

Student Financial Aid, Academic Year 2011-12

First Look (Provisional Data)



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Introduction

The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) collects institution-level data from postsecondary institutions in the United States (50 states and the District of Columbia) and other U.S. jurisdictions (see appendix A for a list of other U.S. jurisdictions). This *First Look* presents findings from the provisional data of the IPEDS winter 2012-13 data collection, which, in contrast to previous years, collected only the Student Financial Aid (SFA) component. The Human Resources component traditionally collected during the winter collection period has moved to the spring collection period and will be reported separately. The SFA component collects the number of undergraduate students receiving aid as well as the amount of aid received by those students. Data were collected through the IPEDS web-based data collection system. Detailed information about the study methodology can be found at <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2013293>.

This *First Look* using IPEDS provisional SFA data provides users with an opportunity to access fully reviewed, edited, and imputed IPEDS data. Final data, including revisions to the provisional data submitted by institutions after the close of data collection, will be available during the next collection year (2013-14).

The purpose of this report is to introduce new data through the presentation of tables containing descriptive information. Selected findings have been chosen to demonstrate the range of information available when using the IPEDS data rather than to discuss all of the observed differences, and they are not meant to emphasize any particular issue. Not all data collected during the winter 2012-13 collection are displayed in this *First Look*; however, all data from the winter 2012-13 collection are publicly available through the IPEDS Data Center, found at <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/datacenter>.

IPEDS 2012-13

Participation in IPEDS was required for institutions and administrative offices that participated in Title IV federal student financial aid programs such as Pell Grants or Stafford Loans during the 2012-13 academic year.¹ A total of 7,064 institutions in the United States and other U.S. jurisdictions were expected to participate in the winter collection. The table in this report focuses on the 6,906 institutions in the United States; however, data from institutions in both the United States and other U.S. jurisdictions are available for download.

Detailed definitions of terms used in this report are available in the glossary (appendix B).

Student Financial Aid

The SFA component collected data on the number of undergraduate students receiving aid and the amount of aid received, with particular emphasis on full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate financial aid recipients for the 2011-12 academic year. In addition to the

¹ Institutions participating in Title IV programs are accredited by an agency or organization recognized by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, have a program of more than 300 clock hours or 8 credit hours, have been in business for at least 2 years, and have a signed Program Participation Agreement with the Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education.

number of full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate aid recipients and the amount of aid, the necessary student counts and aid amounts are collected to calculate the net price of attendance for two subsets of full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students: recipients of any grant aid, and recipients of any Title IV aid.

Selected Findings

Among full-time, first time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students receiving any grant aid, differences in average cost of attendance and net price of attendance² for the 2011-12 academic year varied by institutional sector (table 1). For those attending public 4-year institutions, average cost was approximately \$18,300 and net price was about \$11,700; for those attending nonprofit 4-year institutions, average cost was roughly \$35,200 and net price was about \$20,600; and for those attending for-profit 4-year institutions, average cost was approximately \$27,000 and net price was about \$21,900.

² Net price of attendance is calculated as the cost of attendance minus the average grant aid received by the students whose net price is being described. The calculation of net price of attendance does not include loan aid.

Table 1. Average academic year cost of attendance, average grant/scholarship aid, and net price of attendance for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students at Title IV institutions, by control of institution, level of institution, and other selected characteristics: United States, academic year 2011-12

