



ALABAMA COLLEGE ATTAINMENT NETWORK COLLABORATION MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING

You are invited to become a participant organization of the **Alabama College Attainment Network** (ACAN) and support Alabama's Success Plus Goal to add 500,000 highly-skilled employees to Alabama's workforce by 2025.

The Alabama College Attainment Network breaks down barriers to increase college readiness, access, and completion in Alabama, particularly among low-income students, first-generation college-going students, and students of color.

Alabama College Attainment Network Mission

To increase college and career readiness, access, and completion in Alabama, particularly among low-income students, first-generation college-going students, and students of color.

Alabama College Attainment Network Values

- College is postsecondary education. College is education after high school that results in the attainment of valuable postsecondary credentials, including professional/technical certificates and academic degrees.
- College is a necessity. Most career pathways require college credentials.
- College is for everyone. College attainment rates among low-income students and students of color are significantly lower than those of other students. The Alabama College Attainment Network commits to closing these gaps.
- College is a public good. Postsecondary educational opportunity and attainment are critical to a just and equitable society, strong economy, and healthy communities.

Network participants agree to:

Benefits

As an ACAN participant, your organization will have the opportunity to access the following benefits:

1. Networking with other college access and success organizations;
2. Discounted registration for the annual network conference;
3. Discounted membership in the National College Attainment Network;
4. Participating in regularly-scheduled professional development webinars on a variety of topics related to college access and success;
5. Ability to present at the annual network conference and other professional development events;
6. Shaping ACAN's federal and state policy agenda and advocating for its implementation;

7. Staying informed about and participating in policy discussions impacting low-income and first-generation college-going students;
8. Receiving monthly e-newsletters with the opportunity to share relevant news, events, and job postings;
9. Accessing data, professional education, and technical assistance which will lead to data-driven decision making in order to enhance the services provided by them;
10. Collaborating on joint grant proposals and/or accessing mini-grants as available; and
11. Serving on the ACAN steering committee and/or task forces.

Responsibilities

As an ACAN participant, your organization pledges to:

1. Build and sustain a college-going culture for all students in alignment with ACAN's mission vision, and values;
2. Promote and forge relationships and connections across organizations in college access and success work;
3. Identify potential ACAN participants and facilitate the participant recruitment process;
4. Identify opportunities to disseminate college access and success information in the community;
5. Designate a representative to attend and actively engage in quarterly network meetings as scheduled;
6. Collaborate on funding requests when appropriate;
7. Participate in the annual conference and submit proposals for workshop sessions and/or share knowledge in their fields of expertise at other professional development sessions, including webinars and workshops;
8. Designate a representative to participate in action planning to make postsecondary education accessible to all Alabama students and integrate continuous improvement practices, including collecting and sharing data to facilitate decision-making;
9. Facilitate perspective-sharing from educators, students, families, and other stakeholders;
10. Designate representatives as needed to participate in task forces/committee to identify opportunities to remove barriers to a college-going culture for every student; and
11. Notify ACAN when organizational leadership or designated representatives change or their contact information changes.
12. This agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Alabama without giving effect to any choice- or conflict- of- laws, provisions, or rules (whether of the State of Alabama or any other jurisdiction) that would cause the application of the laws of any jurisdiction other than those of the State of Alabama.
13. By signing this MOU, the signing parties affirm, for the duration of this agreement, that they will not violate federal immigration law or knowingly employ, hire, for employment, or continue to employ an unauthorized alien within the State of Alabama. Furthermore, a party to the MOU found to be in violation of this provision shall be deemed in breach of this agreement and shall be responsible for all damages resulting there from.

14. The relationship between the parties is that of independent contractors. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as creating any agency, partnership, joint venture, or other form of joint enterprise, employment, or fiduciary relationship between the parties, and neither party shall have authority to contract for or bind the other party in any manner whatsoever.

Partnership will be reaffirmed on an annual basis.

On behalf of the Alabama College Attainment Network:

Manisha Mishra

Manisha Mishra, Program Director
Alabama Possible/Alabama College Attainment Network
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205-939-1408

On behalf of the partner organization:

Name of Organization

Organizational Email

Website

Organization Leader (name)

Signature

Title

Date

Designated Representative:

Designated Representative (name)

Title

Email

Phone Number