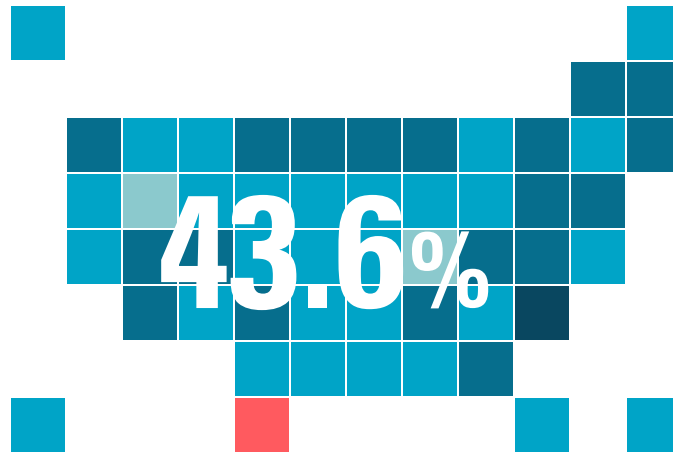


A STRONGER NATION

Learning beyond high school builds American talent



Texas' Report 2019



Lumina[™]
FOUNDATION

Texas' progress toward the goal

By 2025, 60 percent of Americans will need some type of high-quality credential beyond high school. To count toward this important goal, any credential must have clear and transparent learning outcomes that lead to further education and employment. **Texas' attainment rate is 44 percent, and the state is working toward its attainment goal of 60 percent by 2030.**

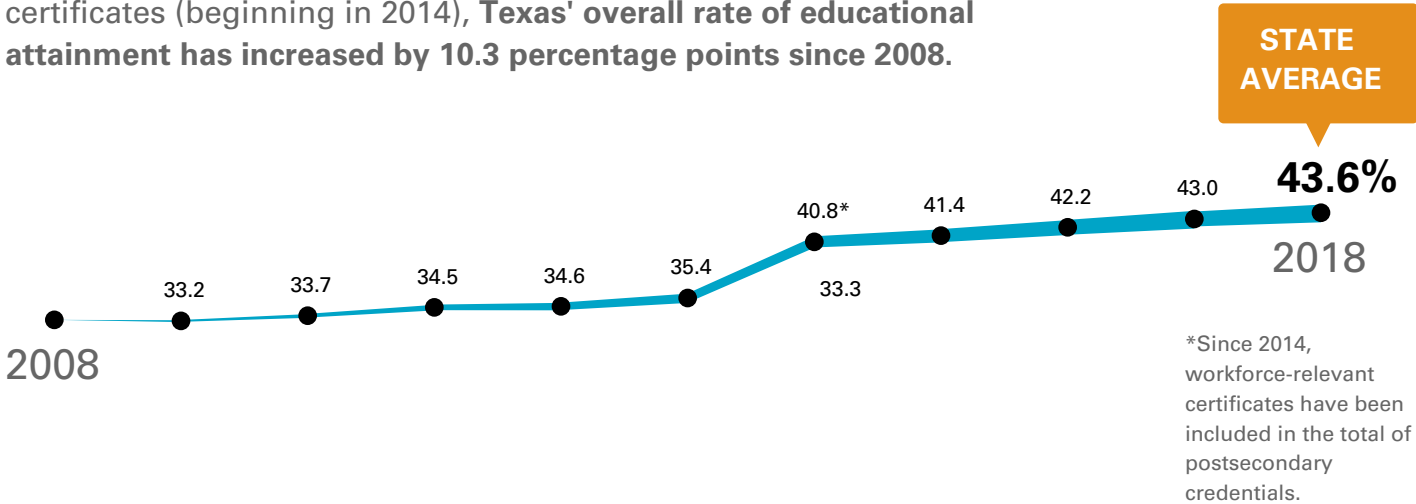
How

Texas is making progress in increasing educational attainment, but still lags when compared to the national average.



