

# Policy Priority 5:

## POLICY INFRASTRUCTURE

### *Policies that Provide Support, Remove Barriers, and Regulate Institutions*

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Transitioning to a system where all learning counts requires meaningful changes to existing systems. We will need to think differently about where education happens, how it is financed, and the role that nontraditional stakeholders play in creating a new system. In order to support this transformation, states need to provide adequate resources to support this work and proactively remove barriers to success. Additionally, public awareness efforts are critical to building broad support for systemic changes.

#### MUST-HAVES

##### | Foundation

- ✓ **Financial Incentives.** Financial incentives for institutions to award and recognize competency-based learning (e.g., via appropriations, funding formulas, and competitive or block grants).
- ✓ **Awareness of ALC Policies.** Outreach to institutions, students, and employers on the benefits of recognizing all learning and the policies that require it to be credentialed.
- ✓ **Technical Assistance.** Technical assistance for institutions to build capacity to increase the number and type of credits they award for out-of-college learning, improve assessment practices, and track outcomes.
- ✓ **Cross-Sector Collaboration.** Policies or established practices for cross-sector and cross-agency collaboration and information-sharing regarding ALC policy.
- ✓ **Recognition of Non-Traditional Learning Sites.** Expand recognition of learning in sites such as correctional facilities.

##### | Equity

- ✓ Require Black, Latinx, and Native American policymakers, institutional leaders, and students be involved in creating policy or regulation.
- ✓ Ensure that institutions that serve large numbers of target populations receive adequate funding and support.
- ✓ Require that institutions receiving state-offered grant opportunities to expand ALC work identify target populations and how they will serve them.

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Equity (cont.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Address equity gaps uncovered in annual reports by revising policies and practices that contribute to inequity.</li><li>✓ Mandate analysis of how any proposed policies or decisions may affect different racial, ethnic, and other relevant demographic groups.</li></ul>
Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Require annual reports that examine the degree to which all institutions adhere to ALC policies and identify those that do not.</li></ul>
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Require annual reports that track the relationship between education data and employment/wage data, and by institution.</li></ul>

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