

Advocacy Tools

In an effort to ensure that states have the tools they need to succeed, Achieve has created fact sheets, papers, power point presentations and other advocacy tools to assist states in making the case for reform. Most recently, Achieve launched *Math Works*, a set of advocacy tools that explain why all students need higher-level mathematics to succeed.

Partnerships

Partnerships are key to advancing Achieve's work nationally and in the states. Achieve works closely with organizations representing state policymakers, higher education leaders, business leaders and community-based organizations. Similar local partnerships are developed in ADP Network states.

Recent Accomplishments

- With Achieve's guidance, 16 states in mathematics and 12 in English have arrived at a rigorous common core of college- and career-ready standards.
- The number of states that require students to take Algebra II for graduation has grown from two in 2005, to 20 today.
- The largest- ever multistate exam—the ADP Algebra II end-of course exam-- was administered in the spring of 2008 to nearly 90,000 students.

On the Horizon

As the world becomes increasingly connected and global competition fiercer, questions about education policy have evolved from domestic evaluations to international comparisons. To that end, Achieve will be focused on:

Leading International Benchmarking Efforts: With the National Governors Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), Achieve has launched a sweeping international benchmarking initiative to ensure that state policies are competitive with the highest performing countries. Governor Janet Napolitano, Governor Sonny Perdue and Intel Chairman Craig Barrett chair this effort.

Leading the Common State Standards Initiative: As a result of their work with Achieve, 16 states have adopted math and English standards that share a common core of college- and career-ready expectations – a marked departure from the situation over the past 20 years in which state standards were “all over the map.” Building on this foundation and based on the ADP benchmarks, Achieve has joined with NGA and CCSSO to spearhead a state-led effort to encourage all states to adopt a common set of internationally benchmarked, college- and career-ready mathematics and English standards.

State Progress on the College- and Career- Ready Agenda

