



The University System of Georgia

Strategic Plan

Transforming the System

Changing Lives

Strengthening the State

No organization can be successful over the long term without a sound strategy.

Strategic Goal One

Renew excellence in undergraduate education to meet students' 21st century educational needs.

Undergraduate education is the instructional heart of the University System. It should be a transforming experience for students. Each generation anew must re-examine and define the value of the liberal arts tradition to contemporary circumstances. It is critical at this moment to determine whether undergraduate students are learning what they need to lead full lives and to become productive citizens.

As a result of its strategic actions, the University System will re-examine its general education curriculum, renew its commitment to a liberal arts education for this century, and improve the quality of undergraduate teaching and learning.

The objectives of this goal include restructuring the core curriculum, increasing graduation rates, ensuring high-quality academic advisement, increasing study abroad participation, and supporting and rewarding faculty members who make a meaningful contribution to undergraduate student learning and success.

Strategic Goal Two

Create enrollment capacity to meet the needs of 100,000 additional students by 2020.

In order to meet the needs of a growing Georgia, the USG will need to expand its capacity by up to 40% to serve an additional 100,000 students by 2020. This is a unique opportunity to shape the USG for the new century, focusing on planned, targeted growth, the optimal use of facilities and other resources, and the proper alignment of resources with programmatic needs.

As a result of its strategic actions, the University System will increase capacity to accommodate targeted, programmatic growth.

Objectives of this goal include increasing the diversity of the USG's enrollment and closing enrollment gaps for under-represented groups; increasing the USG's public relations outreach; increasing the use of access institutions to meet higher education needs in underserved areas; creating a more robust sector of comprehensive universities and further delineating their missions within the sector; increasing the joint use of facilities; and positioning the USG among leading systems in distance education

Strategic Goal Three

Increase the USG's participation in research and economic development to the benefit of a Global Georgia.

In an open world with permeable borders, Georgia must increasingly compete not only with fifty states, but also with other countries. It must seek to determine its own future, which entails controlling, creating, directing, and attracting the resources to ensure economic growth and a high quality of life.

In a knowledge economy, creating and attracting intellectual resources is as vital as controlling and directing natural resources. Georgia cannot succeed on the world stage without a strong University System, marked by prominent institutions and programs that develop Georgia's own human capital and draw the best talent from around the world. The University System is a vital key to Georgia's future self-determination.

As a result of its strategic actions, the University System will increase Georgia's control over its own future in a global economy.

Objectives of this goal include increasing the USG's competitiveness for federal research funds, increasing the number of health profession graduates, and creating a long-term, System-level academic plan for workforce development.

In this landmark 75th year of The University System of Georgia, the System has developed a Strategic Plan that will guide and focus the actions of many toward continuing the great tradition of educating more Georgians to a higher level than at any time in history.

The Strategic Plan defines six broad goals designed to ensure that the investment the citizens of Georgia have made in their system of higher education continues to serve the needs and transform the lives of future generations.

Strategic Goal Four

Strengthen the USG's partnerships with the state's other education agencies.

The University System is part of a public education network. The quality of the University System depends, in large part, on the pipeline of students from K-12 systems. The USG has a significant interest in assisting the Department of Education with setting standards that lead to college success, as the USG has responsibility for ensuring the success of college students.

As a major source of classroom teachers, counselors, and other school leaders, the USG must play a leadership role in public education at all levels.

As a result of its strategic actions, the University System will work with all of Georgia's education agencies to meet national and international benchmarks on student preparation and achievement.

Objectives of this goal include supporting the plans of the Alliance of Education Agency Heads to increase the high school graduation rate, decrease the high school drop-out rate, and increase post-secondary enrollment rates; to improve workforce readiness skills; to strengthen teacher quality, recruitment, and retention; to develop strong educational leaders, particularly at the building level; and to improve the SAT/ACT scores of Georgia students. In addition, the USG will create a closer working relationship with the Department of Technical and Adult Education.

Strategic Goal Five

Maintain affordability so that money is not a barrier to participation in the benefits of higher education.

Through the HOPE Scholarship Program, Georgia is a national leader in providing merit-based financial aid to students. The total cost of attending college remains a challenge to some students and their families.

As a result of its strategic actions, University System institutions will remain affordable for students and assist economically disadvantaged students in meeting the cost of college.

Objectives of this goal include establishing a need-based financial aid program and diversifying and increasing revenue sources.

Strategic Goal Six

Increase efficiency, working as a System.

The University System is fortunate to enjoy strong financial support from state leaders. The USG must continue to earn that support by demonstrating accountability for the use of its resources, by maximizing non-state revenues, and by increasing the efficiency of its business operations. The USG must work with state leaders to develop an appropriate business model for current economic trends and conditions.

As a result of its strategic actions, the University System will increase its efficiency while increasing academic quality.

Objectives of this goal include increasing the efficiency of business functions, developing a leadership culture and engaging the workforce in process improvement, and establishing accountability metrics for the System.



"Creating A More Educated Georgia"
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