

OHIO HIGHLIGHTS

OVERVIEW

Ohio enacted authorizing legislation in 1991 to join the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC), the same year that MHEC was founded. Over the past 34 years, commissioners, commissioner alternates, and members of advisory committees from Ohio have provided and continue to provide important governance and strategic direction for MHEC.

HOW MHEC BENEFITS OHIO

- ▶ \$14.33M in total annual savings. Ohio colleges, universities, school districts, state and local governments, and students and their families realized more than \$14.33M in cost and time savings through MHEC's contracts and programs.
 - » Technology Contracts. Ohio entities saved \$2.95M through MHEC contracts with Dell, Oracle, Xerox, CampusGuard, and others..
 - » Distance Education. By participating in the Midwestern-State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (M-SARA), Ohio saved approximately \$7.55M and avoided a costly state-by-state, institution-by-institution approach.
 - » Tuition Reciprocity. Ohio students and their families who participated in the Midwest Student Exchange Program saved \$3.83M.
 - » Student Health Insurance. Nearly 25,000 Ohio students from five institutions participated in MHEC's contract for student health insurance.
- ► **Strong return on investment.** Ohio received a 124-fold return on annual compact membership commitment of \$115,000.
- ▶ Research requests. MHEC provided research to Ohio leaders on topics including a comparison of tuition, fees, and room/board costs for fall 2024 versus prior years for flagship institutions across MHEC states.
- ▶ **Open Educational Resources.** MHEC supported Ohio with grant funds to develop and implement a train-the-trainer program for OER librarian training programs across Ohio.
- Professional Development and Support. Eight Ohio leaders attended MHEC's FAFSA Summit. Seven technology leaders engaged in MHEC's free professional development and networking.

COMMISSIONERS



Gary Cates
Ohio Department of
Higher Education,
Senior Vice
Chancellor



Jerry Cirino Ohio Legislature, State Senator



Mike Duffey
Ohio Department of
Higher Education,
Chancellor



Tom YoungOhio Legislature,
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Vacancy



The Midwestern Higher Education Compact seeks to improve individual career readiness and regional economic vitality through collective problem-solving and partnerships that strengthen postsecondary education. To achieve this vision, the Compact focuses its work in three strategic priority areas:

INCUBATE

Advance innovation, efficiency & effectiveness

- Serve as an incubator, studying challenging topics where MHEC can play a valuable role and piloting potential solutions.
- Lead in expanding use and utility of open educational resources.
- Respond rapidly to member states' requests for research on pressing topics such as workforce development, loan forgiveness programs, and college affordability.
- Provide state-by-state data through an interactive dashboard on key performance indicators including preparation, participation, affordability, completion, finance, and workforce.

LAUNCH

Develop collaborative solutions to regional problems and opportunities

- Take on projects, issues and opportunities that are too big for one state to do alone, working jointly to improve higher education and to strengthen the Midwest region.
- Convene and connect higher education leaders to navigate timely and critical issues facing higher education, such as FAFSA, distance education delivery, and tuition reciprocity.
- Help Midwestern states navigate accreditation standards to meet the significant increase in demand for dual and concurrent enrollment.

SAVE

Drive cost savings & business solutions

- Leverage the combined technology needs of higher education institutions in member states to reach favorable agreements with technology vendors that result in tremendous time and cost savings.
- Explore opportunities to serve risk management needs.
- Offer affordable solutions that improve student well-being.

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