

South Carolina Recognized for *Promising Practices* in Goal Six Fact Sheet

Goal Six – Adult Literacy and Lifelong Learning

This goal charges that every adult will be literate and will possess the knowledge and skills necessary to compete in a global economy and exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. The objectives include strengthening connections between education and work with the assistance of every major U.S. business; providing every worker with the opportunity to acquire the skills and knowledge needed to adapt to emerging technologies; increasing the number of quality programs that serve the needs of part-time and mid-career students; increasing the proportion of qualified students, especially minorities, who enter and college and complete at least two years or earn a degree; increasing the proportion of college graduates who are able to think critically and communicate effectively; and increasing the number of programs which serve the needs of adults at various professional levels.

The indicator used in *Promising Practices* was participation in higher education and in particular what states increased the percentage of high school graduates who immediately enrolled in two or four year colleges in any state.

South Carolina: No state has increased the percentage of high school graduates who immediately enroll in college more than South Carolina. State officials attribute this to the following:

- The state's education reform act emphasized both early childhood education and higher standards in grades K-12.
- The state required high school students to take more rigorous math courses, including geometry and trigonometry, and more years of science. Local research showed that these are good predictors of going to college. In addition, colleges in the state required students to have more math, science and second languages added to their curriculum.
- South Carolina also launched an aggressive campaign targeted to middle school children and their families aimed at making them aware of the importance of going to college and being prepared for the event.

What is Promising Practices?

- A report that details successful practices and policies in place in the states that have made progress toward the eight National Education Goals.
- Highlights the programs and policies that state officials attributed for their success.
- Serves as a tool to help states and schools replicate the highlighted successes. By extension it encourages greater progress in education, focuses attention on results and helps sustain public support for education improvement.
- For a copy of *Promising Practices*, please visit www.negp.gov or call 202-724-0015

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