



Lumina™
FOUNDATION



Measuring Individual Education Benefits

Lumina Foundation wants to better understand the value of education and training after high school. While economic success is essential, simply looking at wages does not fully show the individual education benefits students gain from earning credentials. Over the next three to five years, Lumina will work to define, test, and improve a better way to measure this benefit.

The first step is creating a Measurement Advisory Panel, a group of experts who will guide the project and provide feedback. Researchers will review existing data and explore different ways to measure the benefits of education for individuals. They will also conduct studies to test new methods.

Lumina's goal is to develop a complete way to measure the value of college degrees and other credentials that lead to better economic opportunities. This new understanding will be included in A Stronger Nation, Lumina's tool for tracking progress toward its 2040 goal. The findings will help Lumina and its partners, including government agencies, colleges, nonprofits, and businesses, make better decisions about education and workforce development.

Students and workers need to know if earning a credential is truly worth their time and money. To lead the project, Lumina will select a managing partner to coordinate the expert panel, organize meetings, conduct research, and draft reports.

The advisory panel will start with a virtual meeting to introduce the project. Later, they will meet in person to discuss ideas, compare different approaches, and draft survey questions for public input. The goal is to recommend four to six ways to measure individual education benefits. Finally, Lumina will work with additional experts to refine and test these recommendations, ensuring a clear and reliable way to measure the real value of education.