



# Education Commission of the States

## Effective Funding Strategies for Adult Learning

National Summit on Adult Learning

Women in Government

October 10, 2009

# *Getting Past Go*

- Three year, \$1.4 million grant from Lumina Foundation for Education
- Partnership with University of Massachusetts Boston and Knowledge in the Public Interest
- Key Activities:
  - Database of state policies related to the funding, delivery and alignment of developmental education policy.
  - Case studies to identify impact of policy on developmental studies practice
  - Community of Practice of developmental studies leaders
  - Policy Toolkits
  - Technical Assistance to states

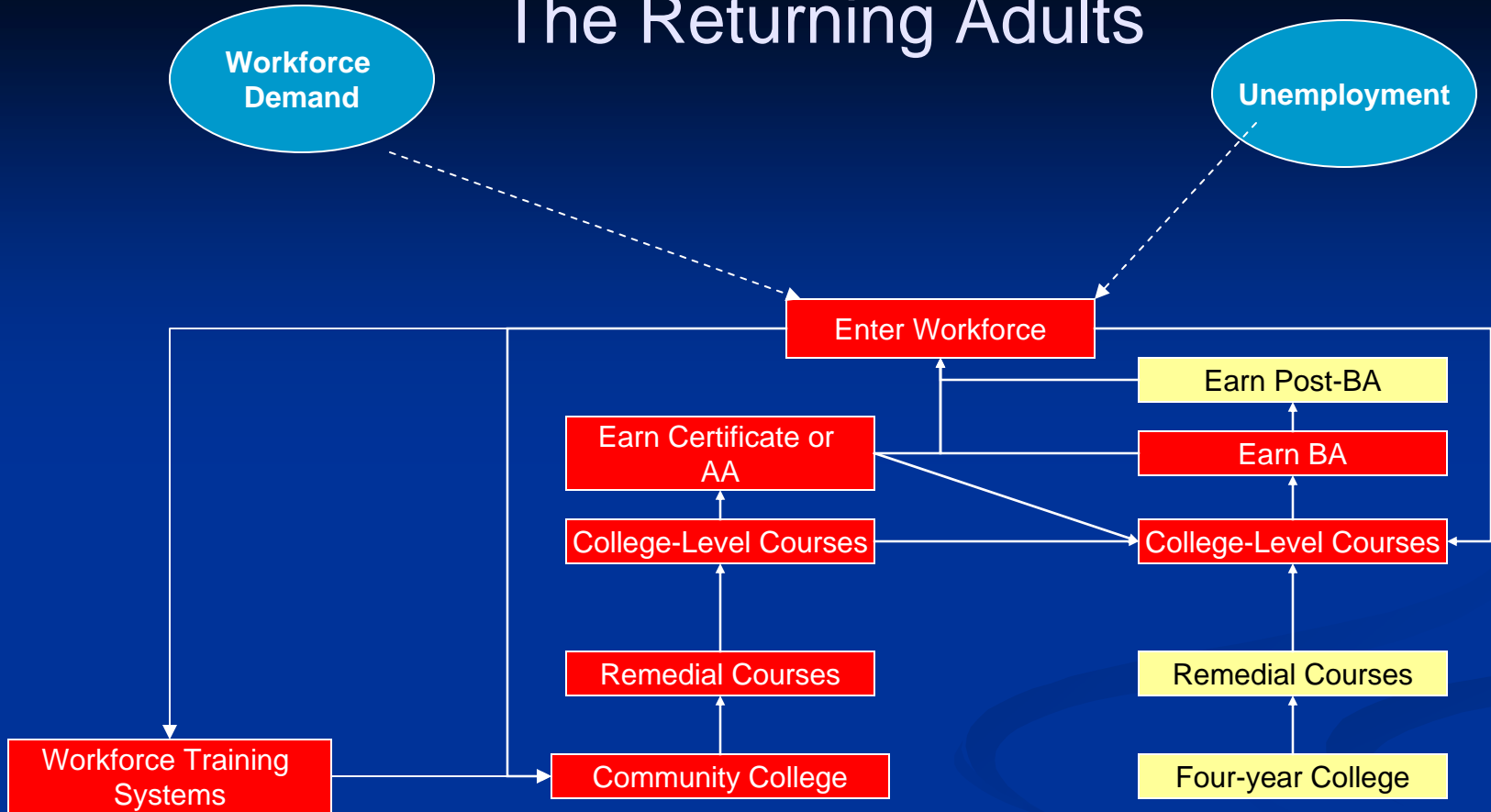
# The Challenge:

