on·ward  
[ˈɒnwərd, ˈænwərd]  
adverb  
1. in a continuing forward direction; ahead: 
2. toward a point ahead or in front; forward.
Onward in our Mission

We advocate for every student, regardless of race, ethnicity, or family wealth, to have access to a quality higher education program without the need to incur debt to realize their dreams of earning a college credential.
To reimagine a national higher education system where students can successfully complete a college credential with confidence that their education will afford them a pathway toward economic mobility and financial sustainability.
Onward with our Focus

TICAS’ strategic themes provide a student-centered framework of what higher education reform should aspire to in order to recreate a system that equitably serves communities that need the most support. These themes will serve as our compass as we carry out our initiatives and advocacy over the coming years.

1. Students with financial need do not need to rely on debt to pursue and complete a college degree.

2. Students can easily access the supports they need to help them graduate and advance their careers; states and systems have the data and resources to monitor and close opportunity gaps.

3. Students can pursue a quality college degree close to home, supported by policies to weed out predatory programs.

4. Higher education policy and systems increase economic mobility and support racial inclusion in the workforce.

5. Student debt does not create persistent economic hardship when debt does not pay off.
Onward toward College Access & Equity

TICAS’ student-centered initiatives and program areas each aim to provide research-based solutions to some of the most important policy challenges facing higher education today.

Path to Debt-Free College
Creating partnerships among federal and state governments to ensure front-end affordability to postsecondary programs that eliminates the need for students to rely on debt to pay for college.

Higher Education Quality & Accountability
Holding postsecondary programs accountable by advocating for federal regulations while working to stop predatory practices that lure in students to low-quality programs.

Anti-Poverty & Student Basic Needs
Providing solutions to ensure non-tuition related costs – such as food, housing, transportation, and child care – are adequately funded and supported to ensure students have the clearest path toward graduation.

College Completion & Success
Implementing and scaling proven solutions that provide students, particularly from low-income and minoritized communities, with the support and guidance they need to navigate through the higher education system and graduate with a postsecondary credential.

Racial Equity & Mobility
Fighting to eliminate the systemic racial barriers to higher education that continue to exist today with a keen focus on ensuring race being included in key attainment and economic indicators.

State Policy & Advocacy
Expanding on TICAS’ strong existing footprints in California and Michigan by cultivating new advocacy partners and state leaders across the country to advance our mission into state-level policy.
Onward with our People

TICAS’ most important asset is our talented and passionate staff. Representing diverse racial, geographic, and economic backgrounds, our people use their unique educational experiences and perspectives to advocate on behalf of students across the country.

Our Values

- Integrity
- Inclusion
- Respect
- Collaboration
- Transformation
TICAS thanks you for your partnership in creating a more accessible and equitable higher education system for the next generation of students. Together, our advocacy will advance necessary higher education reforms that will impact the communities that need the most support in attaining a postsecondary credential and economic prosperity.

Onward together