ANNUAL REPORT
2018
Transforming Education to Unlock Lifelong Opportunity and Success for Each and Every Child
A Message from Our Chairman

With a decade of work behind us and much to do in the decade ahead, ExcelinEd remains committed to its mission of giving all children access to a quality education. The policies that get us there, the leaders who champion the cause, and, most importantly, the parents who want, nay, demand, a fair chance in life for their children are all part of the collective movement for change. It’s a movement that grows stronger by the year, and we are profoundly grateful to be on the frontlines, alongside so many passionate education reformers.

It was a full 20 years ago when the first steps of reform started to change the future for students across Florida. As governor, it was challenging to inherit an education system that had been failing its children for generations. Yet with that challenge came responsibility—and almost endless opportunity.

Florida’s A+ Plan for Education, which I signed into law in 1999, set into motion a better future for millions of students. Its policies, and others in the ensuing years, turned a bottom-ranked state into a national leader in student achievement, with steady rise in early literacy, math performance, graduation rates, advanced placement coursework and more. Most significantly, Florida’s historically underserved students—including Black and Hispanic students, students with disabilities, low-income students, English language learners and others—are now outperforming their 4th grade peers in virtually every other state across the nation.

Our work is far from over. Nationwide, ExcelinEd is committed to keeping all eyes on the future, where education remains the single most important investment states can make in their economic, community and societal success.

Our challenge is that the future looks far different than it did just 20 years ago. We are living in a continually changing landscape of new technologies, new industries and global markets, where today’s students need 21st-century skills that our parents and grandparents could barely have imagined.

It is now imperative to transform our schools—every school—into world class centers of learning, through proven policy approaches. These include the expansion of educational freedom for more families; strong accountability measures that ensure students are learning; initiatives to reward and retain quality teachers; more equitable funding formulas that don’t leave kids behind; and new ways for high schoolers to prepare for college or earn workforce credentials that lead to good-paying jobs with a meaningful future.

As we work to transform our education system, remember that slow motion means no motion for today’s students. Their future is now, and we hold the responsibility to act with vision, urgency and resolve.

Thank you for joining ExcelinEd in this worthy mission.

Onward,

Jeb Bush
Chairman, ExcelinEd
ExcelinEd Board of Directors

Jeb Bush, Chairman
Chairman of the Board & 43rd Governor of Florida

Reginald J. Brown
Partner at WilmerHale Law Firm

Eric Cantor
Vice Chairman and Managing Director at Moelis & Company & former House Minority Leader

Chris Cerf
Former New Jersey Commissioner of Education

Gary Chartrand
Executive Chairman of Acosta & Board Chair of KIPP: Jacksonville Schools

César Conde
Chairman of NBCUniversal International Group & NBCUniversal Telemundo Enterprises

F. Philip Handy
Chief Executive Officer of Winter Park Capital & former Chairman of the Florida State Board of Education

Dee Bagwell Haslam
Owner of the Cleveland Browns, Partner Pilot Corporation, CEO RIVR Media Companies

Allan B. Hubbard
Co-founder and Chairman, E&A Industries & former Director, National Economic Council

Joel I. Klein
Chief Policy and Strategy Officer of Oscar Health & former Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education

William Oberndorf
Chairman of Oberndorf Enterprises, LLC

Dr. Condoleezza Rice
66th U.S. Secretary of State & Professor of Political Science at Stanford University
About ExcelinEd

Our Challenge

Organized around the needs of adults more than a century ago, America’s outdated education system is failing many of today’s students, leaving them unprepared for college or a career.

- 35th Where U.S. students rank internationally in math. They also rank 18th in science and 15th in reading.1
- 60% The percentage of fourth graders that are not performing on grade level in math or reading.2
- 1.7m The number of first-year college students needing remedial help.3
- 50% The percentage of U.S. Millennials that are unable to effectively apply literacy or math skills in the workplace.4

Our Solution

To address this education and economic crisis, former Florida Governor Jeb Bush launched the Foundation for Excellence in Education (ExcelinEd) to support state leaders in transforming education so that all children are equipped for success.

Focused on educational quality, innovation and opportunity—both within and outside of the traditional system—ExcelinEd advances a broad range of student-centered policy solutions that are increasing student learning, advancing equity and readying graduates for college and career.

Our Approach

We believe changing policy, changes lives. To achieve this:

► We customize policy solutions to fit each state’s unique context, needs and means.
► We bring deep policy expertise and implementation experience to state leaders.
► We collaborate to build capacity, helping policymakers and partners do more than they can on their own.

Where U.S. students rank internationally in math. They also rank 18th in science and 15th in reading.1

The percentage of fourth graders that are not performing on grade level in math or reading.2

The number of first-year college students needing remedial help.3

The percentage of U.S. Millennials that are unable to effectively apply literacy or math skills in the workplace.4

Our Impact

Student achievement is rising in states with strong school accountability systems.

More children are benefitting from educational choice.

More students are earning industry credentials or college credit in states offering incentives.

Students are outpacing the nation in reading in states with a focus on early literacy.

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1. Programme for International Student Assessment
2. National Assessment of Educational Progress
3. National Center for Education Statistics
4. ETS
Policy Solutions in the States

"Literacy is central to any child's education. It is a foundational building block in the education our children need to face the challenges and seize the opportunities ahead of them in 21st-century America. The Reading Improvement Act will help ensure that our students have the skills they need to achieve their dreams."

Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts on signing the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act

Key computer science legislation adopted in eight states: AZ, CO, FL, MI, MS, MO, NC, PA

ExcelinEd in Action is the 501(c)(4) sister organization to the Foundation for Excellence in Education. ExcelinEd in Action works with state lawmakers and partner organizations to pass legislation that empowers families with educational choice, prepares students for college and career, prioritizes early literacy, expands innovation and strengthens school performance.
A Message from Our CEO

ExcelinEd’s work continued changing lives in 2018, with 1.86 million additional students gaining access to improved educational resources, better-fitting schools, innovations in learning and 21st-century career pathways. What an amazing year of progress, and to our many valued partners, thank you!

Our team actively supported 45 states this year, plus Puerto Rico and Washington, DC, with a number of important wins highlighted on these pages and throughout the annual report.

Capping the year was our 2018 National Summit on Education Reform, where visionary speakers and strategic sessions empowered a thousand policymakers, partners and advocates for the continued work ahead.

I’m gratified that ExcelinEd's approach—now in its second decade—has led since 2016 to 5.4 million students now benefiting from student-centered policies. Together we are making a difference in education systems across the nation, and I challenge us all to never give up until each and every child gets the quality education they deserve.

Thank you and God bless,

Patricia Levesque
CEO, ExcelinEd

“When you put a kid in a good, safe learning environment, good results happen.”

