Completion progress

Community colleges contributed one million new postsecondary credentials in the 2013-14 academic year.

New postsecondary credentials at community colleges: 2010-11 to 2013-14

Although community college enrollment decreased by 8 percent between fall 2010 and fall 2013, the total number of first-time awards increased by 2.5 percent. Community colleges contributed one million new postsecondary credentials between fall 2013 and 2014, either through students who earned associate degrees or certificates directly at the colleges, or through students who had significant preparation at community colleges prior to transferring to four-year institutions. Out of the one million new credentials, the largest sector comprised first-time associate degrees, which accounted for more than half of new credentials. Twenty eight percent of new credentials comprised four-year credentials to students who initially prepared at a community college and 20 percent were community college certificates, according to a new study by the American Association of Community Colleges.

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