



COLORADO COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE SYSTEM

# Colorado Community College System

## Academic Year 2013 Degrees Awarded

OCTOBER 2013

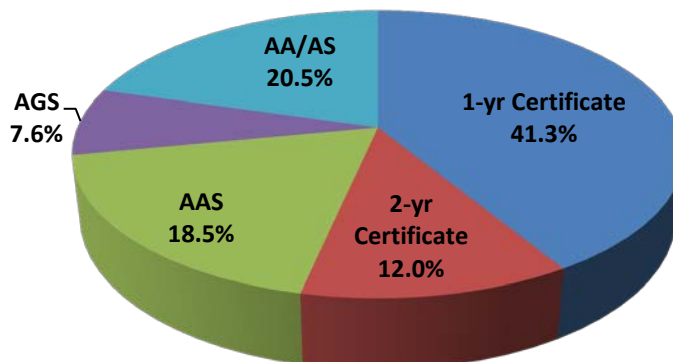
## System Summary – Academic Year 2013 Degrees Awarded

In academic year 2012-2013, 15,729 certificates and degrees were awarded at Colorado Community College System schools (Table 1). This number is a 10.5 percent increase from academic year 2012. One-year certificates comprised the largest group of awards, at 41.3 percent, followed by Associate of Arts/Associate of Science degrees at 20.5 percent. Generally, Associate of General Studies (AGS) and Associate of Arts/Associate of Science (AA/AS) degrees are transfer-oriented awards, while Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees are considered terminal awards.

**Table 1. Awards by Degree Level**

Level	Number	Percent	Change from AY 2012	
1-yr Certificate	6,502	41.3%	7.6%	461
2-yr Certificate	1,895	12.0%	15.3%	251
AAS	2,917	18.5%	5.3%	148
AGS	1,190	7.6%	39.3%	336
AA/AS	3,225	20.5%	10.2%	298
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,729</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>10.5%</b>	<b>1,494</b>

**2013 Degrees Awarded  
(Percentage by Degree Level)**



Over the past five years, awards granted at Colorado Community College System colleges have increased 41.8 percent. In terms of numbers of awards, the most significant increase has been in 1-year certificates, with an increase of 2,036 over the five years. Overall, 41.8 percent more certificates were awarded in academic year 2013 than in 2009. On a percentage basis, AGS degrees have experienced the highest growth over the five-year period, at 75.5 percent.

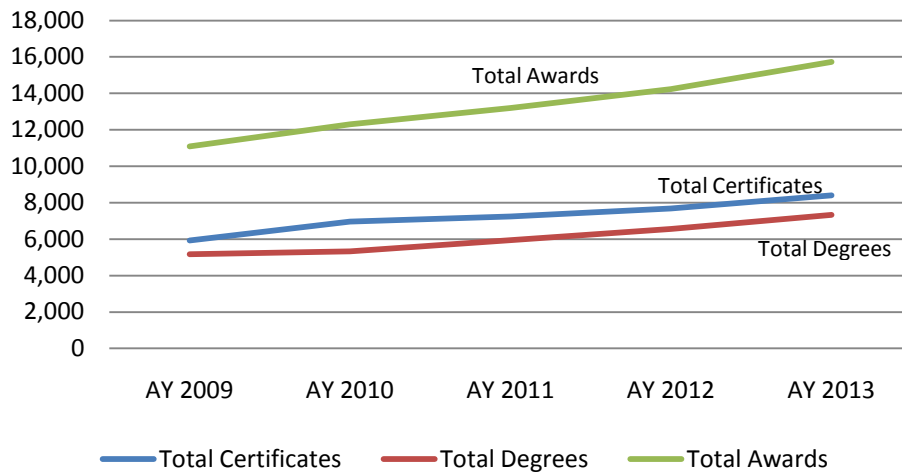
**Table 2. Awards by Degree Level**

Level	AY 2009	AY 2010	AY 2011	AY 2012	AY 2013
1-yr Certificate	4,466	5,425	5,690	6,041	6,502
2-yr Certificate	1,454	1,544	1,552	1,644	1,895
Total Certificates	5,920	6,969	7,242	7,685	8,397
AAS	2,378	2,295	2,519	2,769	2,917
AGS	678	687	767	854	1,190
AA/AS	2,115	2,350	2,666	2,927	3,225
Total Degrees	5,171	5,332	5,952	6,550	7,332
<b>Total Awards</b>	<b>11,091</b>	<b>12,301</b>	<b>13,194</b>	<b>14,235</b>	<b>15,729</b>

