

Postsecondary Institutions and Price of Attendance in 2011-12, Degrees and Other Awards Conferred: 2010-11, and 12-Month Enrollment: 2010-11

First Look (Provisional Data)



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Laura G. Knapp
Janice E. Kelly-Reid
Scott A. Ginder
RTI International

U.S. Department of Education

Arne Duncan

*Secretary***Institute of Education Sciences**

John Q. Easton

*Director***National Center for Education Statistics**

Jack Buckley

Commissioner

Postsecondary, Adult, and Career Education Division

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Content Contact

Aurora D'Amico

(202) 502-7334

aurora.damico@ed.gov

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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 fall 2011 data collection, which included three survey components: Institutional Characteristics for the 2011-12 academic year; Completions, covering the period July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011; and 12-Month Enrollment, covering the period July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011. Data for all three components 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=2012293>.

This *First Look* provides users with an opportunity to access fully reviewed, edited, and imputed IPEDS data. These provisional data are an update to the previously released preliminary data, which were not extensively reviewed or edited. 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 (2012-13).

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 fall 2011 collection are displayed in this *First Look*; however, all data from the fall 2011 collection are publicly available through the IPEDS Data Center, found at <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/datacenter>.

IPEDS 2011-12

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 2011-12 academic year.¹ A total of 7,398 institutions and 81 administrative offices (central or system offices) in the United States and other U.S. jurisdictions were expected to participate in the fall collection. Table 1 includes the 164 Title IV institutions in the other U.S. jurisdictions. Tables 2, 3, and 4 focus on selected data items collected in fall 2011 from 7,234 Title IV institutions in the United States.

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

Institutional Characteristics, Price of Attendance, and Tuition and Fees

The Institutional Characteristics (IC) component of IPEDS collects and maintains information used to classify postsecondary institutions based on a variety of characteristics. Data on level (4-year, 2-year, less-than-2-year), control (public, private nonprofit, private for-profit), and sector (level crossed with control) allow classification within general categories. Additional data

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.

collected include types of programs offered, levels of degrees and awards, calendar system, admission requirements, and student charges.

In addition, the IC component collects data on tuition and fees (by level of program, i.e., undergraduate and graduate) and room and board charges. Price of attendance is also collected for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students. Price of attendance is the total amount institutions estimate that undergraduate-level full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking students will pay to attend before financial aid is considered. This price includes tuition and fees, books and supplies, room and board, and certain other designated expenses such as transportation. These estimates are the average amounts used by financial aid offices to determine a student's financial aid.

Completions

The Completions component collects data on the number of degrees and certificates officially conferred² in postsecondary education programs by level of degree (associate's, bachelor's, master's, and doctor's) and by length of program for subbaccalaureate and postbaccalaureate certificates. Data are collected on the race/ethnicity and gender of recipients and their programs of study. The data from this component reflect all formal awards (i.e., degrees, diplomas, certificates) conferred between July 1, 2010, and June 30, 2011.

12-Month Enrollment

The 12-Month Enrollment component collects unduplicated headcount enrollment and instructional activity data at each institution for the 12-month period between July 1, 2010, and June 30, 2011. The unduplicated headcount is collected by race/ethnicity, gender, and student level (undergraduate or graduate) for students enrolled during the reporting period.

² Completions where the requirements for the award have been satisfied but the award has not yet been conferred by the postsecondary institution are not included.

Selected Findings

- In 2011-12, of the 7,398 Title IV institutions in the United States and other U.S. jurisdictions, 3,053 were classified as 4-year institutions, 2,332 were 2-year institutions, and the remaining 2,013 were less-than-2-year institutions (table 1).
- Average tuition and required fees for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduates at 4-year institutions generally increased from 2009-10 to 2011-12 (table 2). After adjusting for inflation,³ public institutions reported a 9 percent increase (to about \$7,200) for in-state students and a 6 percent increase (to approximately \$16,500) for out-of-state students, and nonprofit institutions reported a 4 percent increase (to about \$23,300). For-profit institutions reported average tuition and required fees of approximately \$15,200 for 2011-12, which corresponds to no change when compared to the inflation-adjusted figure from 2009-10.
- Institutions reported a 12-month unduplicated headcount enrollment totaling about 29.5 million individual students (table 3). Of these, roughly 25.6 million were undergraduates and approximately 3.9 million were graduate students.
- Of the roughly 3.6 million degrees institutions reported conferring, about 2.9 million were awarded by 4-year institutions and approximately 650,000 were awarded by 2-year institutions (table 4).