Level of institution, type of aid received, and family income level ¹	Public ²			Private nonprofit			Private for-profit		
	Average cost	Average grant/scholarship aid	Net price	Average cost	Average grant/scholarship aid	Net price	Average cost	Average grant/scholarship aid	Net price
4-year									
Students receiving any grant aid	\$18,258	\$6,524	\$11,734	\$35,201	\$14,566	\$20,636	\$26,986	\$5,098	\$21,888
Students receiving Title IV aid									
All family income levels	18,304	5,770	12,534	35,190	14,682	20,508	26,880	4,517	22,363
\$0-30,000	18,304	8,991	9,313	35,190	18,737	16,453	26,880	5,253	21,627
\$30,001-48,000	18,304	7,612	10,692	35,190	18,363	16,827	26,880	4,654	22,226
\$48,001-75,000	18,304	4,525	13,779	35,190	15,889	19,300	26,880	2,746	24,134
\$75,001-110,000	18,304	2,277	16,027	35,190	13,838	21,352	26,880	1,167	25,713
\$110,001 and more	18,304	1,690	16,614	35,190	11,156	24,034	26,880	1,216	25,663
2-year									
Students receiving any grant aid	11,743	4,537	7,206	24,097	5,728	18,369	24,429	5,138	19,291
Students receiving Title IV aid									
All family income levels	11,782	4,593	7,189	23,995	5,166	18,828	24,392	4,558	19,834
\$0-30,000	11,782	5,335	6,447	23,995	6,522	17,472	24,392	5,230	19,162
\$30,001-48,000	11,782	4,436	7,346	23,995	5,257	18,738	24,392	4,320	20,072
\$48,001-75,000	11,782	2,686	9,096	23,995	3,925	20,070	24,392	2,462	21,930
\$75,001-110,000	11,782	1,191	10,591	23,995	2,387	21,608	24,392	628	23,764
\$110,001 and more	11,782	795	10,987	23,995	2,558	21,436	24,392	641	23,751
Less-than-2-year									
Students receiving any grant aid	13,115	4,473	8,642	19,673	5,831	13,842	23,041	4,693	18,348
Students receiving Title IV aid									
All family income levels	13,270	4,237	9,034	20,576	4,732	15,844	22,928	4,406	18,522
\$0-30,000	13,270	4,456	8,814	20,576	6,151	14,426	22,928	4,812	18,115
\$30,001-48,000	13,270	4,367	8,903	20,576	5,431	15,145	22,928	3,251	19,677
\$48,001-75,000	13,270	3,351	9,920	20,576	2,800	17,777	22,928	2,215	20,713
\$75,001-110,000	13,270	1,023	12,248	20,576	3,600	16,977	22,928	837	22,091
\$110,001 and more	13,270	628	12,642	20,576	4,663	15,913	22,928	210	22,717

¹Students are classified into a family income category by the institution they attend based on the income used by the institution's financial aid office to calculate the student's expected family contribution.

²Average cost, average grant/scholarship aid, and net price for public institutions are displayed for students paying in-district tuition.

NOTE: Title IV institutions are those with a written agreement with the Secretary of Education that allows the institution to participate in any of the Title IV federal student financial assistance programs. Though they are not Title IV eligible, four of the U.S. service academies are included in the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) universe since they are federally funded and open to the public. However, the U.S. service academies are not included in this table. The net price of attendance is the price actually charged to full-time, first-time undergraduate students receiving financial aid at an institution after deducting federal, state/local government, and institutional grant and scholarship aid. The calculation of net price of attendance does not include loan aid. Because not all institutions have students at each income level, for the purposes of this table the net price is calculated as the average cost minus the average grant/scholarship aid. Average cost is calculated using the tuition and required fees, books and supplies, room and board, and other expenses data from the Institutional Characteristics component. A weighted average of on-campus; off-campus, not with family; and off-campus, with family room and board and other expenses values was used to calculate a single average cost instead of individual costs by living arrangement. The factors used to generate this weighted average were reported in the Student Financial Aid component separately for the group of students receiving any grant aid and the group of students receiving Title IV aid. Hence, the resulting average cost values may differ between the groups. Definitions for terms used in this table may be found in the IPEDS online glossary located at <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/glossary>. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS, Fall 2012, Institutional Characteristics component (provisional data) and Winter 2012-13, Student Financial Aid component (provisional data).

Appendix A: Data Collection Procedures

The winter 2012-13 collection was entirely web-based; data were collected between December 5, 2012, and February 6, 2013. Data were provided by “keyholders,” institutional representatives appointed by campus chief executives, who were responsible for ensuring that survey data submitted by the institution were correct and complete. No problems were noted during the winter 2012-13 data collection. During the collection period, the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) help desk was available to assist respondents with reporting the necessary data.

The IPEDS universe is established during the fall collection period. There were 7,496 Title IV institutions and administrative offices¹ located in the United States and the other jurisdictions of the United States, such as Puerto Rico,² in the 2012-13 academic year. Although they are not Title IV eligible, four of the U.S. service academies are included in the IPEDS universe as if they were Title IV institutions because they are federally funded and open to the public.³ Not all institutions are required to respond to each component of IPEDS; during the winter 2012-13 collection, 7,064 institutions were expected to provide data.