Florida Speaker of the House Richard Corcoran on Hope Scholarships
By the Numbers | 2018 Impact

- $197.4 million in New Funding for Private Choice Programs in 7 States
- $227 million in Additional Funding for Charter Schools in 5 States
- 19 New or Expanded Choice Programs in 10 States & Puerto Rico
- 1st State Enacting Choice Scholarships for Bullied Students (Florida)
- 42,000 Newly Funded Choice Scholarships in 6 States & Puerto Rico
- 8 States with New or Improved Computer Science Policies
- $153.1 million in New Funding for Innovation Programs in 8 States
- 919,000 Students with Expanded Access to Blended Learning (Missouri)
- 1st State Enacting Reading Scholarship Accounts (Florida)
- 11 States Strengthening School Accountability or Early Literacy Programs
- $16.1 million New Funding for Early Literacy Programs in 4 States
- 905,000 Students Benefitting from New or Improved Early Literacy Policies in 10 States

OPPORTUNITY IN NOVATION QUALITY
ExcelinEd in the States

- **45** States Engaged Plus DC & Puerto Rico
- **AZ 26** States & DC Implementation Support
- **59** Policies Passed/Improved in 23 States & Puerto Rico
- **22** Policies Protected in 11 States

**Advocacy Campaigns in 12 States**
- **13**

**Opportunity Learning Hub**
- **196,000** Views

**Policy & Communications Resources**
- **63**

**Bills Engaged in 36 States & Puerto Rico**
- **282**

**Digital Campaign Impressions**
- **18.5 million**

**Social Media Impressions**
- **5.1 million**

**Email Impressions**
- **544,000**

**Education Reform Partners**
- **415**

**Views of Choices in Education Videos**
- **601,000**

**Expert Testimonies in 12 States**
- **24**

**State & National Speaking Engagements & Webinars**
- **82**

**Gubernatorial & State Chief Candidate Briefings**
- **38**
Advancing Quality, Innovation & Opportunity in Education

National Summit on Education Reform
Convening the Nation’s Leaders

ExcelinEd’s annual National Summit on Education Reform convenes more than a thousand state and national leaders, providing an unparalleled forum for exchanging results-based solutions and next-generation strategies that can shape public policy so critical to improving education.

In 2018, the National Summit’s exceptional lineup of six keynote speakers inspired and empowered attendees to build a brighter future for our nation’s families. In addition to these keynotes, attendees chose from 12 in-depth strategy sessions on quality, innovation and opportunity in education. These can’t-miss conversations featured policy experts, legislators and educators sharing ways to shape and improve policies on behalf of all students.

#EIE18 HIGHLIGHTS

► 1,035 Registrants from 47 states, Puerto Rico & Washington, D.C.
► 94% of Attendees Rated #EIE18’s Content as “A” (Outstanding) or “B” (Above Average)
► 15,000 Visitors to the Event Website
► 7.2 Million Reach via Email Outreach, Facebook and Twitter
► 3,000 #EIE18 Hashtag Uses
► 3,200+ YouTube Video Views

“I leave these conferences inspired for the work to come and with new policy ideas to advocate and champion back home.”

Ryan Aument – Senator, Pennsylvania Senate

Students from Eagle Academy Public Charter School lead attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
Stanford professor, behavioral researcher and author Chip Heath offers tips for creating powerful moments to inspire transformative change.

The OECD’s Andreas Schleicher provides insights on how the U.S. can learn from other countries to benefit our students and school systems.

ExcelinEd Board Member Joel Klein presents Success Academy Charter Schools founder Dr. Eva Moskowitz with the Excellence in Education Award for her work on behalf of New York City’s most disadvantaged students.

U.S. Senator Ben Sasse opens the National Summit with a dynamic message on transforming rigid, 20th-century ideas of “schooling” into innovative and student-centered 21st-century opportunities for learning that serve all children.

Leading economist Dr. Raj Chetty shares empirical evidence and economic theory to help state leaders improve opportunity, realize equality and restore the American Dream.

School choice pioneer Dr. Howard Fuller inspires attendees to fight to give every child the right to access a quality education.

Stanford professor, behavioral researcher and author Chip Heath offers tips for creating powerful moments to inspire transformative change.

"I rarely go to conferences because they rarely seem worthy of time. [The National Summit] is the rare exception for me, and it was even better than I had hoped this year."

Owen Hill – Senator, Colorado

"The National Summit on Education Reform is THE place to be for legislators and policymakers to come and listen to ideas that are working in other states."

Anitere Flores
Senator, Florida Senate

"It was the best conference I have attended ever. Thank you for your leadership, for establishing the Summit, and for bringing the best experts and speakers to inspire big and bold actions for the work we do in our respective states."

Lillian Hartgrove – Chair, Tennessee State Board of Education
**2018 Year in Review**

**QUARTER ONE**

**Thought Leadership in Education Opportunity**

*Photo credit: Aaron Clamage © American Enterprise Institute*

**Choices in Education Video Contest**
Selected seven winners from hundreds of entries in ExcelinEd’s Choices in Education contest and joined nearly 7 million students, parents and advocates nationwide celebrating National School Choice Week.

**Advocating for Students**
Excellence in Education in Action conducted campaigns throughout the legislative season to advance private school choice in 12 states.

**Career & Technical Education Month**
Published an #AskExcelinEd blog series from policy experts on CTE topics.

**QUARTER TWO**

**Freshman Year for Free**
Governor Jeb Bush and Modern States Education Alliance CEO Steve Klinsky jointly penned an op-ed for RealClear Policy, recommending *How Governors Can Give All Students ‘Freshman Year for Free.’* The program offers online college courses to anyone for free, leading up to a full year of academic credit.

**Excellence in Education Leadership Series**
ExcelinEd in Action hosted roundtable discussions on education policy and leadership with featured guests including Alabama Governor Kay Ivey; Marshall Tuck, candidate for California State Superintendent of Public Instruction; and Nevada Attorney General Adam Laxalt.

**Educational Equity**
Launched an #AskExcelinEd series covering multiple policies on how states are advancing educational equity.

**National Charter Schools Week**
Published a blog series on public charter school growth, the value of charter schools to communities and the individual success stories of charter school students.

**Thought Leadership in Education**
Participated on panels at the Reagan Institute Summit on Education; Western Pathways Conference; NewSchools Summit; ECS Higher Education Policy Forum; National Alliance of Public Charter Schools Annual Summit; Personalized Learning Summit; and Education Writers Association National Seminar.
QUARTER THREE

**Policy Playbooks**
Published two playbooks for state policymakers to improve college & career pathways: *Building Cross-Sector Partnerships to Support Career and Technical Education Pathways* and *Auditing a State Career and Technical Education Program for Quality.*

**Summer Learning Series**
Launched an #AskExcelinEd series featuring recommended reading, key resources and personal insights from each of ExcelinEd’s policy experts.

**Transparency in School Accountability**
Concluded a multi-year Know Your School project to empower states with a comprehensive toolkit of resources to develop a next-generation school report card, helping parents to make informed decisions about their child’s education.

**Thought Leadership in Education**
Participated on panels at the FutureEd event “Building a 21st Century School System” with Andreas Schleicher; National Strategic Planning and Analysis Research Center’s Data Summit; Center for Technology & Workforce Solutions; America Succeeds’ Age of Agility Tour; U.S. Chamber of Commerce’s Business Leads Fellowship Program; and a PIE Network webinar on Charter Funding.

QUARTER FOUR

**Education Playbook**
Produced a comprehensive education playbook to provide recommendations on nine key education policies for states, encouraging leadership in transforming education systems and implementing student-centered education reforms.