³ Table 2 is reported in constant 2011-12 dollars. Percentage changes in these tables reflect changes over and above changes due to inflation. Please refer to appendix A for details.

Table 1. Number and percentage distribution of Title IV institutions, by control of institution, level of institution, and region: United States and other U.S. jurisdictions, academic year 2011-12

Level of institution and region	Number of institutions				Percent of institutions			
	Total	Public	Private		Total	Public	Private	
			Nonprofit	For-profit			Nonprofit	For-profit
Total institutions	7,398	2,039	1,890	3,469	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total U.S. institutions	7,234	2,011	1,830	3,393	97.8	98.6	96.8	97.8
Level of institution								
4-year	3,053	700	1,611	742	41.3	34.3	85.2	21.4
U.S.	2,983	683	1,566	734	40.3	33.5	82.9	21.2
Other U.S. jurisdictions	70	17	45	8	0.9	0.8	2.4	0.2
2-year	2,332	1,082	189	1,061	31.5	53.1	10.0	30.6
U.S.	2,305	1,072	185	1,048	31.2	52.6	9.8	30.2
Other U.S. jurisdictions	27	10	4	13	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.4
Less-than-2-year	2,013	257	90	1,666	27.2	12.6	4.8	48.0
U.S.	1,946	256	79	1,611	26.3	12.6	4.2	46.4
Other U.S. jurisdictions	67	1	11	55	0.9	0.0	0.6	1.6
Region								
New England	436	110	168	158	5.9	5.4	8.9	4.6
Mid East	1,148	280	427	441	15.5	13.7	22.6	12.7
Great Lakes	1,134	286	306	542	15.3	14.0	16.2	15.6
Plains	652	201	194	257	8.8	9.9	10.3	7.4
Southeast	1,779	555	375	849	24.0	27.2	19.8	24.5
Southwest	766	238	95	433	10.4	11.7	5.0	12.5
Rocky Mountains	290	79	30	181	3.9	3.9	1.6	5.2
Far West	1,024	257	235	532	13.8	12.6	12.4	15.3
U.S. service academies	5	5	0	0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
Other U.S. jurisdictions	164	28	60	76	2.2	1.4	3.2	2.2

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. Percentages in the columns of this table use the corresponding count in the 'Total Institutions' row as the denominator. Data are not imputed. The item response rates for all cells in this table are 100 percent. The New England region includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. The Mid East region includes Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. The Great Lakes region includes Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin. The Plains region includes Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The Southeast region includes Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. The Southwest region includes Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. The Rocky Mountains region includes Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Utah, and Wyoming. The Far West region includes Alaska, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington. The other jurisdictions 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. Definitions for terms used in this table may be found in the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (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 2011, Institutional Characteristics component (provisional data).

Table 2. Average components of academic year price of attendance (in constant 2011-12 dollars) and percentage change in average components of price of attendance for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduates at all Title IV institutions, by level of institution, component of price, control of institution, residency, and student housing: United States, academic years 2009-10 and 2011-12

