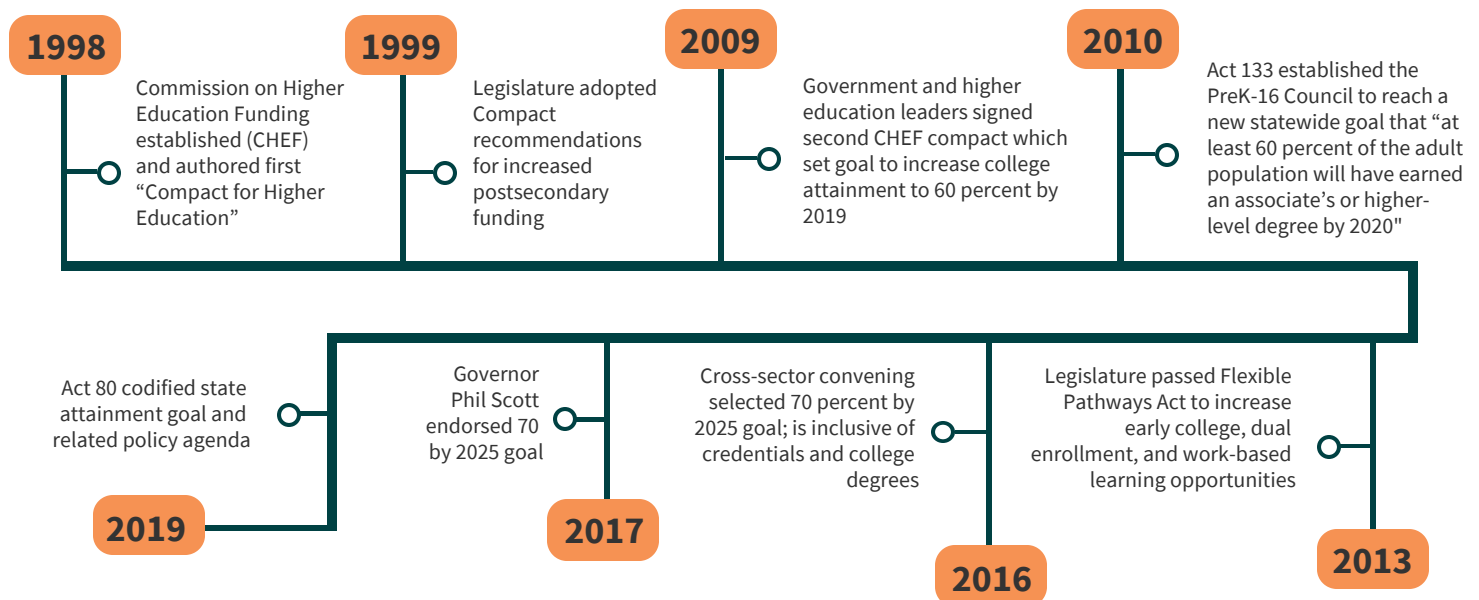


## Educational Attainment: A Consistent Priority with Insufficient Progress

Leaders in business, education, government, non-profits, and philanthropy have long identified the importance of education after high school to Vermont’s economic and civic vitality. There have been numerous efforts over the last two decades to increase the level of education and training of Vermonters. Despite these steps, Vermont currently has a 51.2 percent attainment rate. This represents an increase of 7.6 percent since 2008, an average of .75 percent each year. At that pace, Vermont will not reach its goal of 70 percent attainment of credentials of value until the year 2045. **Given the economic and demographic challenges facing our state, urgent, systems-level action is required.**

### A 20-Year History



### Renewed Focus: Act 80 of 2019

Recognizing the need for action, Act 80 of 2019 codified a new, more inclusive state attainment goal.

