

Our Goal to Equip **60%** of West Virginians with a Certificate or Degree by **2030** 



of West Virginians aged 25-64 held at least an associate degree in 2016



of recent West Virginia high school graduates enrolled in college in the fall of 2017



of working-aged West Virginians will need a certificate or degree in order to meet future workforce demands







## LET'S START THE CLIMB!

According to a recent report, 97 percent of "good jobs" — those with median wages in the upper one-third in their occupation classification — created nationally since the economic recovery went to people with at least a bachelor's degree<sup>1</sup>. With less than one-third of West Virginians holding an associate degree or higher<sup>2</sup>, our public institutions of higher education must work harder to equip more West Virginians with the training and skills necessary to land the good, high-paying jobs that will continue to drive our state's economic recovery. Our new attainment goal — West Virginia's Climb - will challenge all of West Virginia's public colleges and universities to seek out new and innovative ways to make the college dream a reality for more West Virginians. Great things are in store for the Mountain State!



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Hancock

**27%** 

**Brooke** 

**28%** 

Ohio 37%

and the Workforce, Georgetown University (2015).

<sup>2</sup> US Census Bureau, American Fact Finder (2016).

<sup>1</sup> Carnavale, A., T. Jayasundera and A. Gulish. Good Jobs Are Back: College Graduates are First in <u>Line</u>. Center on <u>Education</u>