Índependent Women's Forum®

– TOP TAKEAWAYS – A Market in Higher Education



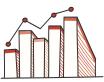
THE TRADITIONAL SYSTEM IS COSTLY AND INEFFICIENT

- The cost of college tuition has more than doubled during the past 30 years.
- Many undergraduates are not learning and gaining the skills they need to succeed.
- High-paying jobs go unfilled because of a lack of qualified candidates.



A TRUE MARKET IN EDUCATION CAN...

- Encourage providers to offer better value (higher quality and lower tuition).
- Help develop programs for filling existing, good-paying jobs.
- Serve non-traditional students by offering flexible schedules and services.



SIGNS THAT MARKET COMPETITION IS ALREADY WORKING:

- Colleges with a track record of adequately preparing students are attracting more business.
- Many students now enjoy access to:
 - Lower-cost education options like access to online courses.
 - Distinct, skills-based instruction designed for very specific jobs.



THE PROFIT MOTIVE CAN ENCOURAGE INNOVATION IN EDUCATION

- Businesses entering the higher education sector are responding to consumers' demands for different kinds of educational opportunities.
- They will only succeed if they are able to attract students and demonstrate that they add value.

Encouraging continued innovation in higher education will help better equip Americans with the education and training they need to succeed in today's economy.