Component of price, control of institution, residency, and student housing	4-year			2-year			Less-than-2-year		
	2009-10	2011-12	Percent change	2009-10	2011-12	Percent change	2009-10	2011-12	Percent change
Tuition and required fees									
Public									
In-district ¹	\$6,631	\$7,228	9.0	\$2,653	\$2,912	9.8	\$6,337	\$6,701	5.8
In-state	6,635	7,234	9.0	3,132	3,384	8.0	6,338	6,703	5.8
Out-of-state	15,586	16,457	5.6	6,548	6,888	5.2	6,839	7,239	5.8
Private nonprofit	22,371	23,343	4.3	12,799	13,204	3.2	10,596	11,000	3.8
Private for-profit	15,238	15,234	#	13,716	14,131	3.0	12,958	14,439	11.4
Books and supplies									
Public	1,225	1,233	0.7	1,271	1,295	1.9	1,044	1,016	-2.7
Private nonprofit	1,159	1,160	0.1	1,331	1,320	-0.8	696	692	-0.5
Private for-profit	1,758	1,558	-11.4	1,512	1,436	-5.0	1,048	1,141	8.8
Room and board									
Public									
On campus	8,039	8,342	3.8	5,327	5,492	3.1	3,377	3,225	-4.5
Off campus (not with family)	8,691	8,793	1.2	7,618	7,549	-0.9	5,983	5,950	-0.6
Private nonprofit									
On campus	8,429	8,685	3.0	6,599	6,857	3.9	5,078	5,350	5.4
Off campus (not with family)	8,607	8,668	0.7	8,796	8,813	0.2	7,996	8,261	3.3
Private for-profit									
On campus	9,663	8,981	-7.1	8,689	8,391	-3.4	†	6,000	†
Off campus (not with family)	9,396	7,958	-15.3	8,037	7,627	-5.1	8,064	7,744	-4.0
Other expenses ²									
Public									
On campus	3,319	3,247	-2.2	3,088	3,071	-0.5	1,256	1,200	-4.5
Off campus (not with family)	3,897	3,742	-4.0	3,859	3,853	-0.1	2,755	2,647	-3.9
Off campus (with family)	3,942	3,926	-0.4	3,902	3,908	0.2	3,201	3,089	-3.5
Private nonprofit									
On campus	2,674	2,674	#	3,110	3,281	5.5	3,141	3,100	-1.3
Off campus (not with family)	3,438	3,383	-1.6	4,330	4,512	4.2	2,316	2,406	3.9
Off campus (with family)	3,660	3,599	-1.7	4,306	4,474	3.9	3,568	3,628	1.7
Private for-profit									
On campus	4,937	4,294	-13.0	3,696	3,272	-11.5	†	3,600	†
Off campus (not with family)	5,589	4,821	-13.7	4,241	4,158	-2.0	4,032	3,934	-2.4
Off campus (with family)	5,558	5,261	-5.3	4,134	4,018	-2.8	3,473	3,366	-3.1

† Not applicable.

Rounds to zero.

¹For public institutions, "in district" refers to the charges paid by a student who lives in the locality surrounding the institution, such as county.

²Other expenses refers to the amount of money needed by a student to cover expenses such as laundry, transportation, and entertainment.

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. Amounts are institutional averages as reported by the institution, not average amounts paid by students (i.e., charges are not weighted by enrollment). The time points displayed in this table were chosen to demonstrate the range of data available from IPEDS for trend analysis, not to emphasize any particular period of change. Out-of-state tuition and required fees were used for private institutions that reported varying tuitions by residency. The 2,557 institutions with academic calendars that differ by program or allow continuous enrollment are not included. U.S. service academies are not included. All amounts from 2009-10 were converted to 2011-12 dollars using the average Consumer Price Index values for the 12-month periods ending in October 2009 and October 2011. Data from both time points in this table are from the same source. Definitions for terms used in this table may be found in the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) online glossary located at <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/glossary>.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS, Fall 2011, Institutional Characteristics component (provisional data).

Table 3. Twelve-month unduplicated headcount enrollment at all Title IV institutions, by student level, level and control of institution, gender, and race/ethnicity: United States, 2010-11

Level and control of institution, gender, and race/ethnicity	Total	Undergraduate	Graduate
Total students	29,522,688	25,646,077	3,876,611
4-year			
Public	9,639,125	7,794,399	1,844,726
Private nonprofit	4,701,451	3,128,875	1,572,576
Private for-profit	2,591,396	2,132,114	459,282
2-year ¹			
Public	10,984,656	10,984,656	†
Private nonprofit	75,945	75,945	†
Private for-profit	836,263	836,236	27
Less-than-2-year			
Public	111,441	111,441	†
Private nonprofit	27,575	27,575	†
Private for-profit	554,836	554,836	†
Gender			
Men	12,558,918	11,016,283	1,542,635
Women	16,963,770	14,629,794	2,333,976
Race/ethnicity			
American Indian or Alaska Native	265,267	245,103	20,164
Asian	1,496,738	1,297,163	199,575
Black or African American	4,217,143	3,795,530	421,613
Hispanic or Latino	3,694,514	3,466,592	227,922
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	94,854	86,840	8,014
White	15,938,417	13,811,231	2,127,186
Two or more races	494,042	436,550	57,492
Race/ethnicity unknown	2,454,612	1,999,761	454,851
Nonresident alien	867,101	507,307	359,794

† Not applicable.

