

Illinois Community College Board Frequently Asked Questions

HOW MANY STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGES?

Historically, the fiscal year 2025 completion counts are at the highest level ever recorded. In fiscal year 2025, 73,687 degrees and certificates were earned by Illinois community college students. Table 1 below contains comparative completion data for the last five years. The number of degrees and certificates awarded increased 5.1 percent from the previous year. Compared to last year, among the 45 colleges, 28 experienced increases in the number of degrees and certificates awarded, while 14 exhibited decreases. Three colleges reported little or no change. Compared to fiscal year 2021, the total number of fiscal year 2025 completions increased 19.3 percent.

Table 1
Summary Comparison of Annual Completions in Illinois Public Community Colleges, Fiscal Years 2021-2025

	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Trans/Gen Assoc/ Gen Studies	29,470	28,816	27,770	29,056	28,781
% Change	-4.3%	-2.2%	-3.6%	4.6%	-0.9%
CTE	32,313	35,981	37,478	41,035	44,906
% Change	-7.4%	11.4%	4.2%	9.5%	9.4%
TOTALS	61,783	64,797	65,248	70,091	73,687
% Change	-6.0%	4.9%	0.7%	7.4%	5.1%

Source of Data: ICCB Centralized Data System—Annual Enrollment and Completion (A1 & A2)

As depicted in Figure 1, more than half of the 73,687 completers during fiscal year 2025 received Career and Technical Education (CTE) degrees or certificates (60.9 percent). Transfer degrees and certificates were the second most frequently awarded and accounted for 35.7 percent of all the collegiate-level completions. Looking at the trends over time, overall CTE completions increased 9.4 percent compared to last year and increased 39.0 percent compared to five years earlier. A closer examination of the categories of formal awards issued within CTE in fiscal year 2025 shows that more than one-third (37.3 percent) of the completions was Career Certificates of Nine to less than Thirty Semester Hours. The total number of Transfer degrees and certificates awarded in fiscal year 2025 decreased 2.4 percent compared to the last fiscal year and decreased (-2.5 percent) from fiscal year 2021. Among Transfer degrees granted, the Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree was the most frequently awarded (47.5 percent).

Figure 1. Overall Annual Completions, FY 2021-2025

For more information on enrollments, see the report, [Annual Student Enrollments and Completions in the Illinois Community College System](#), fiscal year 2025, or [Data and Characteristics of the Illinois Public Community College System](#), 2026 Data Book.

Visit the ICCB website to [locate a Community College near you](#) or for a [map of district boundaries](#).