**ESSA Interventions**
Released a white paper, *How to Recruit High-Performing Charter Management Organizations to a New Region*, to support states with options for the challenging work of school turnaround.

**Opportunity Learning Hub**
Launched an informational video series on educational choice.

**Thought Leadership in Public School Choice**
Presented new findings and recommendations for charter school success from ExcelinEd’s research, *Time to Change Course: Reclaiming the Potential of Texas Charter Schools, A State Case Study*, at the National Alliance of Public Charter Schools Annual Summit and on a Texas Public Policy Foundation podcast.

**Perkins V Guidance**
Released an #AskExcelinEd series on federal reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act, accompanied by a policy brief, *Opportunities, Challenges and Risks for States.*

**Peer Recognition**
Selected as finalists for PIE Network’s annual Eddie! awards in four of five categories: Game Changer of the Year, Network MVP (ExcelinEd CEO Patricia Levesque), Best Kept Secret and Best Ensemble Cast.
Early Literacy

*Reading is the Gateway to Learning*

A comprehensive reading policy that begins in kindergarten with the goal of all students reading on grade level by the end of third grade.

Early literacy received a command focus in dozens of states in 2018, with ExcelinEd supporting this foundational policy in 31 of them. In ten states, ExcelinEd’s support for new or improved early literacy policies benefited nearly one million students this year, enhanced by $16.1 million in new funding in four of those states.

Highlights in 2018 include Nebraska’s adoption of the nation’s most comprehensive reading policy of the year, while Florida created the nation’s first Reading Scholarship Accounts for struggling readers. Arizona improved its policies to support struggling K-3 readers, enhance reading instruction training for teachers and strengthen school-based reading plans. Colorado enhanced literacy-focused professional development for teachers while also growing funding for its early literacy grant program.

**State Spotlight on Early Literacy: Mississippi**

Since the enactment of Mississippi’s Literacy-Based Promotion Act, the state has made substantial improvement in student reading achievement, as documented by state and national tests. The most recent National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) data show that for Grade 4 Reading, Mississippi has increased student proficiency by approximately six percentage points since policy enactment. In that same time frame, the percent of students reading below Basic decreased by nearly seven percentage points. Mississippi is now 2nd in the nation for improvements in 4th grade reading.

“Student achievement is on the rise in Mississippi because of our major focus on literacy, high academic standards and maintaining a strong accountability system that clearly shows how well schools and districts are serving students. ExcelinEd has been a key partner in this work to improve student outcomes.”

State Superintendent of Education
Carey M. Wright, Ed.D.
ExcelEd engaged in 31 states on Early Literacy in 2018

RESEARCH & RESOURCES

With generous support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, ExcelEd worked closely with state literacy leaders in seven states (Colorado, Indiana, Michigan, Mississippi, North Carolina, Nevada and South Carolina) to explore in-depth the impact of K-3 reading policy and to produce state-customized communications tools, including Spanish-language resources.

Impact Study: An Inside Look at Indiana’s K-3 Reading Policy

Quantitative and qualitative research helps states evaluate the effectiveness of existing K-3 reading programs and identify areas for improvement.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Building Successful Communities of Practice: The K-3 Reading Network

ExcelEd convenes policy practitioners and key stakeholders from states with active early literacy programs or those who are pursuing the policy. The K-3 Reading Network, a cohort that grew in 2018 to 15 states, shares lessons learned and best practices for effective policy implementation through in-person and virtual gatherings.

The Science of Learning: Pre-K and Early Literacy

2018 National Summit Strategy Session featured Mississippi State Superintendent Carey Wright, University of Illinois’ Distinguished Professor Emeritus Timothy Shanahan, AppleTree Institute’s Jack McCarthy and Campaign for Grade-Level Reading’s Ralph Smith.
School Accountability

**A-F School Grading Drives Student Success**

Transparent, objective school accountability systems increase student performance and spur school improvement.

ExcelinEd engaged with more than two dozen states in 2018 to support school accountability policies and provide technical assistance on implementation. Late in the year and after years of debate, **Michigan** delivered on its goal to help failing schools by passing A-F school grading legislation. **Ohio** also delivered an overall A-F rating after years of rating only the indicators. Also of note, **Mississippi**, **Florida** and other states across the nation maintained their rigorous A-F systems during the first year of compliance with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act.

**State Spotlight on School Accountability: Florida**

Rigorous accountability policy has Florida leading the nation on improvements in student learning. Notably, the state’s fourth graders significantly outperformed the nation in both reading and math. And every student subgroup in Florida—including Black and Hispanic students, students with disabilities, low-income students and English language learners—outperformed their peers nationwide in grades 4 and 8 reading and grade 4 math.

**SCALE SCORE IMPROVEMENT THROUGH 2017 SINCE IMPLEMENTING A-F GRADES IN 1999**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Nation</th>
<th>Florida</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4th Grade Reading</td>
<td>+8</td>
<td>+23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Grade Math</td>
<td>+17</td>
<td>+31</td>
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Source: 2017 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

“Rethink school accountability. The point of testing is to assess the progress of students and use the data to reward success and reverse failure. Measure what you care about and utilize technology to get the results back to teachers quickly.”

Governor Jeb Bush
(USA Today, November 2018)
The U.S. Department of Education has approved Toolkit for States Analysis: ESSA State Plans Landscape @ExcelinEd Annual Report 2018

Comprehensive Cards

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plans for all 50 School Report

This provided an opportunity to update our landscape analysis of these plans to reflect the final, approved versions.

ExcelinEd engaged in 27 states on School Accountability in 2018

A-F School Grading: Communications Toolkit
ExcelinEd hosted states in a strategic workshop using the toolkit.

Innovations in Student Assessment and Reporting
2018 National Summit Strategy Session featured AIR Assessment’s Jon Cohen, strategist Aimee Guidera, NWEA’s Jason Mendenhall and Spotlight’s Michael Fee.

Policy and Technical Support to States
ExcelinEd’s Senior Policy Fellow, Christy Hovanetz, Ph.D., participated on Mississippi’s and Arizona’s accountability technical advisory committees.

School Accountability Workshop
ExcelinEd convened representatives from 12 states (Alabama, Arizona, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas and Utah) to provide strategies for meeting new ESSA requirements and communicating school grading results.
Education Funding

Putting Students at the Center of State Education Funding

Policies that prioritize each student’s learning by funding education in a way that is fair, transparent and promotes local empowerment and choice.

States continue working to revise outdated practices in education funding to improve outcomes for students and transparency for taxpayers. In 2018, Oklahoma implemented school-level financial transparency, empowering school leaders to examine per-pupil spending and how it compares to similar schools. The state joins the rank of Colorado, Georgia and Texas in focusing on optimizing resources and improving opportunity and fairness.

ExcelinEd’s engagement this year helped Arizona retain its new performance-funding practices, in which high-performing schools are rewarded with more funding—and schools that specifically succeed with low-income students get even more funding. ExcelinEd’s research shows that this approach incentivizes better outcomes, promotes innovation and allows high-performing schools to serve more students, particularly those who are at-risk.

