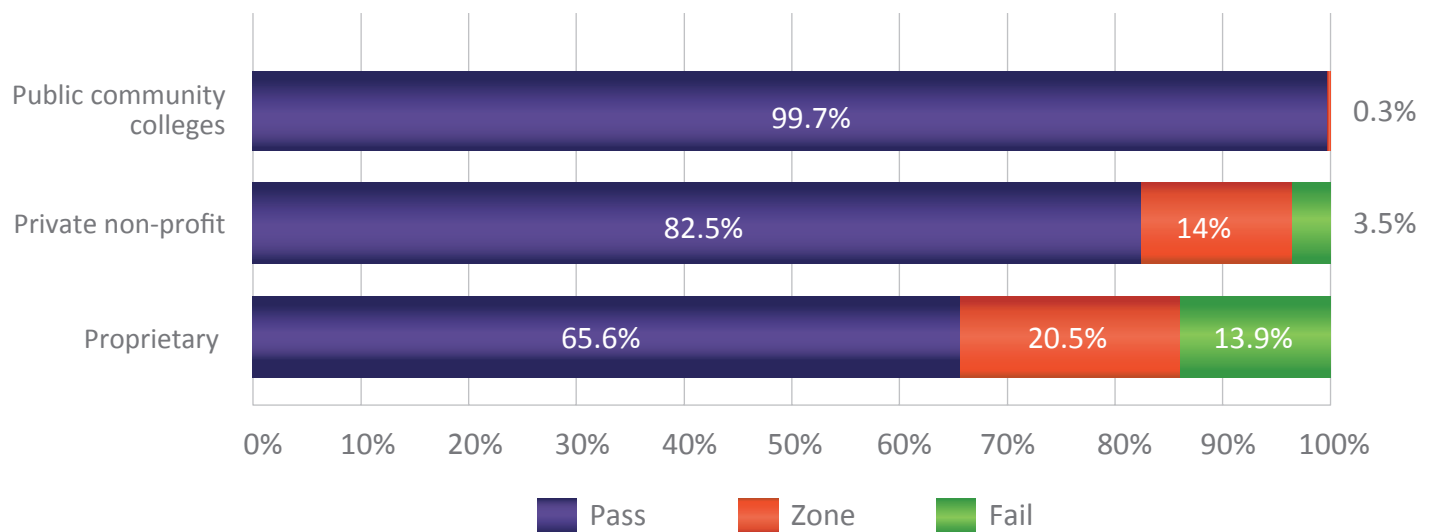


Gainfully employed

Community colleges' non-degree programs overwhelmingly pass the new federal gainful employment test.

Percent of GE programs that pass, are 'in the zone' or fail



Source: U.S. Department of Education, Federal Student Aid Data Center, [Gainful Employment Regulations Debt-to-Earnings Data](#).



Community colleges are the only sector of higher education not to have any programs fail the federal gainful employment (GE) test. A total of 8,637 programs were subject to the GE debt-to-earnings rates test. GE programs must pass the test in order to remain eligible to participate in federal student aid programs. Under new regulations, non-degree programs in public and private non-profit institutions and all programs in for-profit institutions must lead to “gainful employment,” defined as graduates being able to earn enough to repay their student loans. Only six of the 1,898 programs at public two-year institutions were at risk or in “the zone,” meaning the passing rate was 99.7 percent, far surpassing other sectors.

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