**Table 3. Change in Awards Granted by Degree Level**

Level	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2009-2013
1-yr Certificate	21.5%	4.9%	6.2%	7.6%	45.6%
2-yr Certificate	6.2%	0.5%	5.9%	15.3%	30.3%
Total Certificates	17.7%	3.9%	6.1%	9.3%	41.8%
AAS	-3.5%	9.8%	9.9%	5.3%	22.7%
AGS	1.3%	11.6%	11.3%	39.3%	75.5%
AA/AS	11.1%	13.4%	9.8%	10.2%	52.5%
Total Degrees	3.1%	11.6%	10.0%	11.9%	41.8%
<b>Total Awards</b>	<b>10.9%</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>10.5%</b>	<b>41.8%</b>

### Colorado Community College System Awards 2009 - 2013



Nursing Aide was the most awarded 1-year certificate; Criminal Justice/Police Science was the top two-year certificate; and Registered Nursing was the top Associate of Applied Science degree (Table 4). Criminal Justice/Police Science replaced Licensed Practical Nurse as the top program in the two-year certificate category.

**Table 4. Top Program Awards by Level**

Award	2013 Awards		Award Change from AY 2012	
	Number	% of Level	Number	% Change
Top 1-Yr Certificate: Nursing Aide	1,152	17.7%	-183	-13.7%
Top 2-Yr Certificate: Criminal Justice/Police Science	230	12.1%	82	55.4%
Top AAS Degree: RN	564	19.3%	24	4.4%



Of all awards (excluding liberal arts and general studies), the top program areas were Emergency Medical Services, Nursing Aide, Nursing, Computer and Information Sciences, and Automotive Technology (Table 5). Accounting Technology dropped out of the top five in favor of Computer and Information Sciences. The top five programs accounted for 36.6 percent of all awards, compared to 41 percent in 2012. Please note that programs may be offered at different levels at different colleges. For example, Emergency Medical Services programs are offered as degree and certificate programs, and the types of programs and the credit hours required to receive awards vary by institution.

**Table 5. Top Program Awards and Statewide Annual Job Openings  
(excluding liberal arts and general studies)**

CIP	Program	2013 Awards		Annual Openings*	Award Change from AY 2012	
		Number	% of Total	Number	Number	Percent Change
510904	Emergency Medical Services	1,229	10.9%	304	-180	-12.8%
513902	Nursing Aide	1,152	10.2%	674	-183	-13.7%
513801	Nursing	960	8.5%	2,311	106	12.4%
110101	Computer & Information Sciences	398	3.5%	824	115	40.6%
470604	Automotive Technology	397	3.5%	650	1	0.25%
	<b>Total of Top Awards</b>	<b>4,136</b>	<b>36.6%</b>	<b>4,763</b>	<b>-141</b>	<b>-3.29%</b>

\*The majority of the number of annual job openings in this table and tables that follow represents projections of the ten-year average annual change from the Labor Market Information website at the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment. Some job openings may be understated because of confidentiality regulations that prohibit the publishing of certain data. Where data was not available, EMSI data was used. The CIP codes were matched with occupation codes using Gainful Employment data or O\*NET.

Of all awards (excluding liberal arts and general studies), 44.1 percent were in the healthcare field, compared to 48.4 percent in 2012. The total number of healthcare awards decreased 1.3 percent from 2012 to 2013, while total certificates and AAS degrees increased 8.2 percent. Forty-five percent of certificates were in the health science area, compared to 40.6 percent of Associate of Applied Science degrees. The following two tables present the top five clusters in which awards were granted: Table 6 presents data on certificates and Table 7 provides information on Associate of Applied Science degrees.

