



September 16, 2021

## Strategic Plan Update: Assigning Strategies to Specific Board Committees

In 2020, Utah's two higher education systems merged, creating a single system of 16 higher education institutions. The Utah Board of Higher Education adopted a comprehensive strategic plan in May 2021 to guide the newly-merged system for the next five years. To develop the strategic plan, the Board and Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education engaged in a rigorous, collaborative, and creative process built on previous boards' past initiatives and incorporated feedback from institutions, state leaders, students, and other stakeholders. The Board's strategic plan focuses on six key priorities:

- System Unification
- Access
- Affordability
- Completion
- Workforce Alignment
- Research

Two main themes guide the strategic plan:

1. Alignment of measures between statewide postsecondary attainment goals and performance-based funding
2. Centering of educational equity and inclusion so that higher education opportunities exist for all Utahns

### Strategies to Board Committees

The Commissioner's Office has assigned strategies from the strategic plan to specific Board committees. This does not mean a specific strategy will not impact other committees, but that an identified committee will keep an eye on its assigned strategies' progress and actively work to shepherd the strategies along. (A note: The Academic Education and Technical Education Committees share all of their strategies, as they impact both degree-granting and technical institutions.)

### Progress on the Strategic Plan Thus Far

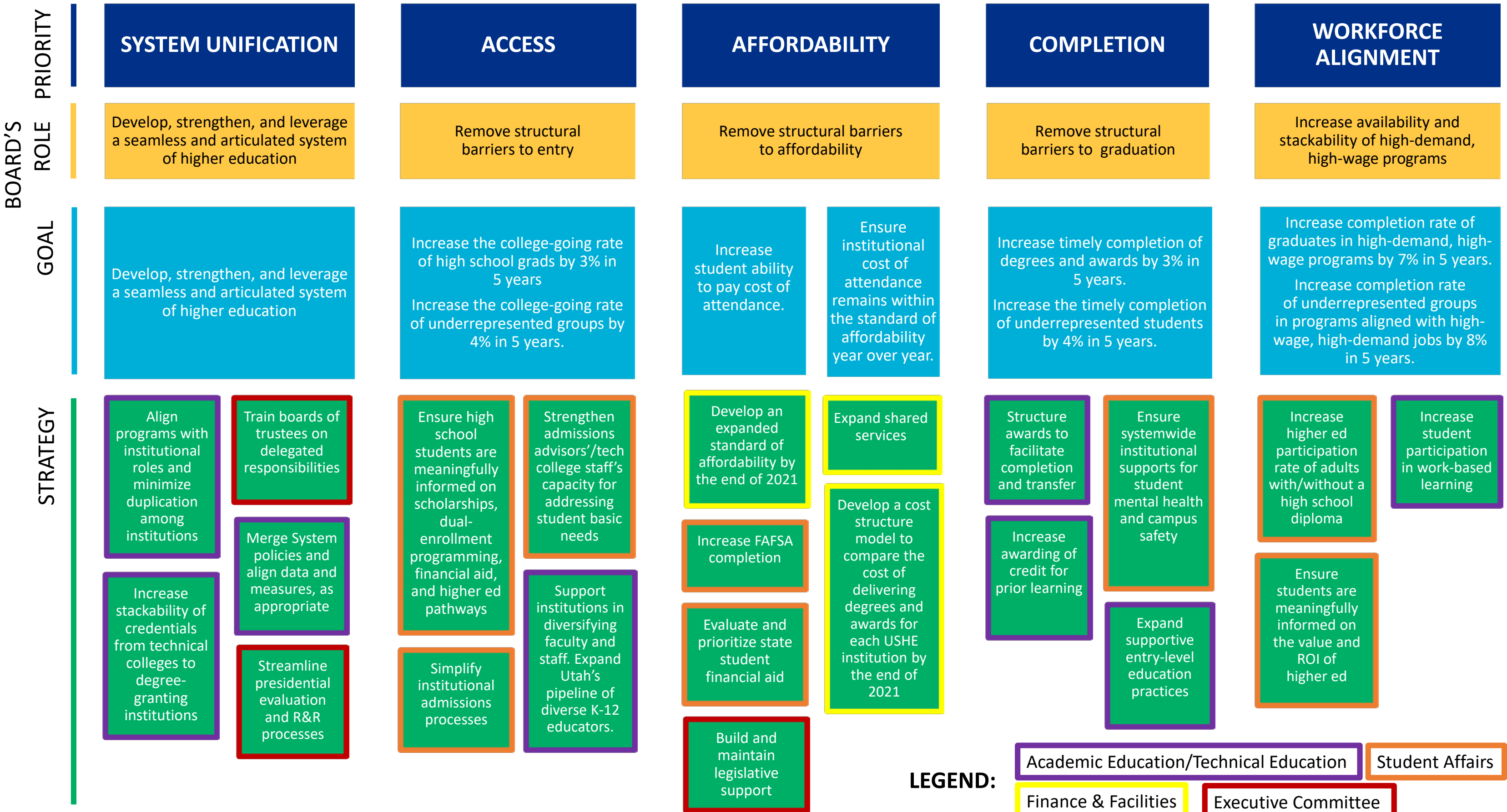
The Commissioner's Office is developing project plans for each tactic identified in the strategic plan, as well as an implementation timeline for the next 12 months. The Commissioner's Office will present the first progress report on the strategic plan at the September 2021 Board meeting. The progress reports will be updated monthly and available at [www.ushe.edu](http://www.ushe.edu).

The Commissioner's Office will present a draft of the research priority of the strategic plan (added at the May 2021 Board meeting) to the Academic Education Committee in August for discussion. A final draft will be presented to the Board for consideration in September.

### Commissioner's Recommendation

This is an information item only; no action is required.

### Attachment



**LEGEND:**

- Academic Education/Technical Education
- Student Affairs
- Finance & Facilities
- Executive Committee