Performance Funding Improves Student Learning

ExcelinEd’s research and modeling tool demonstrates that student learning improves when performance funding is high (as a proportion of overall funding). Learning gains are even more significant for at-risk students, where extra funding for their success can narrow achievement gaps.

“Some children need a smaller school, some need a more focused school or curriculum, some just need a different environment. Charter schools can offer that, and fair funding is very important to have success in the charter school arena. With ExcelinEd in Action and other great partners, we passed a fair funding bill last year in Georgia that will really make a big difference for our state-authorized charter schools. And we’re not done.”

Georgia Representative Jan Jones

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ACHIEVING MASTERY

<table>
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<th>Percentage of Students Achieving Mastery</th>
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<tr>
<td>No Performance-Based Funding</td>
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<td>Low Proportion of Funding is Performance Based</td>
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<td>High Proportion of Funding is Performance Based</td>
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| 80% |
| 84% |
| 96% |
There are two major reasons why state policymakers are considering performance funding in K-12 education. First, it is more sensible to pay for what really matters: outcomes in terms of student performance and success, as opposed to the inputs that do not necessarily lead to better performance, and in fact, this has happened in higher education and other industries. In other words, policymakers understand the financial implications of performance funding (i.e., funding districts to some degree based on student performance). Second, policymakers need to encourage school districts to provide the Course Access Opportunity Incentive to encourage school districts to promote student participation in the program. And to ensure students can benefit fully from a course access program, states should consider creating a Course Access Opportunity Incentive with an incentive for districts that have a high percentage of at-risk students.

There are some advantages of the weight approach. Most state funding formulas include other weights (e.g., for special education or gifted education). Regardless of whether a state opts for a weight or flat funding amount, the Course Access Opportunity Incentive will fit right in. Also, the state does not have to make separate adjustments to the weight for inflation. By adjusting the weight to reflect the amount of funding dollars invested in course access programs, districts are freed to innovate. One area of particular relevance is mastery-based instruction or class size. As a result, districts are freed to innovate. One area of particular relevance is mastery-based instruction or class size.

Performance Funding
Policy brief, white paper and analytical tool for states to assess design options and better identify impacts related to affordability and equity.

Course Access Opportunity Incentive
Policy brief demonstrating how states can incentivize districts to provide all students with access to critical courses, an effective way to improve equity.

Cost of Equal Access to Physics

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<tr>
<th>Cost of Equal Access to Physics</th>
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Dollars Driving Results: Funding Lessons from Higher Ed

How Can States Allocate Resources to Achieve Fiscal Equity?
ExcelinEd Policy Director Matthew Joseph discusses how states can implement student-centered funding and highlights some promising practices from states across the country.

ExcelinEd engaged in 24 states & Puerto Rico on Education Funding in 2018
College & Career Pathways
Preparation All Students for Future Success

Policies that support students, schools and teachers by expanding opportunities for all students to learn in-demand skills, attain college credit and complete a pathway to college and career success.

College and career pathways, particularly workforce education, drew strong interest in 2018, with a command focus by dozens of governors on in-demand skills essential to student success. More than two-thirds of states looked to improve computer science education, with nearly 20 of them—including Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina and Pennsylvania—enacting new computer science policies.

Michigan enacted its robust Marshall Plan with $100 million, including funding for schools whose students earn in-demand industry credentials. Missouri approved a course access policy, a critical tool for improving equity. Idaho improved alignment between K-12 education and workforce demand with an incentive grant for schools, and Colorado expanded its Career Development Success Program, which rewards schools when students earn an in-demand industry credential or pass an AP exam in computer science.

Incentives for AP Courses Show Results in Florida

Florida introduced AP incentives in 2000. The state now ranks 3rd in the nation for improvement in AP success over the past decade, achieving an 82 percent improvement from 2008 to 2018. Florida also ranks 3rd in the nation for AP student success in 2018 alone, competing closely with the top two states that have a much smaller percentage of low-income students.

“Many areas of the state are changing their approach to education, and the Marshall Plan for Talent brings everyone together on the best approaches to match educational skills with available well-paying jobs.”

Michigan Governor Rick Snyder (on signing into law the framework of the Marshall Plan for Talent)
States can encourage school districts to offer industry certification courses to students through a financial incentive tied to performance. In other words, schools earn bonus funding for each student who earns an industry certification. Out of that funding, the teachers who provided the instruction that leads to the industry certification would earn a bonus.
Next Generation Learning
Reimagining Learning for the 21st Century

Providing innovative educators with flexibility and support to meet the needs of all students.

ExcelinEd’s strategy to advance mastery-based, personalized learning expanded in 2018 to encompass a broader range of innovative models and strategies comprehensively described as Next Generation Learning. Our progress included implementation support and/or engagement in 29 states, ranging from continued technical assistance with robust NextGen pilot programs, notably in Idaho, Nevada, Utah and Florida, to dozens of engagements across the country advising educators and policymakers. Michigan passed a robust education omnibus bill that included grants for districts to pilot competency-based education, while Utah lifted the cap on its current pilot program. Florida’s Competency-Based Education Pilot Program, a network of five pilot sites, convened again in 2018 to share strategies for advancing innovations in teaching and learning.

ExcelinEd’s Network of State Innovation Partners

ExcelinEd has assembled a network of states to exchange ideas, strategies and best practices for giving schools the support and flexibility to develop new, student-centered models of learning. This cohort of states, with diverse programs at varying stages of implementation, focuses on common issues and customized solutions. ExcelinEd facilitates convenings and provides national and state-specific resources to support the Network’s activities.

Arizona  Illinois  Montana  Oklahoma
Arkansas  Kentucky  Nevada  South Carolina
Georgia  Michigan  North Dakota  Tennessee
Idaho  Minnesota  Ohio  Utah

“ExcelinEd’s facilitation of the state network partners has been instrumental in providing Tennessee the opportunity to learn from the pitfalls and best practices from other states, as well as the time to collectively grapple with the tough questions, including how to expand this work.”

Adriana Harrington
Director of Project Management,
Tennessee Department of Education
In 2018, ExcelinEd published a five-part series, Transitioning to Student-Centered Learning: Policy Solutions for States, to provide states with practical tools and strategies to advance their innovation efforts toward student-centered learning. The series provides guidance on:

- Higher Education Requirements
- Maximizing Assessment Flexibility, Parts 1 & 2
- Evaluating Progress and Impact
- Moving Beyond Seat-Time

In 2018 National Summit Strategy Session featured R Street Institute’s Andy Smarick, RePublic High School Principal Scott Campbell, Pathways in Technology Early College High School’s Rashid Davis, Kettle Moraine School District Superintendent Patricia Deklotz and Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative’s Alicia Sells.

Journeys in Innovation: Local Leaders Share their Stories

Personalized Learning: Passing Fad or Future Trend

ExcelinEd moderated a panel discussion at the PIE Network Summit confronting the growing interest and challenges surrounding personalized learning.
Public Charter Schools

High-Quality Public School Options for Students

A path for meeting the unique needs of individual students, families and communities through high-quality public school alternatives.

Students across five states were big winners in 2018, as policymakers added $277 million in additional funding for public charter schools in Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Arkansas and Colorado. With ExcelinEd’s support, Georgia increased funding for its state-approved charters by more than $40 million, and Colorado and Arkansas were awarded nearly $80 million in Charter Schools Program grants from the U.S. Department of Education.

