



CITY OF CLEVELAND
Mayor Frank G. Jackson



From: Office of the Mayor

Maureen Harper, Chief of Communications
Office of the Mayor
(216) 664-4011 or (216) 857-3301
mharper@city.cleveland.oh.us

Belinda I. Saldaña, Deputy Press Secretary
(216) 664-2223 or (216) 857-3808

Elizabeth Day
(216) 635-0165 or eday@collegenowgc.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Higher Education Compact Reverse Transfer Program Increases College Attainment in Cleveland

CLEVELAND - The Higher Education Compact of Greater Cleveland (the Compact) endorsed and adopted a Reverse Transfer Program initiative, that has proven to be a both successful and effective, to directly increase degree attainment rates. As of July 2013, 351 former Tri-C students elected to have their transcripts sent from their current institution to Tri-C to be evaluated and of those, 119 students met the course requirements and were awarded an associate's degree.

Mayor Frank Jackson commented on this strong outcome stating, "The Compact is continuously striving to increase degree attainment in Cleveland and the Reverse Transfer Program gets right to that mission. The recent outcomes of the program are impressive and showcase the great strides the Compact has made and will continue to make."

The program is a collaborative strategy that provides formerly enrolled, eligible Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) students the opportunity to earn their associate's degree by taking required course equivalents at a Compact institution. Currently, participating institutions include: University of Akron, Baldwin Wallace College, Cleveland State University, Ursuline College, Bowling Green State University, Case Western Reserve University, John Carroll University, Ohio State University, Ohio University, Oberlin College, Kent State University, Notre Dame College, University of Toledo and Hiram College. These institutions sent official transcripts to Tri-C for course evaluation and degree audit in the Spring of 2013. Students who had taken the appropriate courses to satisfy the remaining course requirements for graduation were awarded an associate's degree.

Currently, through a grant from the Lumina Foundation, the state of Ohio is working on establishing and implementing a statewide reverse transfer program. The Higher Education Compact's partners are involved in the development of this program and hope to support that process as it unfolds.

-30-

About the Higher Education Compact of Greater Cleveland

The Higher Education Compact of Greater Cleveland is a collaborative partnership among the City of Cleveland, the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, 17 colleges and universities, and more than 40 community organizations that seeks to remove the obstacles that prevent Cleveland youth from going to and succeeding in college. Launched in 2011 by Mayor Frank G. Jackson, the Compact's goal is to align the efforts of member organizations to best use limited precious resources and increase the city's number of college graduates.