**Table 6. Top Certificate Awards by Cluster - Percent of Total**

Cluster	AY 2013 Certificate Percentage	AY 2013 Certificate Awards	AY 2012 Certificate Percentage	AY 2012 Certificate Awards
Health Science	45.3%	3,804	52.0%	3,994
Management and Administration	9.6%	803	7.2%	552
Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security	6.7%	562	6.4%	490
Human Services	5.3%	448	4.2%	321
Information Technology	5.3%	445	4.3%	334
<b>Total</b>	<b>72.2%</b>	<b>6,062</b>	<b>74.1%</b>	<b>5,691</b>

**Table 7. Top Degree Awards by Cluster - Percent of Total**

Cluster	AY 2013 AAS Degree Percentage	AY 2013 AAS Degree Awards	AY 2012 AAS Degree Percentage	AY 2012 AAS Degree Awards
Health Science	40.6%	1,184	38.3%	1,061
Management and Administration	9.4%	275	10.3%	286
Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security	7.1%	206	6.4%	176
Arts, A/V Technology and Communication	6.5%	191	7.3%	202
Manufacturing	5.1%	150	6.9%	191
<b>Total</b>	<b>68.8%</b>	<b>2,006</b>	<b>69.2%</b>	<b>1,916</b>

Twenty-five percent of all awards distributed in 2013 were earned by minority students. In comparison, minority students comprised 31.1 percent of system enrollment. Table 8 presents race/ethnicity statistics for award recipients. It also includes the total enrollment at Colorado Community College System colleges by race/ethnicity for 2012-2013 and the race/ethnicity for the entire population, 15 to 64 years of age, within the counties served by Colorado Community College System colleges.

**Table 8. Awards, Total Enrollment, and CCCS Service Area by Ethnicity**

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Awards<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>System Enrollment<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Service Area Population Ages 15-64<sup>3</sup></b>
White, Non-Hispanic	66.4%	58.1%	69.7%
Hispanic	15.1%	16.8%	20.3%
Multiple Ethnicities	2.0%	3.3%	1.7%
Black, Non-Hispanic	3.9%	7.1%	4.3%
Asian	2.5%	2.8%	3.2%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%
American Indian/Alaska Native	1.1%	1.0%	0.7%
Non-Resident Alien	0.8%	1.4%	n/a
Unknown	7.8%	9.4%	n/a
<b>Minority</b>	<b>25.0%</b>	<b>31.1%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>

1 SURDS Degree files

2 SURDS Enrollment files

3 EMSI Complete Employment – 2013.3

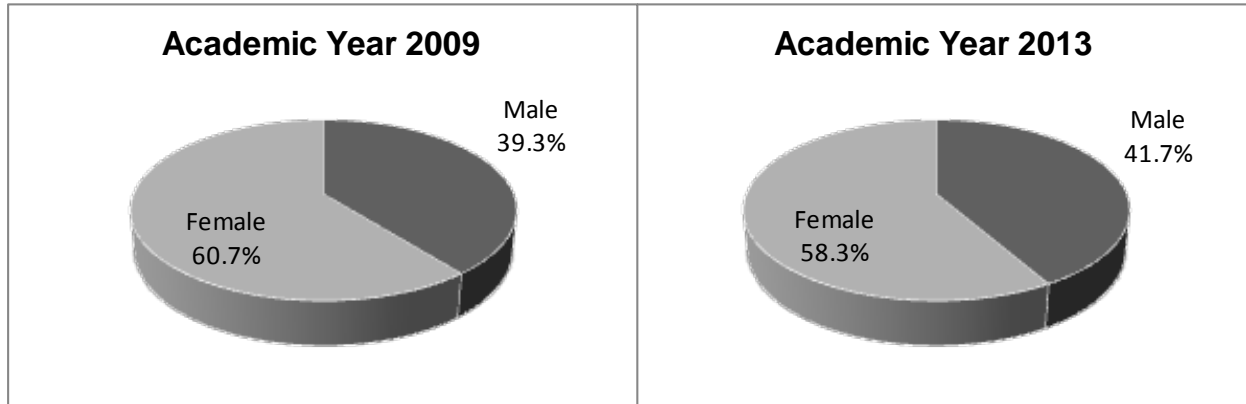
Notes: Minority counts include Hispanic; Multiple Ethnicities; Black, Non-Hispanic; Asian; Hawaiian/Pacific Islander; and American Indian/Alaska Native. Non-resident Aliens are reported separately and are not included in the racial/ethnic categories.