¹One 2-year institution reported students enrolled in graduate-level courses.

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. The unduplicated headcount displayed in this table is the count of students enrolled over the 12-month period July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011. Students who self-identify with more than one race are included in the Two or more races category. Students of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are included in the Hispanic or Latino category regardless of race. Definitions for terms used in this table may be found in the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) online glossary located at <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/glossary>.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS, Fall 2011, 12-Month Enrollment component (provisional data).

Table 4. Number and percentage distribution of degrees conferred at all Title IV institutions, by control of institution, level of institution, gender, race/ethnicity, and degree level: United States, 2010-11

Level of institution, ¹ gender, race/ethnicity, and degree level	All institutions		Public		Private			
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Nonprofit		For-profit	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total degrees	3,552,649	100.0	2,206,282	100.0	954,883	100.0	391,484	100.0
4-year institutions								
Degrees	2,899,734	100.0	1,628,845	100.0	947,501	100.0	323,388	100.0
Gender								
Men	1,214,085	41.9	701,799	43.1	391,632	41.3	120,654	37.3
Women	1,685,649	58.1	927,046	56.9	555,869	58.7	202,734	62.7
Race/ethnicity								
American Indian or Alaska Native	18,678	0.6	11,760	0.7	4,460	0.5	2,458	0.8
Asian	169,834	5.9	106,369	6.5	53,785	5.7	9,680	3.0
Black or African American	286,597	9.9	139,849	8.6	84,363	8.9	62,385	19.3
Hispanic or Latino	228,559	7.9	141,533	8.7	58,230	6.1	28,796	8.9
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	6,325	0.2	3,121	0.2	1,942	0.2	1,262	0.4
White	1,770,558	61.1	1,035,643	63.6	584,176	61.7	150,739	46.6
Two or more races	29,297	1.0	15,460	0.9	10,463	1.1	3,374	1.0
Race/ethnicity unknown	228,005	7.9	84,086	5.2	84,316	8.9	59,603	18.4
Nonresident alien	161,881	5.6	91,024	5.6	65,766	6.9	5,091	1.6
Degree level								
Associate's degrees	289,435	10.0	119,360	7.3	44,587	4.7	125,488	38.8
Bachelor's degrees	1,715,913	59.2	1,088,297	66.8	513,106	54.2	114,510	35.4
Master's degrees	730,621	25.2	339,250	20.8	313,200	33.1	78,171	24.2
Doctor's degree—research/scholarship	59,586	2.1	38,118	2.3	18,666	2.0	2,802	0.9
Doctor's degree—professional practice	102,883	3.5	43,679	2.7	56,822	6.0	2,382	0.7
Doctor's degree—other	1,296	#	141	#	1,120	0.1	35	#
2-year institutions								
Degrees	652,915	100.0	577,437	100.0	7,382	100.0	68,096	100.0
Gender								
Men	252,569	38.7	223,051	38.6	2,593	35.1	26,925	39.5
Women	400,346	61.3	354,386	61.4	4,789	64.9	41,171	60.5
Race/ethnicity								
American Indian or Alaska Native	6,257	1.0	5,682	1.0	101	1.4	474	0.7
Asian	30,310	4.6	27,806	4.8	385	5.2	2,119	3.1
Black or African American	74,755	11.4	60,444	10.5	1,668	22.6	12,643	18.6
Hispanic or Latino	80,815	12.4	69,316	12.0	639	8.7	10,860	15.9
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	3,258	0.5	2,765	0.5	213	2.9	280	0.4
White	400,589	61.4	363,952	63.0	3,989	54.0	32,648	47.9
Two or more races	7,650	1.2	6,404	1.1	47	0.6	1,199	1.8
Race/ethnicity unknown	37,138	5.7	29,329	5.1	153	2.1	7,656	11.2
Nonresident alien	12,143	1.9	11,739	2.0	187	2.5	217	0.3

See notes at end of table.

