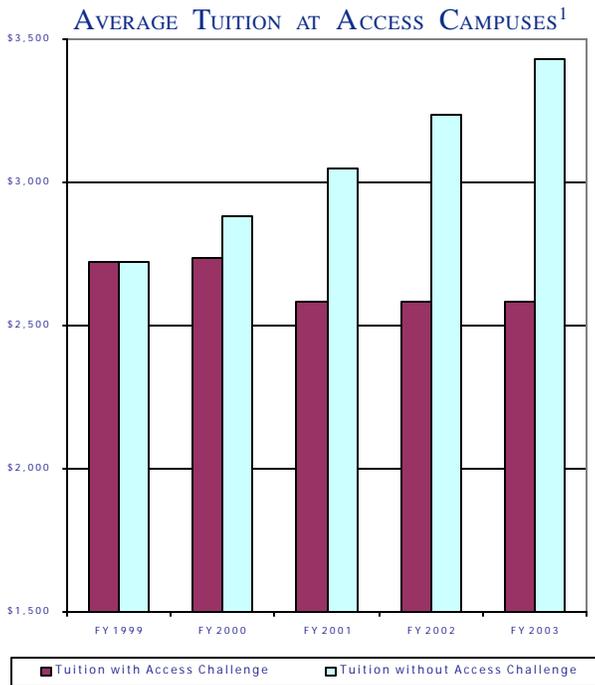




## WHAT IS ACCESS CHALLENGE?

Access Challenge is a program administered by the Ohio Board of Regents which:

- Buys down or restrains tuition for instate undergraduate students at designated Access campuses.
- Makes higher education more affordable and accessible to all Ohioans.
- Ultimately is aimed at increasing the number of college-educated Ohioans, and erasing the state's education deficit.

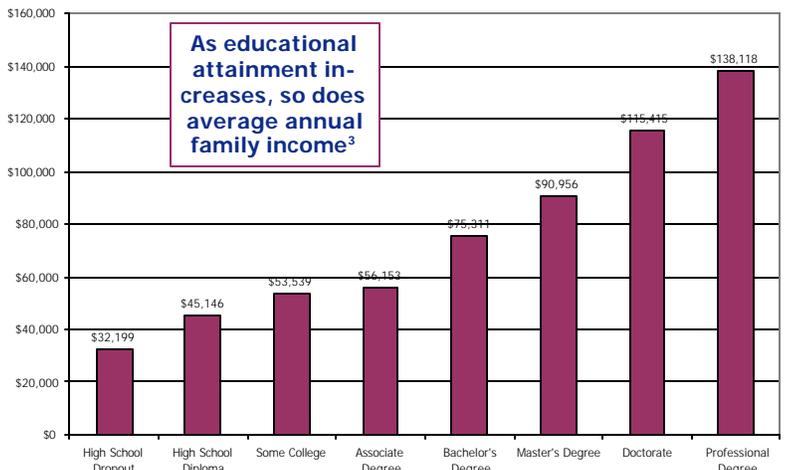


## WHY ACCESS CHALLENGE?

- College-level education is essential in the ever-changing technological job market.
- The attainment of a college degree can significantly increase one's lifetime earning potential.
- Ohio suffers from an education deficit: a population with a low rate of college degree attainment compared to the national average.
- A mere 17% of Ohioans have attained a baccalaureate degree, and only 39% of Ohioans have completed any college.
- To eliminate this education deficit, more than 400,000 people with degrees would have to be imported just to bring Ohio up to the national average.<sup>2</sup>
- Since higher education attainment correlates directly with individual earning capacity, the state's income tax base would also increase if more of Ohio's workforce was college educated.
- An educated workforce is a key ingredient to economic success, particularly with regard to attracting new employers to the state.
- Access Challenge helps to reduce the financial barriers that have prevented so many Ohioans from pursuing a higher education.

## HOW DOES ACCESS CHALLENGE WORK?

- Each Access campus receives a portion of the Access Challenge funds based proportionately on its share of subsidy-eligible students (FTEs).
- Lower tuition makes higher education more affordable for Ohioans, leading to an increase in enrollments at Ohio's designated Access campuses.
- Campuses use these funds to make up for revenues foregone from having held down tuition for instate undergraduate students.
- Access campuses include all community colleges, technical colleges, university branch campuses, Central State University, Shawnee State University, and the two-year components on the main campuses of the University of Akron, the University of Cincinnati, and Youngstown State University.



<sup>1</sup>Assumes maximum allowable increases without Access Challenge.

<sup>2</sup>Source: 1990 U.S. Census data.

<sup>3</sup>Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1996 data.