

## Time to Degree Completion:

### A Closer Look at the Spring 2015 Degree & Certificate Recipients

#### Purpose

The purpose of this snapshot is to understand degree attainment and time to completion for students who graduated in spring 2015.

#### Top Five Degrees and Certificates

In spring 2015, Citrus College awarded 1607 degrees and 693 certificates to a total of 977 students. The two tables below show the top five degrees and certificates awarded. The top five degrees account for 55% of all associate degrees awarded. The CSUGE certificate, which was first awarded in 2014-2015, accounts for 71% of all certificates awarded.

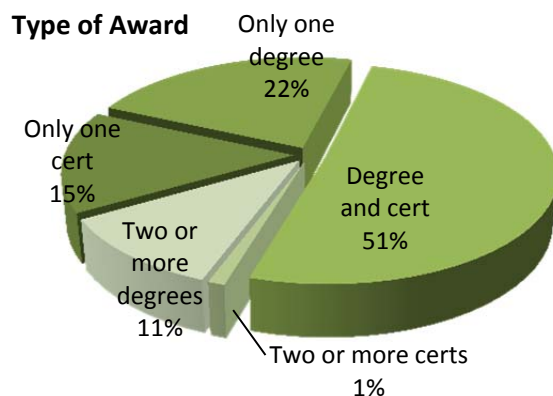
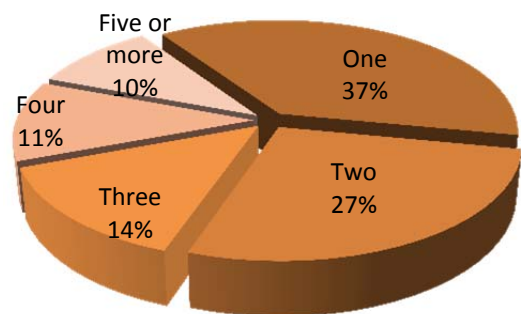
Top Five Degrees	Number Awarded
Social and Behavioral Science, AA	294
Biological and Physical Science & Math, AS	217
Liberal Arts: Social & Behavioral Science, AA	170
Business Administration, AS-T	111
Liberal Arts: Math & Science	86
<b>Top Five Total</b>	<b>878</b>

Top Five Certificate	Number Awarded
CSUGE_CERT2	492
Cosmetology	40
Dental Assisting	26
Audio Recording Technology	23
Child Development Teacher	13
<b>Top Five Total</b>	<b>594</b>

#### Number of degree/certificate earned and prior degree attainments

Of the 977 degree/certificate recipients, more than 60% of them earned two or more awards. In addition, 127 out of the 977 (13%) students had earned degree or certificate prior to spring 2015.

#### Number of degree/certificate earned



#### Types of Awards

Regarding the types of award, over half of the students earned both degree and certificate. Twenty-two percent earned only one degree and 15% earned only one certificate. While 11% of the students earned two or more degrees, only 1% of the students earned more than one certificate.

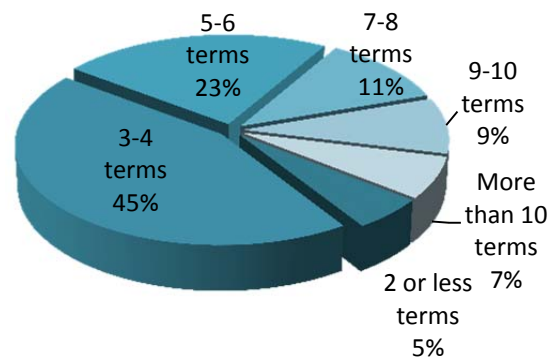
## First Time Degree Recipients

To understand the time to completion of associate degrees and certificates, we examine the 176 first-time associate degree recipients and the 133 first-time certificate recipients who earned only one degree or certificate in spring 2015.

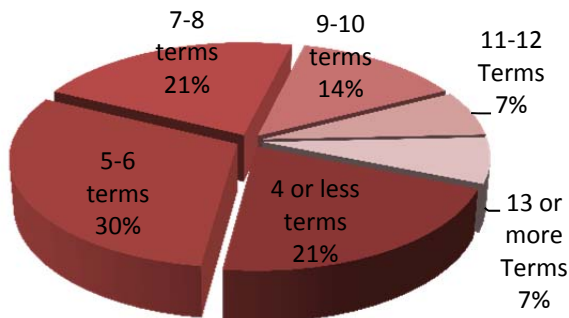
### How long does it take to complete a certificate?

We first look at the number of terms in which students enrolled in Citrus College before they received their certificates. The median number of terms for first time certificate recipients to earn their certificates is five primary terms (fall & spring) and eight total terms including summer and winter. The time to degree for certificate recipients ranges from 2 to 29 primary terms, but nearly three quarters (73%) of the students completed in six primary terms or less. It is important to note that students may not enroll in consecutive terms and the actual time it takes to complete a certificate could be longer. Only terms with course-taking records are counted in this study.

Time to Certificate



Time to Associate Degree



### How long does it take to complete an associate degree?

The median number of terms for first time associate degree recipients to earn their degree was eight primary terms (fall & spring) and 12 total terms including summer and winter. Time to degree for degree recipients ranges from 2 to 24 primary terms and 72% of the students completed in eight primary terms or less.

One common enrollment pattern for degree and certificate recipients is that they enrolled in summer or winter sessions. Seventy-seven percent of the certificate recipients and 93% of the degree recipients enrolled in at least one summer or winter session.

### Limitations

Time to degree attainment is associated with many factors such as the requirements of the academic program, the English and math placement, and transfer credits. Future studies are needed to examine these factors and how they affect time to completion.