Table 4. Number and percentage distribution of degrees conferred at all Title IV institutions, by control of institution, level of institution, gender, race/ethnicity, and degree level: United States, 2010-11—Continued

Level of institution, ¹ gender, race/ethnicity, and degree level	All institutions		Public		Private			
					Nonprofit		For-profit	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2-year institutions—Continued								
Degree level								
Associate's degrees ²	652,901	100.0	577,437	100.0	7,382	100.0	68,082	100.0
Bachelor's degrees	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Master's degrees ³	14	#	0	0.0	0	0.0	14	#

Rounds to zero.

¹Institutions are classified as 4-year or 2-year based on the highest level of awards offered in the collection year.

²Includes nine associate's degrees awarded by one 2-year institution that was classified as non-degree-granting in the collection year (2011-12).

³Includes 14 master's degrees awarded by one institution that was a 2-year institution in the collection year (2011-12).

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. Degrees displayed in this table were conferred during the 12-month period July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011. Percentages in the columns of this table use the corresponding count in the appropriate total row of each section as the denominator. Degrees awarded to individuals who self-identify with more than one race are included in the Two or more races category. Degrees awarded to individuals of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are included in the Hispanic or Latino category regardless of race. Definitions for terms used in this table may be found in the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (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 2011, Completions component (provisional data).

Appendix A: Data Collection Procedures

The fall 2011 data collection was entirely web-based; data were collected between September 7, 2011, and October 19, 2011. 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 fall 2011 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 7,479 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 2011-12 academic year. For 2011-12, 312 postsecondary institutions were reported exclusively by a parent institution³ and are not included in the universe counts. Though 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 since they are federally funded and open to the public.⁴

Because Title IV institutions are the primary focus of IPEDS and they are required to respond, response rates for Title IV institutions in the fall 2011 IPEDS collection were high. The Institutional Characteristics (IC) component response rate among all Title IV entities was 100.0 percent (all 7,479 Title IV entities responded). In addition, the response rates for the Completions and 12-Month Enrollment components were also 100.0 percent.⁵

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) 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. Due to response rates of 100.0 percent at the unit level for all three of the survey components, analysis for nonresponse bias was not necessary for the fall 2011 collection. However, data from four institutions that responded to the IC component contained item nonresponse. Price of attendance data collected during fall 2011 but covering prior academic years were imputed for these institutions.

¹ Title IV institutions and administrative offices include 7,398 institutions and 81 administrative (central or system) offices. The central and system offices are required to complete the Institutional Characteristics component in the fall, the Human Resources component in the winter, and the Finance component in the spring (if they have their own separate budget).

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 A parent institution reports data for another institution, known as the child institution.

⁴ 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.

⁵ All 7,398 eligible institutions responded to the Completions component, and all 7,380 eligible institutions responded to the 12-Month Enrollment component. Eighteen institutions new to IPEDS were not required to respond to the 12-Month Enrollment component but did respond to the Completions component.

Table 2 is given in constant 2011-12 dollars. To convert the 2009-10 tuition, required fees, books and supplies, room and board, and other expenses data to 2011-12 dollar amounts, the average Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) values for the 12-month periods ending in October 2009 and October 2011 were used. The ratio of the average CPI-U for the 12-month period ending in October 2011 to the average CPI-U ending in October 2009 was multiplied by the 2009-10 dollar amounts to calculate the constant 2011-12 dollar amounts. These amounts were then used in the calculations shown in the table.

Appendix B: Glossary of Terms

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

associate's degree: An award that normally requires at least 2 but less than 4 years of full-time-equivalent college work.

bachelor's degree: An award (baccalaureate or equivalent degree, as determined by the Secretary, U.S. Department of Education) that normally requires at least 4 but not more than 5 years of full-time-equivalent college-level work. This includes all bachelor's degrees conferred in a 5-year cooperative (work-study) program. A cooperative plan provides for alternate class attendance and employment in business, industry, or government; thus, it allows students to combine actual work experience with their college studies. This also includes bachelor's degrees in which the normal 4 years of work are completed in 3 years.

board charges: Charges assessed students for an academic year for meals.

child institution: An institution that has its data reported by another institution, known as the parent institution.

collection year: The academic year in which IPEDS data were collected. Most Institutional Characteristics, Salaries, Fall Staff, Fall Enrollment, and Employees by Assigned Position data are collected for the current year; Completions, 12-Month Enrollment, Student Financial Aid, and Finance data collections cover the prior year.