Effectively and Efficiently  
Increasing the College  
Attainment and Work  
Readiness of Adults





# The Returning Adults



# ARRA Provides Temporary Reprieve

- Approximately \$100 Billion in Support for Public Education
  - \$40 Billion in State Education Stabilization
  - \$29 Billion increase to current programs (although adult ed was not included)
  - \$500 Million for Vocational Rehabilitation
  - \$15.6 Billion for Pell Grants
  - \$5 Billion for Race to the Top
  - \$650 Million for District Innovation Funds

# ARRA Provides Temporary Reprieve

- \$3.95 Billion to Workforce Investment Act
  - \$500 million for adult employment and training activities
  - \$1.25 billion for dislocated worker employment and training
  - \$200 million for national emergency grants
  - \$750 million in competitive grants for worker training and placement in high-growth and emerging industry sectors

# ARRA Provides Temporary Reprieve

- \$4.35 Billion Broadband Technology Opportunities Program
  - \$200 Million for technology at public computing centers, to include community colleges

# ARRA's Limited Reach

- 89% of Education Stabilization funding budgeted by states through 2009-10
- 80% of Education Stabilization Funding for K-12
- Approximately 40% of states are dedicating some of their \$8 Billion in high priority funding to K-12 and/or higher education – but in varying amounts

# Challenges to Adult Education

- High burn rate means education is vulnerable past 2010
- Projected state short falls puts higher education and state support for adult basic education at risk
- Institutional cuts to higher education might disproportionately impact adults
  - Remedial/developmental education
  - Decreased availability and flexibility of course offerings

# Meeting the Challenge

- President Obama's goal for increasing college attainment rate to number 1 in the world
- Achieving the goal in a time of limited and declining resources
- Goal must be increasing efficiency and productivity

# Potential Strategies for Increased Productivity

- Fund Performance, Not Just Participation
- Use of Technology for Course Redesign
- Collaboration and Coordination Across Traditional Boundaries

# Fund Performance, Not Just Participation

- Key Leader: Ohio Board of Regents
  - New performance based funding system
  - State agenda linking education and economic development
- Policy Implications
  - Fund student success of momentum points.
    - Completion of credits, remediation
    - Credential attainment or transfer
  - Fund regional economic contributions

# Use Technology for Course Redesign

- Key Leader: Tennessee Board of Regents
  - Course redesign saves money through more customized instruction, increase “class size”
- Policy Implications
  - Greater accountability, reduced regulation
  - Disconnect funding from enrollment based to intervention based
  - Complements state college attainment goals and performance based systems.

# Collaboration Across Boundaries

- Key Leader: Washington State Board of Community and Technical College I-BEST
  - Combine Adult Basic Education courses with career/technical certificates
- Policy Implications
  - Funding of additional faculty
  - Connection to system goals to increase attainment
  - Connected to broader system strategy

# Collaboration Across Boundaries

- Key Leader: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
  - Provides career pathways, using Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
  - Performance indicators related to degree attainment
- Policy Implications
  - Effectively leverage federal dollars
  - Align state agencies around measurable goals

# Final Questions

- What's your strategy?
- Are you cutting or aligning your resources?
- Are you encouraging or discouraging innovation?
- How are you holding agencies accountable, rewarding success?



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