Bachelor’s Degrees Have the Highest ROI

Over a lifetime, the four-year sector produces the highest returns on investment for its alumni. According to the Georgetown University CEW, these degrees produce lower returns in the short term because they take longer to earn and may require students to take on more debt. However, they also produce higher earnings, so ROI for these institutions will overtake returns from most two-year awards.

On-Time Graduation = Higher Long-Term Gains

Each additional year that it takes a student to complete his or her degree reduces the number of years a graduate can work in a job that requires a postsecondary degree and increases debt load. On-time graduation increases working years with lower debt, which increases the long-term economic benefit of a postsecondary degree. Graduates of Ohio’s independent colleges and universities are more likely to graduate within four years, which reduces student debt loads and increases working years. That translates to increased economic gains over the long term.