Texas' progress

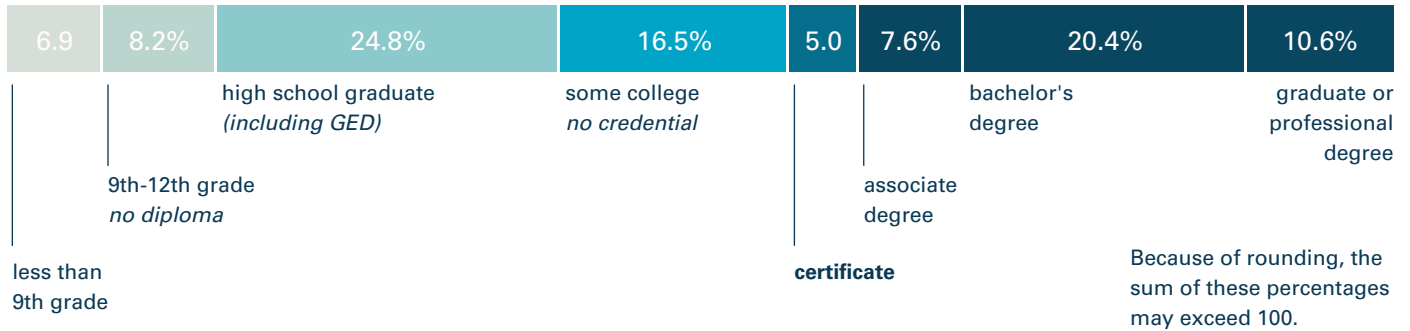
To reach state goals, the state will not only have to maintain current rates of attainment but also significantly increase the number of people who enroll in programs and earn all types of credentials beyond high school. With the inclusion of workforce certificates (beginning in 2014), **Texas' overall rate of educational attainment has increased by 10.3 percentage points since 2008.**



Highest Education Level Across Texas

TEXAS AGES 25-64

43.6% attainment



Texas' racial and ethnic disparities

There are **significant gaps** in educational attainment that must be closed – specifically, **gaps linked to race and ethnicity. These gaps persist in every state.** Because educational attainment beyond high school has become the key determinant of economic opportunity and social mobility, **closing these gaps is crucial.**

















































Comparing Texas Counties

Exploring educational attainment at the local level can be especially helpful to local leaders as they work on talent development. For example, by pinpointing counties or regions where attainment lags, resources can be targeted where they're needed most. Conversely, in areas of high attainment, other regions may find practices or processes they can emulate.

















































Compare degree attainment rates across Texas' 254 counties. Attainment is shown here as the percentage of people ages 25-64 with at least an associate degree.*

















































sorted by NAME ▼▲

































Attainment	County	Population	Pop. Rank	Attainment	County	Population	Pop. Rank
17.0%	Anderson	57,741	58	35.9%	Blanco	11,626	159
17.5%	Andrews	17,722	132	42.8%	Borden	673	251
25.0%	Angelina	87,805	44	26.1%	Bosque	18,326	129
25.8%	Aransas	25,572	101	26.7%	Bowie	94,012	41
32.4%	Archer	8,809	174	39.9%	Brazoria	362,457	14
33.9%	Armstrong	1,879	237	48.4%	Brazos	222,830	23
18.8%	Atascosa	48,981	70	41.2%	Brewster	9,337	170
32.4%	Austin	29,786	95	27.2%	Briscoe	1,528	238
27.5%	Bailey	7,077	190	19.2%	Brooks	7,235	186
31.7%	Bandera	22,351	110	27.7%	Brown	38,053	82
26.6%	Bastrop	84,761	46	24.1%	Burleson	18,011	130
32.5%	Baylor	3,581	218	31.7%	Burnet	46,804	72
15.2%	Bee	32,563	92	19.6%	Caldwell	42,338	75
36.4%	Bell	347,833	16	23.6%	Calhoun	21,744	112
36.7%	Bexar	1,958,578	4	24.9%	Callahan	13,946	147

