

# The Florida College System – Transparency, Accountability, Progress, and Performance

## HOW MANY STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM FLORIDA COLLEGES?

In 2011-12, a record 105,762 degrees and certificates were earned by students in The Florida College System (FCS). Table 1 below contains statewide completion data for the last five years. The total number of degrees and certificates awarded **increased 13.4% percent** from the previous year. Florida’s comprehensive articulation agreement makes the AA degree a cost effective pathway to a bachelor’s degree ([2+2 Pathways to Success](#)).

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
AA Degrees	37,219	40,384	48,763	52,317	62,614
% Change	10.0%	8.5%	20.7%	7.3%	19.7%
AS\AAS Degrees	12,135	12,055	12,936	13,880	14,953
% Change	6.4%	-0.7%	7.3%	7.3%	7.7%
Certificates	21,384	21,223	22,113	22,993	23,135
% Change	3.5%	-0.5%	4.2%	4.0%	0.6%
Bachelor’s Degrees	697	1,042	1,602	2,729	3,979
% Change	22.3%	49.5%	53.7%	70.3%	45.8%
EPI*	1,325	1,741	1,556	1,366	1,081
% Change	85.1%	31.4%	-10.6%	-12.2%	-20.9%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>72,760</b>	<b>76,445</b>	<b>86,970</b>	<b>93,285</b>	<b>105,762</b>
% Change	8.4%	5.1%	13.8%	7.2%	13.4%

Source: CCTCMIS

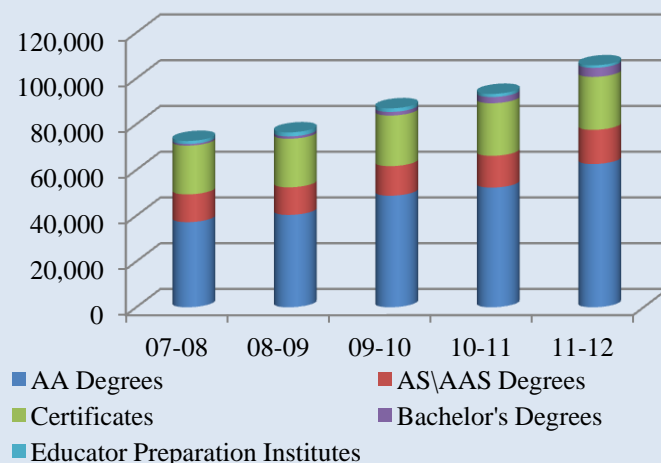
**Completions are up across every major category.** Figure 1 shows that AA degree recipients regularly account for more than half of all Florida College graduates (6 out of 10 in 2011-12). Associate in Science & (AS\AAS degree) recipients contribute 14 percent of all awards. When the numbers of AA and AS degrees are considered together, they account for almost three-quarters of the FCS graduates. **FCS institutions are regularly listed among [Community College Week's Top 100 Associate Degree Producers in the United States](#).** The number of students earning certificates (Career and Technical, College Credit, Professional Preparation) increased slightly since last year (0.6 percent or 142). Additionally, the Florida College System graduated 3,979 individuals with bachelor’s degrees in

FY2012. The number of **FCS bachelor’s degrees** produced shows solid growth (+1,250 graduates) and accounts for the 2nd smallest but the **fastest growing** segment of all awards conferred across the system. Educator Preparation Institutes (EPI) programs had the fewest completers and they decreased -285 from the prior year. These students are mid-career professionals who already have a bachelor’s degree and are seeking teaching certification via an alternate approach.

According to recent figures supplied by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB, 2009-10), Florida ranks first among member states in the number of associate degrees and certificates awarded. See [The Florida College System Leads SREB States on Student Indicators](#) for additional details.

In 2011-12, the total number of degrees and certificates awarded show that an increasing number of students are earning credentials through a Florida College System institution. These numbers are one important way of documenting how Florida Colleges are providing Floridians with the skills to succeed in the workplace and in further education. Note that the elimination of College-Level Academic Skills (CLAS) as an Associate in Arts (AA) and Bachelor's degree graduation requirement (7/1/2011) accounted for 4,427 completions in 2011-12.

Figure 1. Overall Annual Completions. 2007-08 to 2011-12



The Florida College System [Research & Analytics](#) and [Finance & Information Systems](#) offices produce a variety of reports and analysis including the [FCS Fact Book](#). Educational opportunities are available very close to home. To locate the colleges nearest to you and enroll, please visit the [Florida College Directory](#).

For assistance, contact Florida College System Research & Analytics  
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