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Alabama forms new college attainment network

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An initiative has been formed with a goal of increasing college and career readiness, post-secondary access and completion in Alabama.

The Alabama College Attainment Network has been launched, and multiple community stakeholders are involved including Alabama Possible, Alabama State Department of Education, Alabama Commission on Higher Education and the Alabama Community College System.

In total, 55 agencies will boost the education initiative, particularly among low-income students, first-generation college-going students and students of color.

“Census Data shows that 47% of whites have valuable post-secondary credentials, while only 33% of African-Americans and 24% of Latinos do,” said Alabama Possible Program Director Manisha Mishra. “Research also reveals that the lowest-income



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Americans who obtain a college degree are five times more likely than their peers to escape poverty. With the formation of the Alabama College Attainment Network, Alabama joins more than 20 other states with networks that strengthen linkages between K-12, post-secondary education, and employers.”

With the effort, statewide education and workforce agencies will collaborate and share resources in an effort to provide greater capacity, technical assistance, consulting, workshops, training, advocacy and research to educators, community-based organizations and policymakers.

The network will work hand in hand with Gov. Kay Ivey’s Success Plus initiative, which aims to reduce statewide educational and career inequities to add 500,000 skilled workers to Alabama’s workforce by 2025.

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