 25.9% Cameron	423,725	13	 14.7% Culberson	2,231	232
 25.4% Camp	12,855	150	 17.3% Dallam	7,208	188
 44.3% Carson	6,032	193	 36.7% Dallas	2,618,148	2
 23.7% Cass	30,012	94	 16.3% Dawson	12,813	151
 20.9% Castro	7,843	181	 20.3% DeWitt	20,226	121
 31.5% Chambers	41,441	78	 18.1% Deaf Smith	18,836	127
 22.9% Cherokee	52,240	62	 29.9% Delta	5,298	203
 23.8% Childress	7,067	191	 53.5% Denton	836,210	9
 27.7% Clay	10,421	164	 23.9% Dickens	2,209	233
 13.9% Cochran	2,851	229	 18.2% Dimmit	10,418	165
 29.3% Coke	3,306	224	 25.5% Donley	3,311	223
 21.4% Coleman	8,430	177	 16.1% Duval	11,273	161
 61.3% Collin	969,603	6	 21.8% Eastland	18,411	128
 23.2% Collingsworth	2,987	228	 22.6% Ector	157,087	29
 27.4% Colorado	21,232	116	 31.6% Edwards	1,953	236
 42.7% Comal	141,009	30	 33.5% El Paso	840,410	8
 24.8% Comanche	13,573	148	 32.3% Ellis	173,620	25
 13.7% Concho	2,717	230	 39.2% Erath	41,969	76
 28.2% Cooke	39,895	81	 19.0% Falls	17,437	133
 27.0% Coryell	74,913	49	 23.6% Fannin	34,446	89
 20.6% Cottle	1,387	242	 25.7% Fayette	25,272	103
 21.1% Crane	4,740	206	 31.2% Fisher	3,880	212
 19.9% Crockett	3,564	219	 25.1% Floyd	5,855	197
 18.7% Crosby	5,899	195	 30.7% Foard	1,222	246

55.1%	Fort Bend	764,828	10	18.9%	Hartley	5,691	199
28.6%	Franklin	10,767	162	18.8%	Haskell	5,746	198
26.1%	Freestone	19,625	124	43.6%	Hays	214,485	24
15.8%	Frio	19,600	125	22.9%	Hemphill	4,024	210
17.4%	Gaines	20,638	120	24.6%	Henderson	81,064	48
40.6%	Galveston	335,036	17	24.9%	Hidalgo	860,661	7
14.4%	Garza	6,528	192	25.7%	Hill	35,852	86
35.3%	Gillespie	26,646	100	27.0%	Hockley	23,088	107
36.1%	Glasscock	1,348	243	31.6%	Hood	58,273	56
29.5%	Goliad	7,562	184	25.1%	Hopkins	36,496	84
16.9%	Gonzales	20,893	119	20.4%	Houston	23,021	108
22.1%	Gray	22,404	109	18.2%	Howard	36,040	85
30.6%	Grayson	131,140	35	11.8%	Hudspeth	4,408	208
28.2%	Gregg	123,367	36	26.7%	Hunt	93,872	42
17.6%	Grimes	28,082	98	23.8%	Hutchinson	21,375	115
38.3%	Guadalupe	159,659	28	25.5%	Irion	1,516	240
22.3%	Hale	34,134	90	20.4%	Jack	8,832	173
19.1%	Hall	3,071	225	23.9%	Jackson	14,805	141
31.0%	Hamilton	8,422	178	17.9%	Jasper	35,561	87
19.6%	Hansford	5,447	201	33.4%	Jeff Davis	2,280	231
21.9%	Hardeman	3,994	211	27.6%	Jefferson	256,299	20
25.6%	Hardin	57,139	59	19.9%	Jim Hogg	5,202	204
38.0%	Harris	4,652,980	1	20.6%	Jim Wells	40,871	80
27.4%	Harrison	66,661	52	25.8%	Johnson	167,301	26

 15.0% Jones	19,983	123	 14.0% Loving	134	254
 19.9% Karnes	15,187	140	 36.4% Lubbock	305,225	18
 29.8% Kaufman	122,883	37	 24.1% Lynn	5,859	196
 49.9% Kendall	44,026	74	 17.4% Madison	14,222	145
 12.3% Kenedy	417	252	 21.6% Marion	10,064	168
 38.0% Kent	763	250	 27.3% Martin	5,626	200
 29.3% Kerr	51,720	63	 21.6% Mason	4,222	209
 24.0% Kimble	4,410	207	 24.8% Matagorda	36,840	83
 26.2% King	296	253	 21.4% Maverick	58,216	57
 13.9% Kinney	3,745	214	 19.7% McCulloch	7,957	180
 33.5% Kleberg	31,088	93	 34.5% McLennan	251,259	21
 25.9% Knox	3,710	215	 27.2% McMullen	778	249
 14.7% La Salle	7,584	182	 28.9% Medina	50,066	65
 25.9% Lamar	49,587	66	 18.8% Menard	2,124	234
 24.1% Lamb	13,210	149	 35.5% Midland	165,049	27
 34.1% Lampasas	21,027	118	 24.7% Milam	25,053	104
 27.5% Lavaca	20,062	122	 30.4% Mills	4,921	205
 23.2% Lee	17,183	136	 18.5% Mitchell	8,468	176
 22.1% Leon	17,243	134	 24.1% Montague	19,539	126
 14.4% Liberty	83,658	47	 43.7% Montgomery	570,934	11
 18.9% Limestone	23,527	105	 22.4% Moore	22,097	111
 29.6% Lipscomb	3,378	221	 20.8% Morris	12,467	154
 18.6% Live Oak	12,174	156	 21.9% Motley	1,230	245
 30.5% Llano	21,210	117	 31.2% Nacogdoches	65,580	54

