

Student Right to Know: State Legislative Models



NEVADA

Nevada requires the state's Board of Regents to submit a biennial report to the Legislature on workforce and education outcomes. This [report](#) must include information on the employment rate of students who complete a degree or certification program and obtain employment in the state, as well as average starting salary. This information is designed to align Nevada state postsecondary programs with the economic development goals identified by the state's Commission on Economic Development. [NV SB 449](#)

ARKANSAS

Arkansas requires the Department of Workforce Services (DWS), or a contractor, to create a public report on the employment and earnings outcomes of students earning degrees and certificates at state-supported institutions of higher education. DWS uses data from the Department of Higher Education to provide information on graduates' employment and earnings by program, as well as average student loan debt. [AR SB 211](#)

MINNESOTA

Minnesota requires postsecondary institutions receiving financial aid to annually report student data to the state. The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development uses this information to populate its [Graduate Employment Outcomes tool](#). [MN SF 1236, Article 2](#)

MAINE

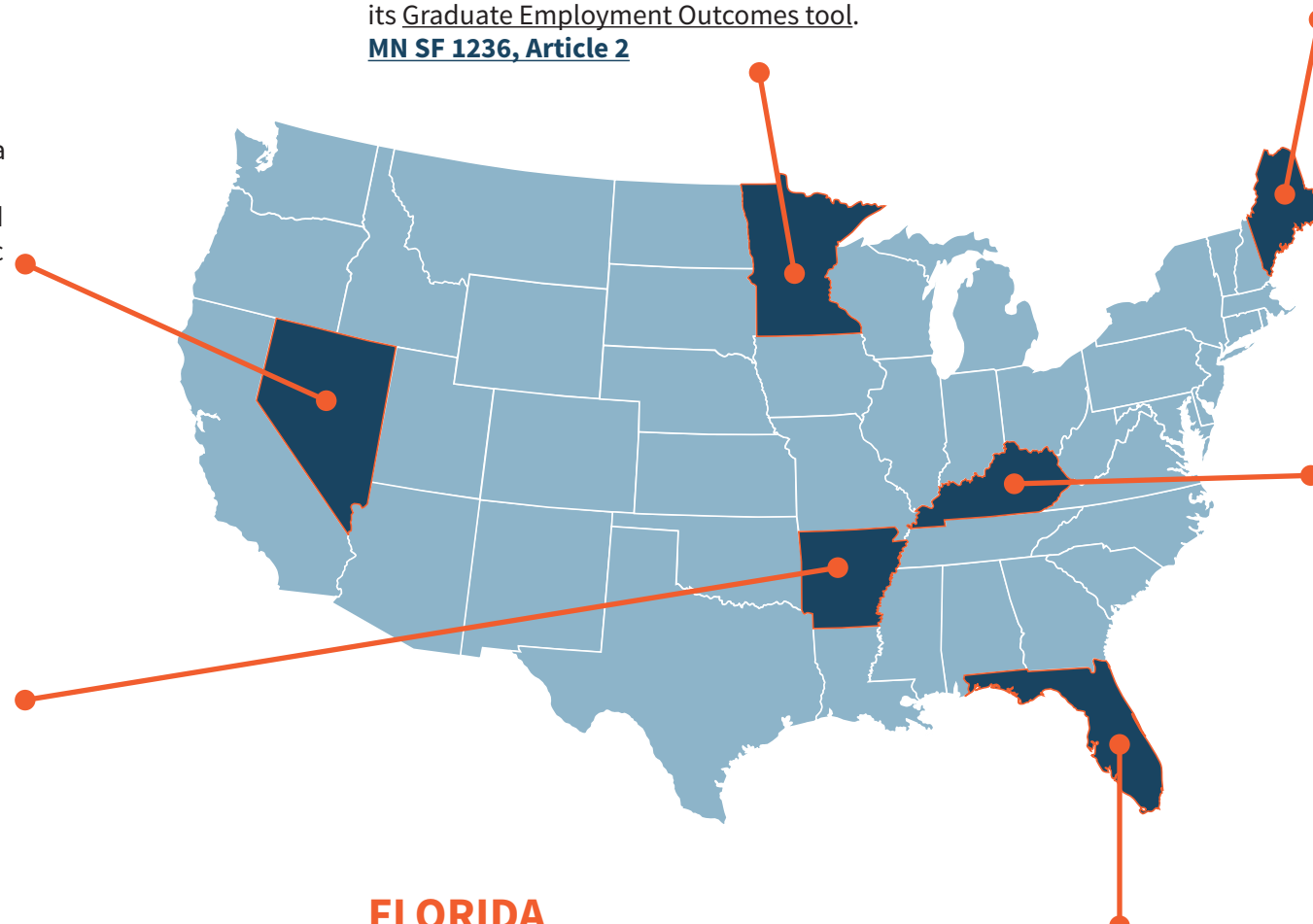
Maine established the State Education and Employment Outcomes Commission to develop procedures to maintain and disseminate information and data on education results, including employment and average earnings for graduates of the state's postsecondary institutions. Following passage of the legislation, Maine developed a [dashboard](#) that links graduate records with wage records. [ME HP 1253](#)

KENTUCKY

Kentucky requires the Office for Education and Workforce Statistics, in cooperation with the Council on Postsecondary Education and the Department of Education, to disseminate employment rates and earnings of public postsecondary graduates, by degree and major. This data is published online, in the [Postsecondary Feedback Report](#), and must also be published in public university catalogues, and made available to high school guidance counselors. [KY HB 87](#)

FLORIDA

Florida's Department of Economic Opportunity publically reports on the employment and earnings outcomes for degrees and certificates earned by students who have received state funds. The [report](#) uses Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program (FETPIP) data relating to the employment, earnings, continued education, and receipt of public assistance by graduates of a degree or certificate program. [FL HB 7135, Section 15](#)



Introduction of the bipartisan Student Right to Know Before You Go Act in both the U.S. House and Senate highlights the need for postsecondary accountability and consumer information. The legislation would amend the Higher Education Act (HEA) to require any postsecondary institutions that are eligible to receive federal financial aid to submit student-level data to the U.S. Department of Education (ED), so that ED may calculate key program metrics, including median earnings at two years, six years, and 15 years after completion. This would enable students and parents to learn key information before selecting schools and programs.

Many states have passed similar measures themselves—requiring colleges and universities to report on employment and earnings of program graduates. While federal accountability and consumer information legislation is needed, we encourage more states to make this information available for all postsecondary programs.