

*The Virginia Higher Education
Opportunity Act of 2011 (HEOA)*

Top Jobs Act or TJ21

Overview of the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA)

- ▶ Governor's Commission on Higher Education Reform, Innovation and Investment (2010)
- ▶ Commission recommendations provided framework for the Virginia Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2011: Economic opportunity; Reform-based investment; Affordable access
- ▶ Legislation adopted unanimously by the 2011 General Assembly
- ▶ Establishes long-term commitment, policy, and framework for sustained investment and innovation
- ▶ Provides guidelines for new funding model
 - Incentives for economic impact and innovation
 - Need-based financial aid
 - Per-student enrollment growth funding
 - Basic operations and instruction
- ▶ Creates Higher Education Advisory Committee

Top Jobs 21 Objectives

- ▶ Financial aid for low- and middle-income
- ▶ Increased enrollment of Virginia students
- ▶ Increased degree completion for Virginia residents who have partial credit completion for a degree
- ▶ Increased degree completion in a timely or expedited manner
- ▶ Improved retention and graduation rates
- ▶ Increased degree production in STEM and other high-need areas such as health care
- ▶ Increased research, including private-public collaboration
- ▶ Optimal year-round utilization of resources and other efficiency reforms
- ▶ Instructional resource sharing
- ▶ Technology-enhanced instruction
- ▶ Enhanced community college transfers and other enhanced degree path programs

Changes in Required Six-Year Plan for Each Institution

- ▶ Six-Year Plan already required by Restructuring Act: Academic, Financial, and Enrollment Plan
- ▶ Academic
 - Strategies the institution intends to implement in meeting a stated objective in the HEOA
 - Over three biennium: 2012-14; 2014-16; 2016-18
 - Mandatory objectives:
 - *Financial aid – low and middle income*
 - *Optimal use of facilities and instructional resources to improve student completions and cost efficiencies*
 - *Instructional resource sharing with other institutions*
 - *New programs or initiatives including quality improvements*
- ▶ Finance
 - Operating, Tuition and Fees, Tuition Waivers

Higher Education Advisory Committee (HEAC)

To provide advice and make recommendations on: funding methodology; low- and middle-income criteria; objective performance criteria for financial incentives; economic opportunity metrics; additional authority under Restructuring; role of non-publics; periodically assess the degree to which the Commonwealth's system of higher education is meeting objectives.

Members:

- Appointed by the Governor
- Representatives from administration, legislature, SCHEV, public and private institutions of higher education, and business leaders

Higher Education Advisory Committee Members

- **Peter Blake**, Executive Director of State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
- **John Broderick**, President, Old Dominion University
- **Ric Brown**, Secretary of Finance
- **Kirk Cox**, Chair, House Appropriations Higher Education Subcommittee
- **Betsey Daley**, Senate Finance Committee, Staff Director
- **Glenn DuBois**, Chancellor, Virginia Community College System
- **Tom Farrell**, Chairman, President and CEO, Dominion Resources, Inc
- **Laura Fornash**, Secretary of Education
- **Heywood Fralin**, CEO, Medical Facilities of America, Inc.
- **Rick Hurley**, President, University of Mary Washington
- **Robert Lindgren**, President, Randolph Macon College
- **Keith Miller**, President, Virginia State University
- **Tommy Norment**, Chair, Senate Finance Education Subcommittee
- **Charles Steger**, President, Virginia Tech
- **Teresa Sullivan**, President, University of Virginia
- **Paul Tribble**, President, Christopher Newport University
- **Robert Vaughn**, House Appropriations Committee, Staff Director
- **John O. “Dubby” Wynne**, Vice Chairman, Council on Virginia’s Future

*Source: Office of Secretary of Education
August 6, 2012*

Higher Education Advisory Committee - 2011 Work

▶ **Funding Model**

- Review Cost of Education
- Incentive Funding Based on Performance (e.g. STEM-H degrees)
- Enrollment Growth Funding

▶ **Financial Aid Definitions**

- Low-Income – Below 200% of Poverty Index
- Middle-Income – 200% to 400% of Poverty Index

▶ **Additional Autonomy Under Restructuring**

- Identification of Opportunities

Higher Education Advisory Committee - 2012 Workplan

- ▶ **Performance Measure Recommendations**
- ▶ **Access and Affordability**
 - Low- and middle-income students
 - Tuition-funded financial aid
- ▶ **Research/Economic Development**
 - Commonwealth Research and Technology Strategic Roadmap: Leveraging University Research for Job Creation in Targeted Industries
 - Virginia Economic Development Partnership's MOU with Virginia's Higher Education Institutions
- ▶ **Economic Opportunity**
 - Strategies to Link Job Demand to Program Growth and Provide Useful Information to Prospective Students
 - Post-Completion Wages of Graduates
- ▶ **Further Reform Based Investment**
 - Innovative Instructional Models and Pathways to Degree Attainment
 - Technology-enhanced Instruction
 - Year Round Use of Facilities
 - Improved Rate of Degree Completion
- ▶ **Recommendations for Independent Colleges**