ExcelinEd this year provided numerous states with in-depth research and model policies. Texas worked to improve charter school authorizations, Arkansas explored charter school facilities options, and Ohio looked to Florida’s Schools of Hope model, which establishes high-quality charter schools in communities with underperforming traditional schools.

Demand for Seats in High-Quality Public Charter Schools is on the Rise

Enrollment in public charter schools has tripled since 2005. Today, more than three million students are enrolled in 7,000 charter schools across 44 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico and Guam. However, an additional two million students want to attend a charter school but cannot access one, according to the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools.

"Public charter schools are as diverse as the families and children who choose to attend them. I can also tell you Tindley Summit is more than a place for our young scholars to prepare for future success—it is an incubator for hope in Dubarry and for everyone in our community."

David McGuire, Principal
Tindley Summit Academy, Indianapolis

“Public charter schools are as diverse as the families and children who choose to attend them. I can also tell you Tindley Summit is more than a place for our young scholars to prepare for future success—it is an incubator for hope in Dubarry and for everyone in our community.”

David McGuire, Principal
Tindley Summit Academy, Indianapolis
STATE ADVOCACY AND POLICY ENGAGEMENT

Policy Engagement
Reflects states where ExcelinEd engaged in policy development, adoption or implementation.

Policy Passed or Improved
Reflects states where ExcelinEd in Action helped pass or improve public charter schools policies.

Policy Implementation
Reflects states where ExcelinEd provided technical assistance and policy expertise to support public charter schools policy and program implementation.

ExcelinEd engaged in 28 states & Puerto Rico on Public Charter Schools in 2018

RESEARCH & RESOURCES

State-Focused Case Study Identifies Opportunities in Texas

Opportunity Zones Can Make a Difference

Opportunity Learning Hub Launches in 2018
Produced “What are public charter schools?” and “What is a public charter school authorizer?” as part of ExcelinEd’s Opportunity Learning Hub video series.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

2018 PIE Network Eddie! Awards
Peer recognition for charter-related achievements with partners in two states: “Game Changer of the Year” finalist for Florida’s capital outlay funding for public charter schools and “Best Ensemble Cast” finalist for Georgia’s operational and capital outlay funding for public charter schools.

Barriers No More: Facilities Access for Charter Schools

Where the Schools Have No Zones: State Open Enrollment Policies
Private Education Choice
Creating Opportunity and Empowering Families with Education Choice

Policies that provide families with access to the school or learning environment that best fits their child’s needs.

Nationwide, nearly half a million students are currently enrolled in private choice programs, with states across the nation continuing to expand these options for families. In 2018, private choice programs expanded in six states and Puerto Rico, providing scholarships for at least 42,000 additional students. In Florida, state leaders dedicated more than $124 million to its four private school choice programs, with Georgia committing $42 million and Pennsylvania $25 million to fund tax-credit scholarships for students from low- and middle-income families.

Notably in 2018, Florida created the Hope Scholarship Program, the first choice program in the nation for students who have been subjected to bullying or harassment, offering private school scholarships to eligible students or allowing transfer to other public school districts.

Empowering More Families with Education Scholarship Accounts
A growing number of families are gaining access to Education Scholarship Accounts (ESAs) in early adopting states, offering parents the opportunity to make the best education choices for their child.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arizona, Florida and Mississippi served</td>
<td>Arizona, Florida and Mississippi served</td>
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<tr>
<td>11,425 STUDENTS</td>
<td>18,706 STUDENTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>putting $100 MILLION+ in the hands of parents</td>
<td>and more than doubling funding to $210 MILLION</td>
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</table>

“These programs are helping students—many of them from disadvantaged families—to succeed in K-12, college and the workforce. They’re saving the state and local districts money. Most importantly, they’re giving families hope—families that in many cases would have no other way to provide their children with a quality education.”

Georgia State Representative Valencia Stovall
(in a letter to Kentucky lawmakers on private choice scholarships)
A comprehensive review of private education choice programs found improved academic outcomes for students who remain in public schools, as well as those who choose to attend private schools. After education choice programs were implemented, 31 out of 33 empirical studies showed positive effects on student outcomes, with 10.7 percentage points higher in math and 5.8 percentage points higher in reading for students in private schools. Of the 18 gold-standard studies, 14 showed positive results for participating students.

WHAT DOES THE RESEARCH SHOW?

In 2016, Greg Forster reviewed 100 rigorous academic studies of private education choice programs. These studies examined the following five research topics:

1. Academic Outcomes of Students Remaining in Public Schools
2. Effect of Choice Program on Student Civic Values
3. Effect of Choice Program on Racial Composition of Schools
4. Effect of Choice Program on Taxpayers and Districts
5. Fiscal Impact on Taxpayers and Districts

ExcelinEd engaged in policy development, technical assistance, and education choice policy and program implementation in 30 states, DC, and Puerto Rico in 2018.

RESEARCH & RESOURCES

Research on Private Education Choice
Profiles comprehensive research on 100 private education choice programs, documenting the extensive and positive impacts of private choice options.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Opportunity Learning Hub
Launched a new Opportunity Learning Hub series with 15 videos focused on education choice, including "What is Education Choice?" and "What are Education Scholarship Accounts?"

School Choice Collaborative
Twice a month, ExcelinEd convenes a group of 40+ state and national partners actively engaged in private education choice to discuss new research, the latest policy approaches and best practices in state program implementation.

Policy Primer: 2018 Changes Impacting Private School Choice
2018 National Summit Strategy Session featured EdChoice’s Michael McShane, Florida Representative Byron Donalds and ExcelinEd’s Adam Peshek and Tori Bell.

Peer Recognition: 2018 PIE Network Eddie! Awards
"Game Changer of the Year" award finalist for Florida’s first-of-its-kind tax-credit scholarships for students who are victims of bullying.

Education Choice: Winning Stories of Success
The Choices in Education video contest winners were selected from hundreds of entries and announced during the 2018 National School Choice Week.
Fiscal Accountability

As with our formula for student achievement, the Foundation for Excellence in Education believes in accountability and transparency in our operations.

We are committed to sound fiscal management, low overhead and bringing a strong return on investment to those who generously support our work.

In 2018, more than 80 percent of ExcelinEd’s expenses were invested directly into our policy, advocacy and communications work in the states as well as our flagship convening, the National Summit on Education Reform.

2018 Revenue & Expenses

1 2018 unaudited results
2 Program services include Quality, Opportunity and Innovation policy programs, the National Summit on Education Reform and Arts for Life.

To review our recent 990 filings and meet our donors, visit ExcelinEd.org.
ExcelinEd 2018 Donors

We often think of education reform as policies written in legislation or rules enacted by elected officials and appointed boards. Rather, reform is a profound game changer in the lives of individual children, a gift that allows them to maximize their potential.