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 (private, nonprofit or private, for-profit control).

degree: An award conferred by a college, university, or other postsecondary education institution as official recognition for the successful completion of an undergraduate or graduate program of study.

doctor's degree—other: A doctor's degree that does not meet the definition of a doctor's degree—research/scholarship or a doctor's degree—professional practice.

doctor's degree—professional practice: A doctor's degree that is conferred upon completion of a program providing the knowledge and skills for the recognition, credential, or license required for professional practice. The degree is awarded after a period of study such that the total time to the degree, including both preprofessional and professional preparation, equals at least 6 full-time-equivalent academic years. Some of these degrees were formerly classified as “first-professional” and may include chiropractic (D.C. or D.C.M.), dentistry (D.D.S. or D.M.D.), law (L.L.B. or J.D.), medicine (M.D.), optometry (O.D.), osteopathic medicine (D.O.), pharmacy (Pharm.D.), podiatry (D.P.M., Pod.D., or D.P.), veterinary medicine (D.V.M.), and others, as designated by the awarding institution.

doctor's degree—research/scholarship: A Ph.D. or other doctor's degree that requires advanced work beyond the master's level, including the preparation and defense of a dissertation based on

original research, or the planning and execution of an original project demonstrating substantial artistic or scholarly achievement. Some examples of this type of degree may include Ed.D., D.M.A., D.B.A., D.Sc., D.A., and D.M., as well as others designated by the awarding institution.

instructional activity: The total number of credit and contact hours all students are engaged in during the specified period.

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 4 years or higher (4-year), at least 2 but less than 4 years (2-year), or less than 2 years (less-than-2-year).

master's degree: An award that requires the successful completion of a program of study of generally 1 or 2 full-time-equivalent academic years of work beyond the bachelor's degree. Some of these degrees, such as those in Theology (M.Div., M.H.L./Rav) that were formerly classified as "first-professional" may require more than 2 full-time-equivalent academic years of work.

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.

other expenses: The amount of money (estimated by the financial aid office) needed by a student to cover expenses such as laundry, transportation, and entertainment.

parent institution: An institution that reports data for another institution, known as the child institution.

postsecondary institution: An institution which 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, and continuing professional education, and excludes avocational and adult basic education programs. For IPEDS, these institutions must be open to the public.

price of attendance: The amount of tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, and other expenses that a full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking student can expect to pay to go to college. Prices reported by the institutions are those amounts used by the financial aid office to determine student financial need.

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.

race/ethnicity: Categories developed in 1997 by the Office of Management and Budget that are used to describe groups to which individuals belong or identify with. The categories do not denote

scientific definitions of anthropological origins. The designations are used to categorize U.S. citizens, resident aliens, and other eligible noncitizens.

Individuals are asked to first designate ethnicity as

- Hispanic or Latino; or
- not Hispanic or Latino.

Second, individuals are asked to indicate all races that apply among the following:

- American Indian or Alaska Native;
- Asian;
- Black or African American;
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander; and
- White.

required fees: Fixed sum charged to students for items not covered by tuition and required of such a large proportion of all students that the student who does not pay the charge is an exception.

room charges: The charges for an academic year for rooming accommodations for a typical student sharing a room with one other student.

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

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).

unduplicated headcount enrollment: The sum of students enrolled for credit with each student counted only once during the reporting period, regardless of when the student enrolled.

2-year institution: This group includes any postsecondary institution that offers programs of at least 2 but less than 4 years' duration, as well as 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: This group includes any postsecondary institution that offers programs of at least 4 years' duration or one that offers programs at or above the baccalaureate level, as well as schools that offer postbaccalaureate certificates only or those that offer graduate programs only.