## Earning Credentials and Building Careers

**Announcing a New Center from CLASP** 



## SEPTEMBER 2010

Postsecondary education and credentials are key to economic mobility for individuals and economic competitiveness for our nation. Yet too many low-income adults and disadvantaged youth are locked out of the opportunity to earn marketable credentials and obtain family-supporting jobs. CLASP's new Center for Postsecondary and Economic Success (C-PES) advocates for better policies, more investment, and increased political will to address this national challenge and increase the number of low-income adults and disadvantaged youth who earn postsecondary credentials that are essential to opening doors to good jobs, career advancement, and economic mobility.

## **Sharpening Our Focus to Improve Results**

The work of C-PES refocuses our postsecondary policy efforts on four key strategies. These four policy areas, Reengineer Education and Training Systems, Expand Student Financing and Supports, Increase Services and Capacity, and Strengthen Data and Accountability, will be the basis of all of our efforts and advocacy under C-PES.

C-PES is unique in two ways. First, we focus exclusively on low-income and disadvantaged workers and students. Second, we look for policy solutions across multiple education, training, and support systems because the people we care about and the services and supports they need are not only in

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higher education. These systems include adult education, workforce development, career and technical education, youth development, and human services as well as higher education.

## What We Offer

Here is a sample of the activities and products that C-PES offers:

- Tools to help federal and state advocates and stakeholders so they can affect change where they are;
- Webinars and Events that help provide an understanding of policy challenges and opportunities;
- An interactive tool, **Fast Facts**, that contains up-to-date facts and figures;
- Answers to Frequently Asked Questions on increasing postsecondary and economic success;
- **Publications** on policy issues that impact the educational and economic outcomes of low-income people; and
- A **Federal Funding Toolkit** that helps states create a funding strategy to support career pathways.

For more information, visit www.clasp.org/postsecondary.

C-PES was developed with the support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Joyce Foundation, and the Ford Foundation.