



FOOTHILL COLLEGE

Institutional Research and Planning

DATE: January 6, 2017
 TO: Carolyn Holcroft, Professor and Academic Senate President
 Andrew LaManque, Interim Vice President of Instruction & Institutional Research
 FROM: Lisa LyActingCollege Researcher
 RE: Time to Degree and Certificate

Overview

As part of the Accreditation self study, course scheduling and sequencing assessed to ensure reasonable time to degree and certificate completion. This report provides time to degree by examining students who earned a degree for the first time in academic year 2016 and their first enrollment term at Foothill. Time to degree is measured in months and converted to years and data is disaggregated by ethnicity and gender. The same methodology was repeated for certificate completion.

Median Time to Degree and Certificate Completion

- x Among first time award recipients in AY2016, the median time to degree and certificate completion was 4.2 and 3.2 years, respectively.
- x Students with an AA took nearly a year longer than those with an AS, 4.7 vs. 4.0 years.
- x Students with an AAT or AST took about 4.0 years to earn their degree.
- x Compared to a traditional associate degree, associate degree for transfer recipients obtained their degree in less time:
 - f 4.7 years for AA vs. 4 years for AAT; difference of 0.7 year or 8.4 months
 - f 4.0 years for AS vs. 3 years for AST; difference of 0.2 year or 2.4 months
- x Students with a certificate 45-89 Qtr comprised the majority of certificate recipients (81%) and they took 3.2 years to obtain their certificate

Table 1 Median Time to Completion

	Headcount	Awards	No. of Years
Degree (AA)			
Associate in Arts	316	339	4.7

Median Time to Completion by Program

AA Completion by Program

- x **AA degree:** General Studies/Social Science accounted for the majority of AA degree recipients (46%) and students obtained this degree in 5.0 years
- x **AA-T degree:** Psychology transfer accounted for the majority AAT degree recipients (33%) and students obtained this degree in 4.2 years. Communication Studies transfer followed behind (22%) and students obtained this degree in 4.0 years.

Table 2: Associate in Arts
Median Time to Completion by Program

Table 3: Associate in Arts Transfer
Median Time to Completion by Program

		Headcount	Percent	No. of Years
Associate in Arts				
1GSS	General Studies: Social Science	156	46%	5.0
1COS	Communication Studies	25	7%	4.0
1PSY	Psychology	22	6%	4.1
1SOC	Sociology	18	5%	5.5
1ACC	Accounting	16	5%	8.4
1BUS	Business Administration	12	4%	5.6
1CHD	Child Development	12	4%	10.4
1GID	Graphic & Interactive Design	12	4%	5.5
1ART	Art	7	2%	4.7
1MU1	Music Technology	7	2%	4.0
1ECO	Economics	6	2%	3.5
1JAP	Japanese	6	2%	3.5
1ENG	English	5	1%	5.2
1MU4	Music: General	5	1%	6.5
1THA	Theatre Arts	5	1%	3.9
1PHO	Photography	4	1%	8.6
1HIS	History	3	1%	7.2
1SPA	Spanish	3	1%	5.0
1TH1	Theatre Technology	3	1%	2.8
1TH2	Theatre Technology	3	1%	2.8

AS Completion by Program

- x **AS degree:** Primary Care Associate Program accounted for the majority of AS degree recipients (18%) and students obtained this degree in 2.2 years. Veterinary Technology followed (10%) and students obtained this degree in 4.3 years.

Table 4: Associate in Science
Median Time to Completion by Program

		Headcount	Percent	No. of Years
Associate in Science				
1PC	Primary Care Assoc Program	48	18%	2.2
1V T	Veterinary Techn	26	10%	4.3
1RET	Respiratory Therapy	23	9%	7.8
1GSC	General Studies: Science	19	7%	5.4
1R T	Radiologic Technology	19	7%	4.7
1CIS	Computer Science	17	7%	3.8
1D H	Dental Hygiene	1	0%	9.6

- x **AST degree:** Business Administration for transfer accounted for the majority of AST degree recipients (65%) and students obtained this degree in 3.8 years.

Table 5: Associate in Science Transfer
Median Time to Completion by Program

Certificate Completion by Program

- x **Certificate 2744 Qtr:** 61% of certificate recipients are Dental Assisting students and they obtained this certificate in 3.8 years
- x **Certificate 45-89 Qtr:** 80% of certificate recipients are Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) students and they obtained this certificate in 3.2 years

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Degree Completion

Degree Completion by Starting Academic Year

- x 69% of students started between AY2011 and AY2016 and obtained a degree in 3.2 years.
- x 20% of students started between AY2005 and AY2010 and obtained a degree in 7.8 years.
- x 11% of students started in AY1999 or prior and took at least 14.5 years to earn a degree.
- x The starting academic year for the 547 students who started between AY2011 and AY2016 disaggregated even further, and the majority of these students completed a degree in 3.0 years.
 - f 2010-11 to 2011-12: 167 students; 5.0 years
 - f 2012-13 to 2013-14: 303 students; 3.0 years
 - f 2014-15 to 2015-16: 77 students; 1.8 years

Table 7: Median Time to

Certificate Completion

Certificate Completion by Starting Academic Year

- x 82% of students started between AY2011 and AY2016 and obtained a certificate in 2.9 years.
- x 14% of students started between AY2005 and AY2010 and obtained a certificate in 7.2 years.
- x 4% of students started in AY1999 or prior and took at least 15.0 years to earn a certificate.
- x The starting academic year for the 413 students who started between AY2011 and AY2016 was disaggregated even further, and the majority of these students completed a degree in 2.8 years.
 - f 2010-11 to 2011-12: 105 students; 4.7 years
 - f 2012-13 to 2013-14: 229 students; 2.8 years
 - f 2014-15 to 2015-16: 79