The proportion of awards earned by female students decreased three-tenths of a percentage point from last year, to 58.2 percent (Table 9). Females earned awards at a greater rate than their overall proportion of the student population. Males have made slight gains in the proportion of awards earned in each of the last five years, for a total increase of 2.4 percentage points.

**Table 9. Awards by Gender**

<b>Gender</b>	<b>2012-2013 Award Percent</b>	<b>2012-2013 Enrollment Percent</b>	<b>2011-2012 Award Percent</b>	<b>Change in Award Percentage</b>
Male	41.7%	44.8%	41.0%	0.7%
Female	58.3%	54.5%	58.5%	-0.2%
Unreported	0.2%	0.7%	0.5%	-0.3%

### Proportion of Awards Earned by Males and Females: 2009 and 2013



Percentages based on students reporting gender

The 25-to-34 age group earned the most awards overall, accounting for a third of all awards. Further, this age group earned the highest proportion of each category of award (Table 10).

**Table 10. Degree Level by Age Category**

Degree Level	< 18	18-20	21-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
1-yr Certificate	5.0%	18.0%	19.1%	29.0%	14.4%	9.7%	4.2%	0.7%
2-yr Certificate	2.3%	10.1%	18.6%	37.5%	17.5%	10.1%	3.5%	0.4%
AAS	0.1%	6.0%	20.7%	36.1%	20.5%	13.1%	3.2%	0.2%
AGS	1.8%	15.3%	25.2%	33.0%	14.5%	7.5%	2.1%	0.7%
AA/AS	1.6%	21.9%	29.6%	32.1%	8.9%	4.7%	1.1%	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>15.4%</b>	<b>22.0%</b>	<b>32.3%</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>9.2%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>

Note: Age calculated as of December 31, 2012



## College Summary

Front Range Community College awarded the greatest number of awards (21.9 percent of the total), consistent with its larger enrollment (Table 11). It was followed by Pikes Peak Community College (14.7 percent). Three other colleges each awarded at least 10 percent of the overall degree total (Pueblo Community College, Red Rocks Community College, and Arapahoe Community College).

**Table 11. Percentage of Awards by College and Level**

College	Certificate	AAS	AGS	AA-AS	Total Awards	% of Total Awards
<b>ACC</b>	54.8%	24.8%	7.0%	13.4%	1,632	10.4%
<b>CCA</b>	40.3%	13.4%	17.9%	28.4%	842	5.4%
<b>CCD</b>	47.1%	17.7%	11.7%	23.6%	967	6.1%
<b>CNCC</b>	42.5%	28.8%	1.9%	26.9%	212	1.3%
<b>FRCC</b>	51.4%	16.0%	4.8%	27.8%	3,444	21.9%
<b>LCC</b>	42.2%	18.9%	11.7%	27.2%	206	1.3%
<b>MCC</b>	61.1%	15.2%	3.5%	20.2%	396	2.5%
<b>NJC</b>	36.5%	21.5%	12.3%	29.8%	400	2.5%
<b>OJC</b>	58.6%	13.8%	2.5%	25.1%	514	3.3%
<b>PCC</b>	61.7%	20.2%	8.8%	9.3%	2,076	13.2%
<b>PPCC</b>	44.0%	24.5%	10.0%	21.5%	2,319	14.7%
<b>RRCC</b>	64.3%	14.2%	2.8%	18.7%	1,982	12.6%
<b>TSJC</b>	67.1%	12.6%	9.7%	10.6%	739	4.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>53.4%</b>	<b>18.5%</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>20.5%</b>	<b>15,729</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

The top program awards per college (excluding liberal arts and general studies) are listed in Table 12 with the number of estimated annual statewide job openings in those fields. Because so many of the degrees awarded are in the healthcare field, awards in the top non-healthcare program are provided in Table 13.