GREATER THAN $1,000,000

- Bloomberg Philanthropies
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Walton Family Foundation

$500,001–$1,000,000

- Carnegie Corporation of New York

$250,001–$500,000

- Chan Zuckerberg Initiative
- The Haslam III Foundation, Inc.
- Jaquelin Hume Foundation
- W.K. Kellogg Foundation
- The Kovner Foundation
- Stiles-Nicholson Foundation

$100,001–$250,000

- Anonymous
- Bill and Susan Oberndorf Foundation

$50,001–$100,000

- College Board
- News Corporation
- Pearson, Inc.
- Triad Foundation

$25,001–$50,000

- Accelerate Great Schools
- John F. Kirtley
- Charles Koch Foundation

$10,001–$25,000

- Cambridge Assessment International Education
- Charter Schools USA
- Doris and Donald Fisher Fund
- HPS Investment Partners
- Hubbard Family Foundation
- K12
- Steven B. Klinsky
- Kyra Solutions
- The Margaret & Daniel Loeb - Third Point Foundation
- Northwest Evaluation Association
- Publix Super Markets Charities
- Renaissance Learning
- William E. Simon Foundation
- Stephenson Foundation
- Tennessee State Collaborative on Reforming Education (SCORE)
- Worldwide Interactive Network
- Xingda North America

$5,000–$10,000

- Amplify Education, Inc.
- BrightBytes
- The Cobb Family Foundation, Inc.
- Edgenuity, Inc.
- Finnegan Family Foundation
- Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
- Florida Virtual School
- JustGive.org
- Maffei Foundation
- Lovett & Ruth Peters Foundation, Inc.
- Western Governors University
- Dr. Zachariah P. Zachariah

We are deeply grateful to our donors who believe in the gift of a quality education, and with their generous support of our work, we are transforming policy and transforming lives.

The Foundation for Excellence in Education is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, nonpartisan organization.
National Summit on Education Reform

2019

SAVE THE DATE

NOVEMBER 20–21, 2019

HILTON SAN DIEGO BAYFRONT

San Diego, California

ExcelinEd

@ExcelinEd | ExcelinEdSummit.org | #EIE19
**ARIZONA**

**WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING**

“By providing college and career pathways to Arizona’s students, our state will be poised to meet tomorrow’s demand for a highly-skilled workforce that creates a strong homegrown talent pipeline for Arizona businesses. With partners like ExcelinEd, our resolve is to bolster and strengthen these pathways to ensure every student has the opportunity to achieve the American dream.”

*Senate Education Chair Sylvia Allen*

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**K-12 DEMOGRAPHICS**

- **NEARLY 1.1 MILLION STUDENTS**
- **78,226 Private School Choice**
- **185,990 Public Charter School Students**

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

- **532,725 LOW-INCOME**
  - More than 4 in every 10 students
- **670,970 MINORITY**
  - 6 in every 10 students

- Graduation rate was 78% in 2017, the same in 2011

---

**NATION’S REPORT CARD**

- **Proficient or Better, 2017 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)**
  - **ARIZONA**
    - **READING**
      - **30%** (35% **NATIONAL**)
    - **MATH**
      - **33%** (34% **NATIONAL**)
  - **4TH GRADE**
    - **30%** (36% **NATIONAL**)
    - **34%** (40% **NATIONAL**)
  - **8TH GRADE**
    - **30%** (35% **NATIONAL**)
    - **33%** (34% **NATIONAL**)

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**2018 ENGAGEMENT**

- **HIGHLIGHTS**
  - $63 Million in New Per-Pupil Funding for Charter School Capital and Operations
  - $4 Million Increase in Early Literacy Grants
  - Computer Science Professional Development Program Established; $1 Million in Funding
  - Protected Performance-Based Funding Participant, ExcelinEd’s Network of State Innovation Partners

- **Participant, ExcelinEd’s K-3 Reading Network**

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**POLICY SOLUTIONS**

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<th>OUR ROLE</th>
<th>OUR GOAL</th>
<th>RESULT</th>
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**INNOVATION**

- **Computer Science Pathways**
- **Industry Certification Incentives**
- **Personalized Learning**

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**OPPORTUNITY**

- **Charter Schools**
- **Education Scholarship Accounts**

**WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING**

*Assume to repeal or revise law failed; 2017’s universal ESA expansion failed on November ballot and reverted to 2016 law.*

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**Data Sources:** U.S. Department of Education, Arizona Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, American Federation for Children, National Alliance for Public Charter Schools and College Board
WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

“This Colorado initiative allocates incentive funding to schools for every student they support in earning an industry recognized credential. In just two years, more than 9,000 students from all corners of Colorado have earned industry credentials aligned to top jobs in our state. These incentives are an example of how policy can create the conditions for innovation to thrive—connecting education and industry to create more relevant, engaging learning experiences for students and homegrown talent pipelines for our businesses and their workforce demands of the future.”

Scott Laband, President, Colorado Succeeds

K–12 DEMOGRAPHICS

910,280 STUDENTS
377,628 LOW-INCOME More than 4 in every 10 students
115,096 Public Charter School Students

377,628 LOW-INCOME More than 4 in every 10 students

411,794 MINORITY More than 4 in every 10 students

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

28% COLORADO
24% NATIONAL

Students scoring 3 or higher, Class of 2018

NATION’S REPORT CARD

Proficient or Better, 2017 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

40% 36% 43% 40% 41% 35% 39% 34%

READING 4TH GRADE
MATH 8TH GRADE

40% 36% 43% 40% 41% 35% 39% 34%

HIGHLIGHTS

$5 Million in Industry Certification and AP Computer Science Incentives for Schools and Teachers

$500K for Computer Science Professional Development

$1 Million Funding Increase for Early Literacy

$55 Million Awarded for the Charter School Program State Entities Grant Competition

Participant, ExcelinEd’s K-3 Reading Network

POLICY SOLUTIONS

QUALITY

Early Literacy
School Accountability

INNOVATION

AP Computer Science Incentives
Computer Science Pathways
Industry Certification Incentives

OPPORTUNITY

Charter Schools

Leading Partner Organization
Supporting In-State Partners


ExcelinEdinAction.org
**STATE PROFILE**

**FLORIDA**

**HIGHLIGHTS**
- $25 Million ESA Funding Increase for 2,300 Additional Students
- $95 Million Funding Increase for Charter Capital Outlay
- First-In-The-Nation Reading Scholarship Accounts Program
- $10 Million to Support 19,000 Struggling Readers with Reading Scholarship Accounts
- First-In-The-Nation School Choice Program for Victims of Bullying
- Participant, ExcelinEd’s K-3 Reading Network

**WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING**

“Having thoughtful policy and advocacy partners in ExcelinEd and the Foundation for Florida’s Future has helped keep Florida at the forefront of educational opportunity.”

*Representative José Oliva*

**K–12 DEMOGRAPHICS**

- More than 2.77 million students
- 1.65 million low-income students (nearly 6 in every 10 students)
- 149,295 private school choice students
- 2.83 million public charter school students
- 1.69 million minority students (6 in every 10 students)

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

Graduation rate was 82% in 2017, up from 71% in 2011.

