



OHIO BOARD
OF REGENTS

Higher Education Fact-Book

In today's knowledge economy, education beyond high school is a necessity. This publication has been assembled to provide documented facts related to important higher education issues and to dispel some commonly held misconceptions.

For details, please see:
[www.regents.state.oh.us/
kea/Polymakers9-18.pdf](http://www.regents.state.oh.us/kea/Polymakers9-18.pdf)

**College Access
Information Hotline:
1-877-I ATTAIN
(1-877-428-8246)**



Ohio's universities report record-breaking levels of sponsored research.

I M P A C T

Over its 20-year existence, Ohio's public funding mechanism to stimulate campus research has leveraged more than \$10 for every \$1 in state funding – a truly remarkable record.

Total research and development expenditures at Ohio's doctoral granting universities in FY 2003 were \$1.3 billion, of which \$793 million came from federal sources. From FY 1985 to FY 2003, total R&D expenditures for all doctorate-granting institutions across the nation increased by 315 percent, or 17.5 percent per year; however, research expenditures at Ohio's universities increased by 383 percent.

Besides the noble ideal of adding to the store of knowledge, research helps everyone ... adds thousands of jobs ... and creates incredible learning opportunities for students.



August 2005 editorial. *Columbus Dispatch*.
"University's science programs keep climbing in prestige, funding"

Ohio today provides the highest level of need-based aid in its history.

I M P A C T

With the state's need-based student financial aid program, any Ohio student can go to college.

In the early 1970s, Ohio led the nation with a need-based student aid program designed to help low-income full-time students. In FY 2007, the Regents implemented a new need-based student aid program; the Ohio College Opportunity Grant. Under this system, many more students will qualify for the maximum state grant. All things being equal, enrollments among low-income and some middle-income students will increase, and debt for these students will decrease.

... rising tuitions, higher borrowing limits on government loans and a new wave of low-income students have pushed the average debt burden of college graduates higher.

March 2005, *USA Today* on U.S. Department of Education report on student debt



Ohio students enjoy the world's best electronic library system.

I M P A C T

The Ohio Library and Information Network (OhioLINK) is one of the first statewide electronic library systems in the nation, offering Ohio students more volumes than the holdings at Harvard University.

OhioLINK allows Ohio's college and university libraries and the State Library of Ohio to make their holdings available to more than 600,000 students, faculty and staff at 85 institutions through campus-based electronic library systems, the OhioLINK central site and Internet resources. OhioLINK is one of the first statewide electronic library systems in the nation, offering access to more than 44.5 million library items statewide.

OhioLINK is an indispensable resource and without it I would not be able to apply the latest discoveries in biochemistry, biotechnology and other scientific fields.



January 2005, Dr. Max Funk, University of Toledo chemistry professor

Ohio has one of the nation's premier broadband, fiber-optic research networks.

I M P A C T

The Third Frontier Network is the nation's most extensive high-speed, fiber-optic communications network dedicated to education, research and economic development.

Nearly all of Ohio's colleges and universities are using the 1,600-mile fiber-optic backbone, with more than 30 campuses having direct, high-speed access via last-mile connections. The TFN connects Ohio's campuses to their business partners, federal labs, hospitals and K-12 schools and allows campuses to save research dollars by "sharing" very expensive equipment and by connecting world-class researchers with each other and with students.

The Third Frontier Network ... is going to revolutionize networking and computing in Ohio and in the United States in general.

2004, Dr. Nikolaos Bourbakis, Wright State University genetics researcher



Campuses collaborate to upgrade worker skills for Ohio employers.

I M P A C T

The EnterpriseOhio Network is the state's quality and productivity improvement resource for businesses seeking to improve their selection, development and retention of talented people.

Ohio's 53 two-year campuses in the network partner with companies to profile jobs, assess skill requirements, screen new hires and custom design, deliver and evaluate training to company specifications. In FY 2004, the network served 4,245 companies, assessed and/or trained 166,765 workers and delivered 7,213,843 non-credit education and training hours.

Email training alone saves days of work and lead time has improved. Computer skills have improved our business. Our sales have increased from \$5.2 million in '01 to \$6.5-7.5 million in '05.



A Morgan County masonry product company spokesperson.

The World Is Flat

BY THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY:

“What do we tell our kids?
There is only one message:
You have to constantly
upgrade your skills. There
will be plenty of good jobs
out there in the flat world for
people with the knowledge
and ideas to seize them. ...

“My advice to [my girls] in
this flat world is very brief
and very blunt: ‘Girls, when
I was growing up, my parents
used to say to me, “Tom,
finish your dinner – people in
China and India are starving.’
My advice to you is: Girls,
finish your homework –
people in China and India
are starving for your jobs.”