Because Title IV institutions are the primary focus of IPEDS and they are required to respond, response rates for Title IV institutions in the winter 2012-13 IPEDS collection were high. The response rate for the Student Financial Aid component was about 99.9 percent (7,058 Title IV institutions responded).⁴

The National Center for Education Statistics statistical standards require that the potential for nonresponse bias for all institutions (including those in other U.S. jurisdictions) be analyzed for sectors for which the response rate is less than 85 percent. Because response rates were greater than 85 percent at both the unit and item level for the survey component, no such analysis was necessary. Due to response rates greater than 99.9 percent at the unit level for the Student Financial Aid component, no such analysis was necessary. However, six institutions that were expected to respond to the Student Financial Aid component had all data imputed due to unit nonresponse.

¹ Title IV institutions and administrative offices include 7,253 institutions and 80 administrative (central or system) offices. The central and system offices are required to complete the Institutional Characteristics component in the fall and the Finance and Human Resources components in the spring.

² The other U.S. jurisdictions surveyed in IPEDS are American Samoa, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, the Marshall Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

³ The four U.S. service academies that are not Title IV eligible are the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, and the U.S. Air Force Academy. The U.S. Merchant Marine Academy is Title IV eligible. Data for all five institutions are included in the tables and counts of institutions unless otherwise indicated.

⁴ The Student Financial Aid component was required of the subset of institutions that enrolled undergraduates during the previous academic year. As a result, 7,064 Title IV institutions were expected to respond.

Appendix B:

Glossary of IPEDS Terms

academic year: The period of time generally extending from September to June; usually equated to 2 semesters or trimesters, 3 quarters, or the period covered by a 4-1-4 calendar system.

control (of institution): A classification of whether an institution is operated by publicly elected or appointed officials (public control) or by privately elected or appointed officials and derives its major source of funds from private sources (nonprofit or for-profit control).

degree/certificate-seeking students: Students enrolled in courses for credit who are recognized by the institution as seeking a degree or other formal award. At the undergraduate level, this is intended to include students enrolled in vocational or occupational programs.

federal grants: Grants provided by federal agencies such as the U.S. Department of Education, including Title IV Pell Grants and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG). Also includes need-based and merit-based educational assistance funds and training vouchers provided from other federal agencies and federally sponsored educational benefits programs, including the Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Labor, and other federal agencies. (Used for reporting on the Student Financial Aid component.)

financial aid: Grants, loans, assistantships, scholarships, fellowships, tuition waivers, tuition discounts, veteran's benefits, employer aid (tuition reimbursement), and other monies (other than from relatives/friends) provided to students to meet expenses. This includes Title IV subsidized and unsubsidized loans made directly to students.

first-time student (undergraduate): A student attending any institution for the first time at the undergraduate level. Includes students enrolled in academic or occupational programs. Also includes students enrolled in the fall term who attended college for the first time in the prior summer term, as well as students who entered with advanced standing (college credits earned before graduation from high school).

full-time student: *Undergraduate*—A student enrolled for 12 or more semester credits, or 12 or more quarter credits, or 24 or more contact hours a week each term. *Graduate*—A student enrolled for 9 or more semester credits, or 9 or more quarter credits, or a student involved in thesis or dissertation preparation that is considered full time by the institution.

in-district student: A student who is a legal resident of the locality in which he/she attends school and thus is entitled to reduced tuition charges if offered by the institution.

in-district tuition: The tuition charged by the institution to those students residing in the locality in which they attend school. This may be a lower rate than in-state tuition if offered by the institution.

institutional grants: Scholarships and fellowships granted and funded by the institution and/or individual departments within the institution (i.e., instruction, research, public service) that may contribute indirectly to the enhancement of these programs. Includes scholarships targeted to certain individuals (e.g., based on state or jurisdiction of residence, major field of study, athletic team participation) for which the institution designates the recipient.

less-than-2-year institution: This group includes any postsecondary institution that offers programs of less than 2 years' duration below the baccalaureate level, as well as occupational and vocational schools with programs that do not exceed 1,800 contact hours.

