Ohio's Independents Educate Pell Students Best

Ohio's independent institutions have superior overall completion rates and also educate Pell students exceptionally well. Ohio's independent colleges graduate Pell-eligible students at nearly the overall graduation rate at Ohio's public 4-year institutions. This demonstrates that both federal Pell dollars and state grant aid programs, like OCOG, at independents have much higher returns on investment for taxpayers than for any other sector in higher education. In fact, studies show that state-need based financial aid has the greatest impact on graduation rates.

Ohio's Independents Have the Lowest Default Rates

In Ohio, students that attended independent institutions have the lowest student loan default rates. Community colleges have significantly higher default rates than all other sectors, primarily due to their lower completion rates. A student is much more likely to default if they do not graduate. First-generation and low-income students have better financial outcomes if they attend an independent institution.