipeline that attracts diverse businesses to Arizona. A more educated and skilled workforce will also increase business and personal income, grow revenues for the state to invest in other critical needs, and decrease the dependence on social safety nets.

The Arizona Education Progress Meter was developed three years ago to provide a clear picture of where we stand today and to outline broadly supported education goals the state aims to meet by 2030. While the state has gained ground on all eight indicators, it's clear we won't meet the long-term goals or close persistent achievement gaps without significant investments in the entire education continuum, coupled with effective instruction, policy, and strategy implementation.

So, in response to the ongoing and increasing need to address education funding in Arizona, [\[insert name of your organization\]](#) joined more than 80 education, business and community organizations to create a Roadmap for P-20 Education Funding. The Roadmap represents consensus on the major investments needed for P-20 education by 2030.

Those of us involved in drafting the Roadmap agreed that future state budgets and funding proposals should prioritize investments that: (1) Support the entire education continuum; (2) Significantly advance outcomes for all students; and (3) Provide predictability, consistency and flexibility. Using these principles, we discussed the major investments needed in each sector: early childhood, K-12 and postsecondary education. The list of investments was then prioritized into short, mid and long-term categories based on each item's ability to stabilize the education system and advance outcomes for all students.

This is a first-of-its-kind resource for our state. The Roadmap is intended to be used by policymakers, business, education and community leaders to inform and evaluate funding proposals and to focus conversations on the complete picture, even as incremental investments are made in the short term. In addition, we all hope the Roadmap will be used to unite the community around a set of shared priorities that can be communicated about and advocated for over time.

Please join us in advocating for the additional investments Arizona's students, teachers and communities deserve, beginning with the short-term priorities. You can find a one-pager summary of the report [here](#); the complete roadmap [here](#); and a great first opportunity to take action in support of Arizona's students and classrooms.

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