level of institution: A classification of whether an institution's programs are of at least 4 years' duration or beyond a baccalaureate level (4-year institution), at least 2 but less than 4 years (2-year institution), or less than 2 years (less-than-2-year institution).

loans to students: Any monies that must be repaid to the lending institution for which the student is the designated borrower. Includes all Title IV subsidized and unsubsidized loans and all institutionally and privately sponsored loans. Does not include PLUS and other loans made directly to parents.

net price: The Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 defines institutional net price as "the average yearly price actually charged to full-time, first-time undergraduate students receiving student aid at an institution of higher education after deducting such aid." In IPEDS, the institutional net price of attendance is generated by subtracting the average amount of federal, state/local government, or institutional grant and scholarship aid from the average total cost of attendance. Total cost of attendance is the sum of published tuition and required fees (lower of in-district or in-state for public institutions), books and supplies, and the weighted average for room and board and other expenses. Cost of attendance data are collected in the Institutional Characteristics (IC) component of IPEDS, and financial aid data are collected in the Student Financial Aid (SFA) component of IPEDS.

Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE): OPE formulates federal postsecondary education policy and administers programs that address critical national needs in support of its mission to increase access to quality postsecondary education.

postsecondary institution: An institution that has as its sole purpose, or one of its primary missions, the provision of postsecondary education. Postsecondary education is the provision of a formal instructional program whose curriculum is designed primarily for students beyond the compulsory age for high school. This includes programs whose purpose is academic, vocational, or continuing professional education and excludes avocational and adult basic education programs. For IPEDS, these institutions must be open to the public.

private for-profit institution: A private institution in which the individual(s) or agency in control receives compensation other than wages, rent, or other expenses for the assumption of risk.

private institution: An educational institution controlled by a private individual(s) or by a nongovernmental agency, usually supported primarily by other than public funds, and operated by other than publicly elected or appointed officials. These institutions may be either for-profit or nonprofit.

private nonprofit institution: A private institution in which the individual(s) or agency in control receives no compensation, other than wages, rent, or other expenses for the assumption of risk. These include both independent nonprofit schools and those affiliated with a religious organization.

Program Participation Agreement (PPA): A written agreement between a postsecondary institution and the Secretary of Education. This agreement allows institutions to participate in any of the Title IV student assistance programs other than the State Student Incentive Grant (SSIG) and the National Early Intervention Scholarship and Partnership (NEISP) programs. The PPA conditions the initial and continued participation of an eligible institution in any Title IV program upon compliance with the General Provisions regulations, the individual program regulations, and any additional conditions specified in the program participation agreement that the Department of Education requires the institution to meet. Institutions with such an agreement are referred to as Title IV institutions.

public institution: An educational institution whose programs and activities are operated by publicly elected or appointed school officials and which is supported largely by public funds.

sector: One of nine institutional categories resulting from dividing the universe according to control and level. Control categories are public, nonprofit, and for-profit. Level categories are 4 years and higher (4-year institutions), at least 2 but less than 4 years (2-year institutions), and less than 2 years (less-than-2-year institutions). For example: sector 1 = public 4-year institutions; sector 2 = nonprofit 4-year institutions.

state and local government grants: State and local monies awarded to the institution under state and local student aid programs, including the state portion of State Student Incentives Grants (SSIG) (used for reporting Student Financial Aid data).

Title IV institution: An institution that has a written agreement with the Secretary of Education that allows the institution to participate in any of the Title IV federal student financial assistance programs (other than the State Student Incentive Grant [SSIG] and the National Early Intervention Scholarship and Partnership [NEISP] programs).

undergraduate student: A student enrolled in a 4- or 5-year bachelor's degree program, an associate's degree program, or a vocational or technical program below the baccalaureate level.

2-year institution: A postsecondary institution that offers programs of at least 2 but less than 4 years' duration. Includes occupational and vocational schools with programs of at least 1,800 hours and academic institutions with programs of less than 4 years. Does not include bachelor's degree-granting institutions where the baccalaureate program can be completed in 3 years.

4-year institution: A postsecondary institution that offers programs of at least 4 years' duration or one that offers programs at or above the baccalaureate level. Includes institutions that do not offer undergraduate programs but do offer programs at the postbaccalaureate certificate level or above. Also includes freestanding medical, law, or other professional schools.