**“It shall be the goal of the State of Vermont that not less than 70 percent of working-age Vermonters will hold a credential of value, as defined by the State Workforce Development Board, by the year 2025.”**

Act 80 further established that it is the policy of the State of Vermont to:

- ▶ **Promote awareness** of career pathways and the value of postsecondary education and training
- ▶ **Expand access** to postsecondary education and training to students of all ages
- ▶ **Increase completion** of postsecondary education and training programs by ensuring that Vermonters have the supports they need to succeed
- ▶ **Maximize partnerships** across and within sectors to achieve State workforce development and education goals

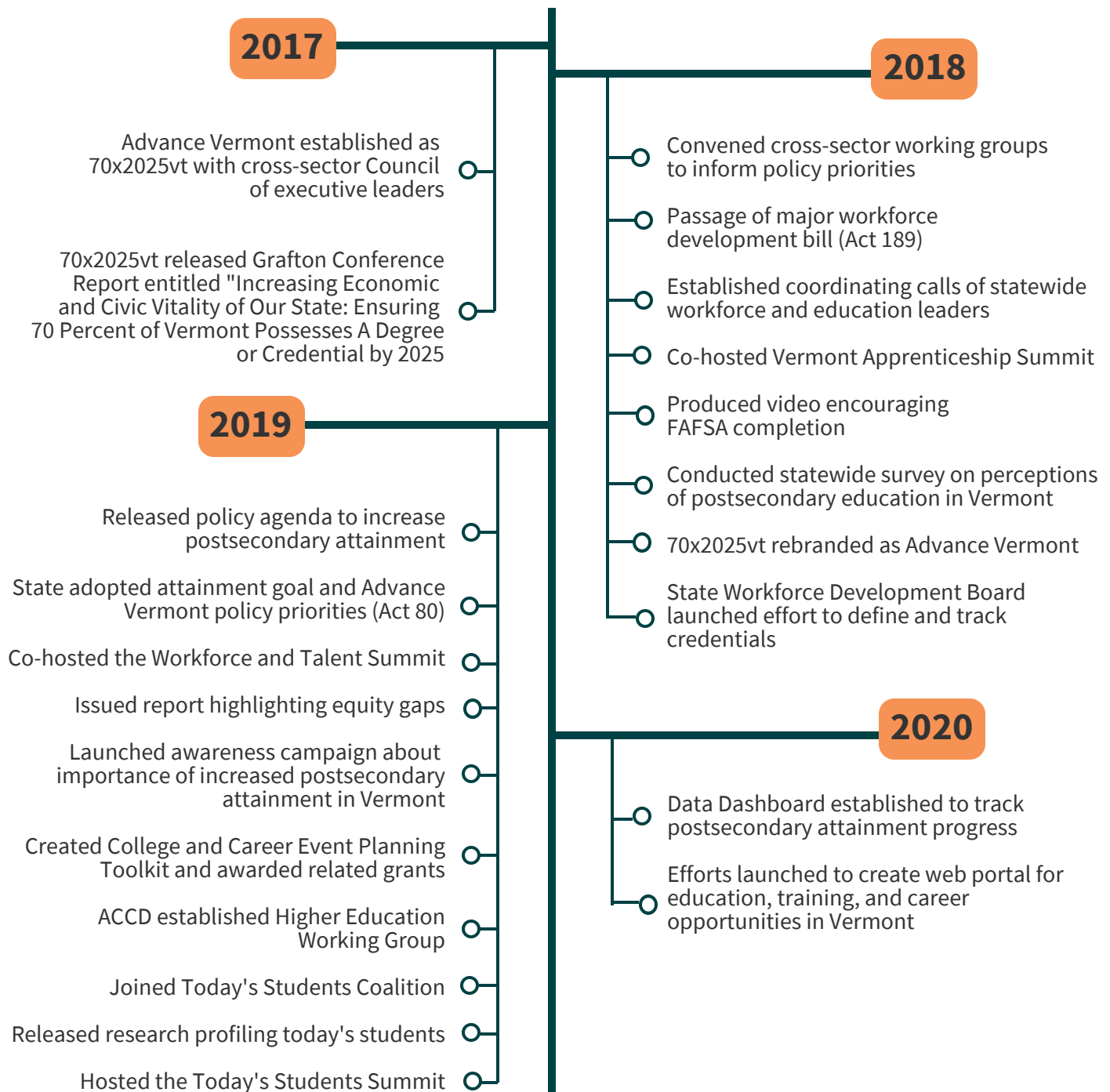


Our priority is to propel the state to meet its goal that **70%** of working-age Vermonters have a postsecondary credential of value by **2025**.



## Momentum to Increase Attainment

Since 2017, Advance Vermont has been driving action among business, education, government, nonprofits, and philanthropy to increase educational attainment in Vermont.



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