A U T H O R

*Thomas L. Friedman has won
the Pulitzer Prize three times
for his work at the New York
Times and is the author of
four best-selling books.*

2005, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, publishers



Students don't lose credit with Ohio's seamless transfer system.

REALITY

Ohio's statewide articulation and transfer policy – adopted initially in 1990 – now guarantees the transfer and application of credits to 38 majors at all Ohio public colleges and universities.

Students can start anywhere in Ohio public higher education and study toward a bachelor's degree by seamlessly transferring to a university program. With significant help from the General Assembly, this statewide policy achievement represents Ohio's largest and most expansive higher education curricular change.

Figures ...show that 27 percent of Ohio college students who earned a bachelor's degree from a four-year university had transferred at least 30 hours from another school.

March 2005, Toledo Blade, "Education: college credit transfers get easier"



**O CAN is the nation's
most successful college
access network.**

I M P A C T

O CAN programs open the doors to college education by providing financial counseling, last dollar scholarships, college visits, career guidance, tutoring and test preparation courses.

The Ohio College Access Network is the nation's first statewide coordinating body for college access programs and is focused on helping Ohio residents pursue higher education by building and supporting local college access programs throughout the state. Currently, 34 programs in 46 counties serve nearly 300 of Ohio's 612 school districts and 17 private/parochial schools.

Kids are very appreciative because we want to see them succeed. We can change students' lives by helping them go to college.

July 2005, *The Vindicator*, Joe Rottenborn,
Mahoning Valley O CAN director



Ohio's federal GEAR UP grant will help more students prepare for college.

I M P A C T

Ohio's six-year, \$20 million Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) grant will focus on advancing educational opportunities and increasing college participation rates.

Middle, junior and senior high school sites were identified by low college participation and high remediation rates. With assistance from GEAR UP and Ohio College Access Network staff members, students in the counties of Adams, Allen, Ashtabula, Clark, Franklin, Lorain, Lucas and Muskingum will benefit from tutoring, enrichment programs, early awareness activities and college/financial aid advising.

... more ... students want to go to college. Yet, many students who want to go to college don't start preparing early enough. Middle school needs to be a key starting point.



October 2000, former U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley

Ohio Eminent Scholars attract world-class research to the state.

I M P A C T

The Ohio Eminent Scholars Program brings world-class research talent to support the research and commercialization focus of Ohio's Wright Centers of Innovation.

The Ohio Eminent Scholar Program is fully aligned with Ohio's \$1.6 billion Third Frontier job creation program to expand cutting-edge, high-tech research capabilities, promote the development of new start-up companies and create high-paying jobs. In addition to attracting federal and industry funding, Eminent Scholars also draw to Ohio highly talented colleagues and prized graduate students.

He is motivated to make a difference in society by transitioning technology to the marketplace, by promoting diversity in the profession and by increasing the educated work force ...

January 2004, Robert Savinelli, dean of the Case School of Engineering in the *Akron Beacon Journal* about Dr. Thomas A. Zawodzinski, a Case eminent scholar



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**College Tech Prep
provides students with
clear pathways to college.**

I M P A C T

Launched in 1991 by the Regents and the Department of Education, Ohio College Tech Prep currently serves more than 22,000 college-bound students in 700 programs.

In Tech Prep, college prep math, science and English are blended with experience-based technologies in areas such as engineering and engineering technologies, biotechnology, health, IT and business.

Generally, College Tech Prep begins in the 11th grade, although some schools offer classes in the 9th and 10th grades. Colleges and high schools coordinate curriculum to develop skills identified as essential by employers.

Our Tech Prep lab has great equipment that is set up like a real life situation. Where else can kids our age get experience like this?

Mike Greer, Network Systems



Can Americans Compete?

BY GEOFFFREY COLVIN

IS AMERICA THE WORLD'S 97-LB. WEAKLING?

"Can America compete?" ...

The question is almost right, but not quite. We're wringing our hands over the wrong thing. The problem isn't Chinese companies threatening U.S. firms.

It's U.S. workers unable to compete with those in China – or India, or South Korea ...

The real question is, "Can Americans compete?" ...

The No. 1 policy prescription, almost regardless of whom you ask, comes down to one word: education. In an economy where technology leadership determines the winners, education trumps everything.

A U T H O R

Geoffrey Colvin writes for Fortune Magazine, reports for CBS Radio Network and speaks on effective leadership, the infotech revolution and a host of other business issues.

July 20, 2005 article