**Table 12. Top Program Awards by College**  
(All degree levels - excluding liberal arts and general studies)

College	Top Award	Name	Number of Awards	Percent of College	Annual Openings
ACC	510904	Emergency Medical Services	205	15.8%	304
CCA	510904	Emergency Medical Services	109	24.1%	304
CCD	513902	Nursing Aide	132	21.1%	674
CNCC	030101	Natural Resource Ecology & Management	41	27.2%	58
FRCC	513902	Nursing Aide	422	18.2%	674
LCC	513801	Nursing	31	24.6%	2,311
MCC	513902	Nursing Aide	71	23.5%	674
NJC	430203	Fire Science Technology	26	11.2%	253
OJC	513901	Practical Nursing	56	15.1%	306
PCC	520407	Office Administration	276	16.2%	57
PPCC	513801	Nursing	398	25.1%	2,311
RRCC	513902	Nursing Aide	135	8.7%	674
TSJC	513902	Nursing Aide	82	13.9%	674

**Table 13. Top Program Awards by College: Non-Healthcare**  
(All degree levels - excluding liberal arts and general studies)

College	Top Award	Name	Number of Awards	Percent of College	Annual Openings
ACC	150101	Architectural Design and Technology	115	8.8%	50
CCA	520204	Office Management and Supervision	75	16.6%	922
CCD	131210	Early Childhood Education	70	11.2%	472
CNCC	030101	Natural Resources Ecology & Management	41	27.2%	58
FRCC	110101	Computer Information Technologies	183	7.9%	824
LCC	010505	Horse Training and Management	29	23.0%	12
MCC	010106	Agricultural Business Technology	22	7.3%	963
NJC	430203	Fire Science Technology	26	11.2%	253
OJC	470604	Automotive Technologies	52	14.0%	650
PCC	520407	Office Administration	276	16.2%	57
PPCC	120500	Culinary Arts	87	5.5%	2,186
RRCC	520302	Accounting Technology	110	7.1%	1,417
TSJC	460303	Electrical Line Worker	58	9.8%	369



## **Reverse Transfer Awards**

Of the 15,729 total awards issued in academic year 2012-2013, 40 degrees were awarded through reverse transfer programs. In a reverse transfer program, credit hours earned at a four-year school toward a baccalaureate degree are transferred back to a community college. The community college awards an associate's degree if the degree criteria are met. The reverse transfer awards in 2013 are the result of a partnership between Metropolitan State University of Denver and three CCCS institutions: Community College of Aurora (9 awards), Community College of Denver (10 awards), and Front Range Community College (21 awards). A student is eligible for consideration if he or she earned 15 credit hours at one of the participating community colleges and 70 credit hours in total.

Sixty percent of the reverse transfer awards in 2013 were AGS degrees, while the remaining 40 percent were AA or AS degrees. Sixty percent of the degrees were awarded to males; half were given to students in the 25-to-34 age group; and 31.6 percent were awarded to minority students.

Reverse transfer awards are likely to experience an increase as a new state law – enacted through Senate Bill 12-045 – is implemented<sup>1</sup>. This law requires the development of a process to notify students of their eligibility for an associate's degree. The notification process is required to be in place for the 2013-2014 academic year.

## **Source**

The data in this report was extracted from SURDS files submitted by institutions to the Colorado Department of Higher Education. This report will be updated if any subsequent file resubmissions result in changes to the numbers.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 23-1-131, CRS