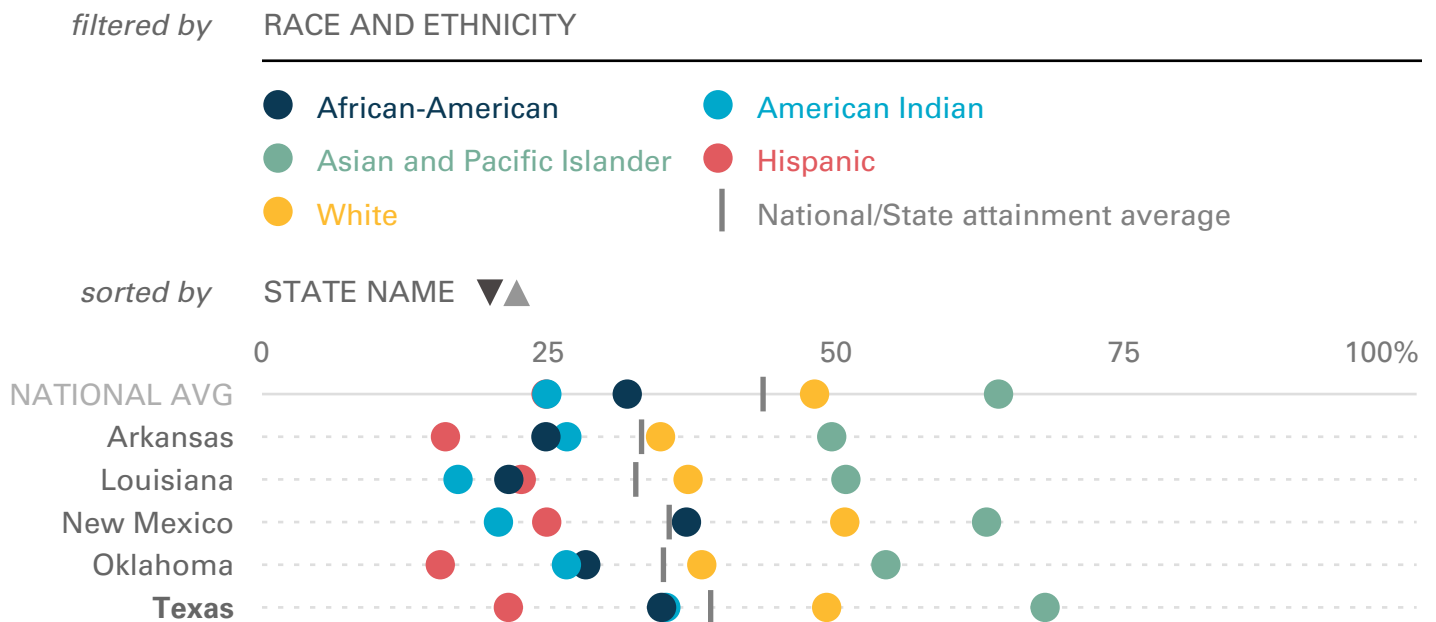
 26.1% Navarro	48,701	71	 50.6% Rockwall	96,788	40
 14.7% Newton	13,952	146	 26.4% Runnels	10,266	166
 25.0% Nolan	14,770	142	 22.4% Rusk	52,833	61
 30.0% Nueces	361,221	15	 17.8% Sabine	10,461	163
 22.8% Ochiltree	10,073	167	 16.1% San Augustine	8,253	179
 29.1% Oldham	2,114	235	 14.2% San Jacinto	28,270	97
 25.7% Orange	85,047	45	 23.0% San Patricio	67,215	51
 21.7% Palo Pinto	28,570	96	 17.4% San Saba	5,959	194
 24.0% Panola	23,243	106	 23.9% Schleicher	3,001	227
 37.6% Parker	133,463	33	 20.7% Scurry	17,050	137
 21.6% Parmer	9,842	169	 31.0% Shackelford	3,328	222
 14.2% Pecos	15,634	138	 20.4% Shelby	25,513	102
 18.9% Polk	49,162	69	 25.1% Sherman	3,067	226
 21.9% Potter	120,458	38	 35.0% Smith	227,727	22
 25.1% Presidio	7,156	189	 29.4% Somervell	8,845	172
 18.7% Rains	11,762	158	 16.0% Starr	64,454	55
 42.6% Randall	134,442	32	 23.6% Stephens	9,337	171
 14.3% Reagan	3,710	216	 21.4% Sterling	1,295	244
 27.8% Real	3,429	220	 19.3% Stonewall	1,388	241
 21.4% Red River	12,229	155	 23.2% Sutton	3,767	213
 16.7% Reeves	15,281	139	 18.8% Swisher	7,515	185
 24.0% Refugio	7,224	187	 39.9% Tarrant	2,054,475	3
 34.9% Roberts	938	247	 33.2% Taylor	136,290	31
 21.4% Robertson	17,203	135	 12.8% Terrell	810	248