**NATION'S REPORT CARD**

- **Proficient or Better, 2017 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)**
  - **Reading**
    - Grade 4: 41% (Florida: 36%)
    - Grade 8: 30% (Florida: 35%)
  - **Math**
    - Grade 4: 47% (Florida: 40%)
    - Grade 8: 29% (Florida: 34%)

**POLICY SOLUTIONS**

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<td>Dual Enrollment</td>
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<td>Personalized Learning*</td>
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**INNOVATION**

- Charter Schools
- Education Scholarship Accounts
- Home Education
- Private Choice Accountability
- Tax-Credit Scholarships**

**OPPORTUNITY**

- Leading Partner Organization
- Supporting In-State Partners

*Successful implementation support; legislation to improve the policy passed House only

**2018 ENGAGEMENT**


ExcelinEdInAction.org
GEORGIA

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

“In 2018, our coalition in Georgia secured two of our biggest school choice victories to date—addressing the funding equity gap for charter schools and nearly doubling the tax credit scholarship cap from $58 to $100 million. ExcelinEd has been an integral part of our coalition as we try to raise the bar for students in Georgia.”

Michael O’Sullivan, Executive Director of GeorgiaCAN

K–12 DEMOGRAPHICS

MORE THAN 1.72 MILLION STUDENTS

17,685 Private School Choice

78,330 Public Charter School Students

1.1 MILLION LOW-INCOME
More than 6 in every 10 students

1 MILLION MINORITY
Nearly 6 in every 10 students

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

Graduation rate was 81% in 2017, up from 67% in 2011

NATION’S REPORT CARD

Proficient or Better, 2017 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

READING

4TH GRADE

GEORGIA

35%

NATIONAL

36%

8TH GRADE

35%

34%

MATH

35%

32%

23%

24%

GEORGIA

NATIONAL

先进 placement (AP)

2018 ENGAGEMENT

HIGHLIGHTS

$42 Million Increase for Nearly 10,000 More Students to Participate in Tax-Credit Scholarships

$40.3 Million Increase to Support Charter School Funding Parity

Increased Student Access to High Quality Industry Certification Courses

Nearly $1.2 Million for 14,000 Low-Income Students to Take AP Exams

Participant, ExcelinEd’s Network of State Innovation Partners


ExcelinEdinAction.org
**HIGHLIGHTS**

- $1.1+ Million Increase for Literacy Interventions
- New Industry Certification Incentives Program
- Personalized Learning Implementation
- Participant, ExcelinEd’s Network of State Innovation Partners
- Participant, ExcelinEd’s K-3 Reading Network

**WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING**

“Each child in Idaho deserves to have the tools they need to succeed in school and in life. I am proud to support Idaho’s talented educators in working to ensure every student can read at grade level by third grade, setting our students on a path of achievement for their lifetime.”

Governor Brad Little

**K–12 DEMOGRAPHICS**

- **299,225** STUDENTS
- **149,062** LOW-INCOME (More 5 in every 10 students)
- **0** Private School Choice
- **70,147** MINORITY (More than 2 in every 10 students)
- **21,350** Public Charter School Students

**NATION’S REPORT CARD**

Proficient or Better, 2017 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

- **39%** 39% 36%
- **40%** 40% 39%
- **40%** 40% 35%
- **36%** 36% 34%

**2018 ENGAGEMENT**

**POLICY SOLUTIONS**

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<td>Education Scholarship Accounts</td>
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**QUALITY**

- 80% Graduation rate was 80% in 2017

**INNOVATION**

- Leading Partner Organization
- Supporting In-State Partners
- **Success**

**OPPORTUNITY**

- **Improve**
- **Implement**
- **Ongoing**
- **Protect**
- **Pass**

*Successful implementation support; legislation to improve policy passed one legislative chamber only


ExcelinEdinAction.org
### HIGHLIGHTS
- Comprehensive Early Literacy Policy Improved with Focus on Students with Dyslexia
- High Expectations for Graduation Maintained
- Course Access Implementation Support
- Participant, ExcelinEd’s K-3 Reading Network

### INDIANA STATE PROFILE

**NATION’S REPORT CARD**

- **Graduation rate** was 84% in 2017, down from 86% in 2011

**K–12 DEMOGRAPHICS**

- **More than 1.13 million students**
- **502,444 low-income students** (Nearly 5 in every 10 students)
- **535,202 private school choice**
- **321,355 minority students** (3 in every 10 students)
- **43,720 public charter school students**

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)**

- **20%** Indiana
- **24%** National

**NATION’S REPORT CARD**

- **40%** Indiana proficiency in reading for 4th grade
- **48%** Indiana proficiency in reading for 8th grade
- **36%** Indiana proficiency in math for 4th grade
- **38%** Indiana proficiency in math for 8th grade

**What Others Are Saying**

“In the Hoosier State, we are focused on creating a collaborative environment between K–12, higher education, and private industry. A student’s K–12 experience should enable them to go down any pathway that they want whether that’s career oriented or college oriented, and it should allow them to alter that pathway if and when their goals in life change. ExcelinEd has been critical to our work to create meaningful pathways for students.”

Senator Jeff Raatz
MICHIGAN

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

“Every student deserves a successful life after graduating high school, whether that is pursuing post-secondary education or a career. A critical part of that success is ensuring that K–12 schools have a strong accountability system rooted in student proficiency and growth measures, allowing for educators and parents to better understand how to support the individual needs of each student. An A–F letter grading system does that.”

Beth DeShone, Advocacy Director for The Great Lakes Education Project

K–12 DEMOGRAPHICS

NEARLY 1.47 MILLION STUDENTS

706,667 LOW-INCOME
Nearly 5 in every 10 students

0 Private School Choice

505,420 MINORITY
More than 3 in every 10 students

145,282 Public Charter School Students

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

Graduation rate was 80% in 2017, up from 74% in 2011

NATION’S REPORT CARD

Proficient or Better, 2017 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

READING

31% 36%
4TH GRADE

34% 35%
8TH GRADE

MATH

35% 40%
4TH GRADE

31% 34%
8TH GRADE

2018 ENGAGEMENT

HIGHLIGHTS

- Adopted A-F School Grading
- $100 Million for Innovative Workforce Education and Competency-Based Education Policies
- K-3 Reading Implementation Support
- Participant, ExcelinEd’s Network of State Innovation Partners
- Participant, ExcelinEd’s K-3 Reading Network

POLICY SOLUTIONS

QUALITY

A–F School Grading

Early Literacy

INNOVATION

Computer Science Pathways

Industry Certifications

Personalized Learning

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

21% MICHIGAN

24% NATIONAL

Students scoring 3 or higher, Class of 2018


ExcelinEdinAction.org
“Our No. 1 issue in Mississippi is preparing a highly skilled workforce for the jobs of tomorrow. The reforms we have passed—from raising the bar on literacy skills to giving parents more power in their children’s educational future—are making a difference. Mississippi has seen some of the largest gains in the nation in terms of student academic performance. The expertise offered by ExcelinEd has helped us implement policies based on producing positive outcomes for children.”

