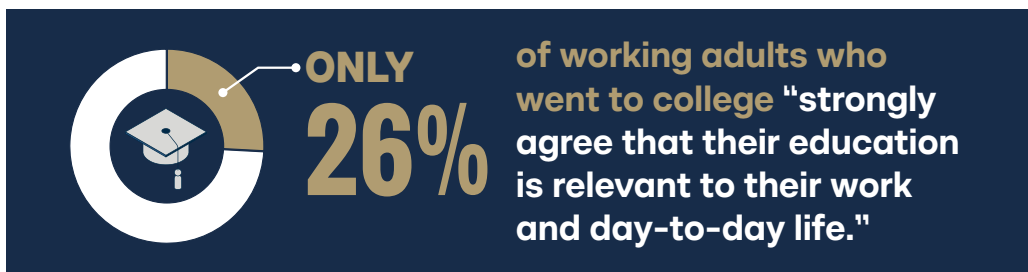# CICERO INSTITUTE

Know Before You Go Higher Education Transparency Act

Students, parents, and taxpayers lack access to clear data on higher education program outcomes, leading to uninformed decisions about enrollment and financial commitments.

According to a recent survey, more than half of American college students regret their choice of degree type, college, or major. Other research found that...

ONLY 26% of working adults who went to college **"strongly agree that their education is relevant to their work and day-to-day life."**

1 IN 4 GRADUATES

are **WORSE OFF** than they would have been had they entered the workforce rather than going into a failed college program.

THE SOLUTION

Create a State Higher Education Transparency Portal that provides critical data about the performance of all higher education programs.
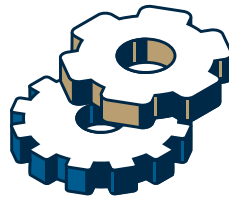
Public, online platform with data on:

- Median student debt post-graduation
- Median earnings at various intervals after graduation
- Program completion rates and graduate numbers
- Comparative tools for outcomes between programs and institutions

Data Collection

State agencies or federal sources will supply the required data, updated annually, to ensure accuracy and relevance.

Mandate

Institutions must prominently display links to this portal, and prospective students must certify they've accessed it before enrollment or signing loan documents when:

- ✓ Applying to a college or university
- ✓ Changing their major
- ✓ Thinking about dropping out

WHY IT MATTERS

Students should know ahead of time whether the college programs they are considering will prepare them for a stable, family-supporting career.

THE BOTTOM LINE:

This Act prioritizes transparency for students and taxpayers by helping them make informed decisions about higher education programs, reducing financial risk, and supporting programs that lead to positive outcomes.

To view our Higher Education Transparency Database, scan the QR code or visit:

ciceroinstitute.org/college