 16.4% Terry	12,715	153	 31.4% Washington	35,043	88
 28.4% Throckmorton	1,527	239	 26.3% Webb	274,794	19
 22.8% Titus	32,904	91	 26.3% Wharton	41,968	77
 32.8% Tom Green	118,019	39	 25.9% Wheeler	5,358	202
 54.9% Travis	1,226,698	5	 32.1% Wichita	132,000	34
 20.8% Trinity	14,667	143	 23.5% Wilbarger	12,764	152
 15.9% Tyler	21,539	114	 14.0% Willacy	21,584	113
 25.9% Upshur	41,281	79	 50.9% Williamson	547,545	12
 13.5% Upton	3,663	217	 30.2% Wilson	49,304	67
 25.8% Uvalde	27,132	99	 16.1% Winkler	7,574	183
 27.3% Val Verde	49,205	68	 27.3% Wise	66,181	53
 25.8% Van Zandt	55,182	60	 22.9% Wood	44,314	73
 30.2% Victoria	92,084	43	 23.4% Yoakum	8,568	175
 24.7% Walker	72,245	50	 24.4% Young	17,979	131
 25.1% Waller	51,307	64	 13.6% Zapata	14,322	144
 17.3% Ward	11,472	160	 14.5% Zavala	11,948	157

Results by race and ethnicity in Texas

A growing proportion of today’s learners are African-American, Hispanic, and American Indian; and data show persistent and troubling gaps between their attainment levels and those of their white peers. Addressing these gaps – and expanding post-high-school learning opportunities for all – is essential to reducing the inequality that influences much of American life.

