

Third Way Education, a policy research center, released a report last week entitled "Out With the Old, In With the New: Rating Higher Ed by Economic Mobility". The report ranks colleges and universities in the United States based on an Economic Mobility Index (EMI). The EMI is calculated on two factors: 1). the proportion of low-income students enrolled, and 2). what schools offer a strong financial return compared to the net price paid by low-income students to obtain their college degree.

The Third Way report notes that the schools with the highest economic mobility index for low-income students in Pennsylvania are not state-supported schools but rather independent, nonprofit colleges and universities. Of the top 25 colleges and universities in Pennsylvania with the highest Economic Mobility Index scores, 20 are AICUP member schools while only 3 are SSHE universities and 2 are a state-related university. The 20 AICUP schools offering the highest economic mobility enrolled over 17,000 low-income students, almost twice as many as the 3 SSHE schools in the list.

The chart on the next page shows the top 25 colleges and universities in Pennsylvania ranked by their Third Way Economic Mobility Index score. A copy of the full Third Way report is available at <https://www.thirdway.org/report/out-with-the-old-in-with-the-new-rating-higher-ed-by-economic-mobility>.

Third Way Economic Mobility Index Score Ranking  
Colleges and Universities in Pennsylvania (Top 25)

In-State Rank	Institution	Economic Mobility Index
1	Peirce College	44.9%
2	Holy Family University	30.5%
3	Thomas Jefferson University	29.9%
4	East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania	26.0%
5	Allegheny College	25.0%
6	Temple University	24.6%
7	University of the Sciences	24.4%
8	Lycoming College	24.1%
9	Washington & Jefferson College	22.5%
10	Cedar Crest College	21.8%
11	Drexel University	21.7%
12	La Salle University	20.1%
13	Saint Vincent College	19.7%
14	Juniata College	17.7%
15	Albright College	16.3%
16	Waynesburg University	16.3%
17	Susquehanna University	16.1%
18	West Chester University of Pennsylvania	16.0%
19	Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania	15.9%
20	Gwynedd Mercy University	15.8%
21	York College of Pennsylvania	15.7%
22	Moravian College	15.5%
23	Lehigh University	15.1%
24	King's College	15.1%
25	Pennsylvania State University-Main Campus	15.0%