Lieutenant Governor Tate Reeves

Expanded Scholarship Opportunities for Nearly 450 Students with Special Needs

Expanded ESA Eligibility to All Students with Special Needs

$650K in Additional Funding for AP Partnership

$500K for State Computer Science Plan Implementation

$14.3 Million in Recurring Funding to Reward Top-Performing Reading Teachers

Participant, ExcelinEd’s K-3 Reading Network

K-12 DEMOGRAPHICS
NEARLY 1.43 MILLION STUDENTS
8,622 Private School Choice
92,524 Public Charter School Students

880,613 LOW-INCOME
More than 5 in every 10 students

775,557 MINORITY
5 in every 10 students

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE
Graduation rate was 87% in 2017, up from 78% in 2011

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING
“We need to disrupt the system that has been holding teachers and principals back from innovating, from using all this new technology, to make a system that works for students and helps them connect to success in the 21st century. ExcelinEd has been a great partner in this work in North Carolina.”

State Superintendent Mark Johnson

NORTH CAROLINA
NATIONAL 4TH GRADE 8TH GRADE
READING
Proficient or Better, 2017 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)
22% NORTH CAROLINA
24% NATIONAL

NATION’S REPORT CARD
Students scoring 3 or higher, Class of 2018

2018 ENGAGEMENT
HIGHLIGHTS

Policy Solutions

K-12 Demographics

High School Graduation Rate

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

State Superintendent Mark Johnson

ExcelinEd in Action
ExcelinEdinAction.org

OHIO HIGHLIGHTS

Early Literacy Policy Protected
Personalized Learning Implementation Support
School Accountability Implementation Support
Participant, ExcelinEd’s Network of State Innovation Partners
Participant, ExcelinEd’s K-3 Reading Network

STATE PROFILE
NATION’S REPORT CARD
Graduation rate was 84% in 2017, up from 80% in 2011

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING
“In 2018, I continued to work with my colleagues in the General Assembly to make positive changes in our laws that would streamline and expand Ohio’s school choice programs. ExcelinEd consistently serves as one of the most vital resources in this ongoing endeavor. As we start a new General Assembly in Ohio, I look forward to continuing our work together to ensure that every Ohio child has equal access to the education that fits them.”
Senator Matthew Huffman

2018 ENGAGEMENT
HIGHLIGHTS

K-12 DEMOGRAPHICS
NEARLY 1.75 MILLION STUDENTS
49,107 Private School Choice
117,075 Public Charter School Students
772,464 LOW-INCOME
490,944 MINORITY

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE
84%
Graduation rate was 84% in 2017, up from 80% in 2011

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)
18%
OHIO
24%
NATIONAL
Students scoring 3 or higher, Class of 2018

NATION’S REPORT CARD
Proficient or Better, 2017 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

QUALITY
School Accountability
Computer Science Pathways
Industry Certification Incentives
Personalized Learning

INNOVATION
Industry Certification Incentives

OPPORTUNITY
Vouchers

POLICY SOLUTIONS
OUR ROLE
OUR GOAL
RESULT

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

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Senator Matthew Huffman


ExcelinEdinAction.org
“Oklahoma is proud of its legacy of excellence in early childhood education. Early literacy is the key that unlocks the doors of opportunity, which is why we have made it a top priority to strengthen reading readiness for our youngest learners.”

Joy Hofmeister, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

**STATE PROFILE**

**OKLAHOMA**

**WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING**


**2018 ENGAGEMENT**

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Education Spending Transparency
- Early Literacy Implementation
- School Accountability Implementation
- Participant, ExcelinEd's Network of State Innovation Partners
- Participant, ExcelinEd's K-3 Reading Network

**POLICY SOLUTIONS**

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<td>Charter Schools</td>
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<td>Tax-Credit Scholarships</td>
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**K-12 DEMOGRAPHICS**

- **653,130** STUDENTS
- **422,656 LOW-INCOME** More than 6 in every 10 students
- **3,080 Private School Choice**
- **24,150 Public Charter School Students**
- **346,439 MINORITY** 5 in every 10 students

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

- Graduation rate was 83% in 2017

**NATION'S REPORT CARD**

Proficient or Better, 2017 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

- **29% 36%** 4TH GRADE
- **35% 40%** 8TH GRADE
- **28% 35%** READING
- **24% 34%** MATH

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)**

- **12% OKLAHOMA**
- **24% NATIONAL**

Students scoring 3 or higher, Class of 2018

ExcelinEdinAction.org
SOUTH CAROLINA

STATE PROFILE

NATION’S REPORT CARD
Graduation rate was 84% in 2017, up from 74% in 2011


WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING
“As South Carolina has tackled school accountability and personalized learning in the past two years, ExcelinEd has not only been instrumental, but essential in providing lawmakers with national trends, informational data and model policies.”

Representative Neal Collins

K-12 DEMOGRAPHICS

751,120 STUDENTS
458,120 LOW-INCOME
6 in every 10 students

1,951 Private School Choice
368,787 MINORITY
Nearly 5 in every 10 students

32,250 Public Charter School Students

Nation’s Report Card
Proficient or Better, 2017 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

4TH GRADE

READING
30%
35%

MATH
27%
34%

8TH GRADE

READING
32%
40%

MATH
29%
36%

High School Graduation Rate
84%

2018 ENGAGEMENT

HIGHLIGHTS

$1 Million to Expand Tax-Credit Scholarships for Nearly 200 Students
Codified Tax-Credit Scholarships Into Law
Improved Framework for Read to Succeed
Participant, ExcelinEd’s Network of State Innovation Partners
Participant, ExcelinEd’s K-3 Reading Network

Policy Solutions

Quality

Early Literacy
School Accountability

Innovation

Computer Science Pathways
Industry Certification Incentives
Personalized Learning*

Opportunity

Charter Schools
Education Scholarship Accounts
Tax-Credit Scholarships

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

“As South Carolina has tackled school accountability and personalized learning in the past two years, ExcelinEd has not only been instrumental, but essential in providing lawmakers with national trends, informational data and model policies.”

Representative Neal Collins


ExcelinEdinAction.org
“In Tennessee, protecting high standards, aligned assessment and multiple-measure teacher evaluation is critical. Our partnership with ExcelinEd is a significant boost to protecting these foundational, student-centered policies.”

David Mansouri, President and CEO of Tennessee SCORE

**K-12 DEMOGRAPHICS**

- **975,222** STUDENTS
- **580,717** LOW-INCOME
  - Nearly 6 in every 10 students
- **360,445** MINORITY
  - More than 3 in every 10 students
- **88** Private School Choice
- **42,900** Public Charter School Students

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

- Graduation rate was 90% in 2017, up from 86% in 2011

**NATION’S REPORT CARD**

Proficient or Better, 2017 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

- **31%** 8TH GRADE
  - Reading
- **35%** 8TH GRADE
  - Math
- **33%** 4TH GRADE
  - Reading
- **36%** 4TH GRADE
  - Math

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)**

- **13%** TENNESSEE
- **24%** NATIONAL

 Students scoring 3 or higher, Class of 2018

**POLICY SOLUTIONS**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>OUR ROLE</th>
<th>OUR GOAL</th>
<th>RESULT</th>
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**INNOVATION**

- **AP Partnership**
- **Course Access**
- **Personalized Learning**

**OPPORTUNITY**

- **Charter Schools**
- **Education Scholarship Accounts**

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Money Follows Special Needs Students to the Public School of Their Choice
- Course Access Framework Improved
- Participant, ExcelinEd’s Network of State Innovation Partners
- Participant, ExcelinEd’s K-3 Reading Network


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