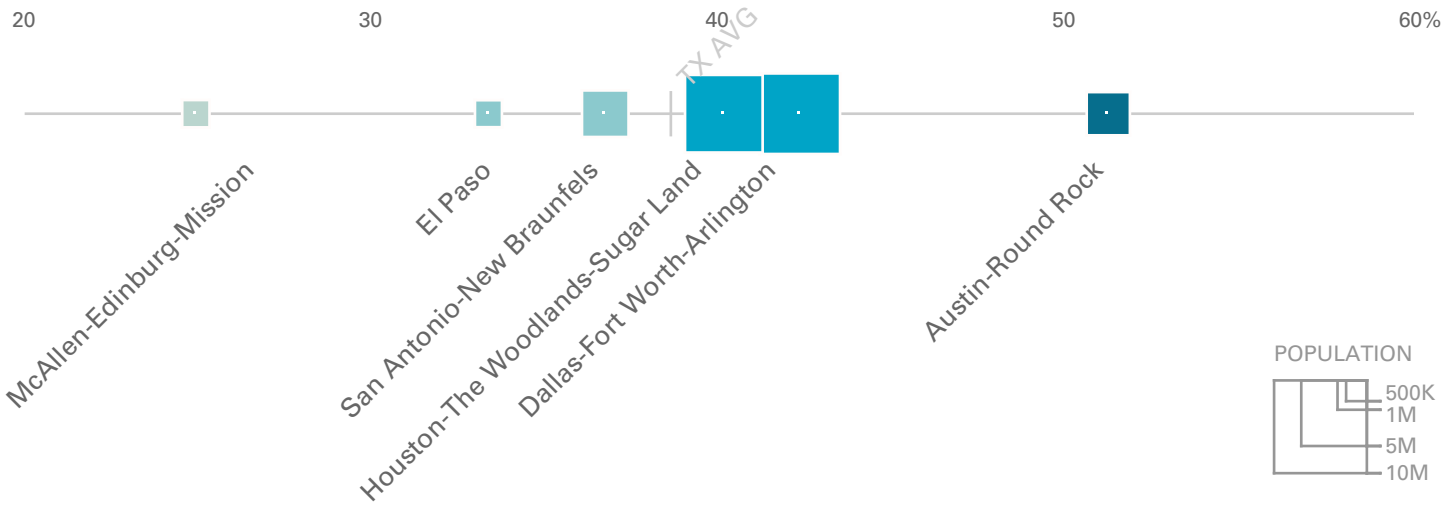
Explore **Texas' attainment rates across five racial and ethnic groups**, and see how it performs relative to other states. Attainment is shown here as the percentage of residents, ages 25-64 with at least an associate degree.*



Texas' metro areas

Metropolitan areas are important talent hubs, because the majority of the nation's population lives within these areas.

Explore attainment rates in Texas' Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). Attainment is shown here as the percentage of residents, ages 25-64, with at least an associate degree.



Data sources

Data sources for *A Stronger Nation* are listed below, along with links and additional information.

Attainment and enrollment rates

U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS): One-year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS). County-level and metro-regional data are from ACS five-year estimates (2013-2017). College enrollment percentages reflect the enrollment of non-degree-holding students, ages 18-57, at public and private two- and four-year institutions.

- U.S. Census Bureau: <http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs>

Persistence and completion rates

Student retention rates (persistence) and degree-completion rates were collected by the National Student Clearinghouse. Graduate degrees awarded were analyzed by the National Center for Education Statistics and IPEDS.

- National Student Clearinghouse, 2016: <http://www.studentclearinghouse.org/>
- National Center for Education Statistics: <https://nces.ed.gov/>
- Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System Completion Survey 2014-2015: <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/Home/UseTheData>

Awareness

Data that track public opinion about the importance of earning credentials come from a Gallup-Lumina Foundation survey conducted in 2016.

Population

U.S. Census Bureau Population Division: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population April 1, 2010, to July 1, 2017.

- U.S. Census Bureau Annual Population Estimates: https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP_2017_PEPANNRES&prodType=table

Inclusion of certificates

Attainment rates for 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017 include the estimated percentage of working-age Americans who have earned high-value postsecondary certificates – not just associate degrees and above, as *A Stronger Nation* reported in previous years. This estimated percentage was derived by polling a nationally representative sample of Americans ages 25-64. The surveys were conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago, an independent research institution. See the [methodology for certificate estimates](#).

At the state level, the estimated percentage of state residents who have earned high-value certificates was derived by labor market experts at Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce.

- The [National Education and Attainment Survey](#) (NEAS) from NORC at the University of Chicago
- [Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System](#)
- Georgetown University's [Center on Education and the Workforce](#)

Defining metro areas

Metro-area data in *A Stronger Nation* are those that apply to the nation's Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). The term MSA refers to "a large population nucleus, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of social and economic integration with that core." MSAs comprise one or more entire counties, except in New England, where cities and towns are the basic geographic units. The federal Office of Management and Budget defines MSAs by applying published standards to Census Bureau data.

Lumina Foundation is an independent, private foundation in Indianapolis that is committed to making opportunities for learning beyond high school available to all. We envision a system that is easy to navigate, delivers fair results, and meets the nation's need for talent through a broad range of credentials. Our goal is to prepare people for informed citizenship and for success in a global economy.



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