Frequently-Asked-Questions

What does this report display?

This website displays earnings of students completing certificates and degrees from Washington's public colleges and universities and for those completing apprenticeship programs in Washington.

Completers with earnings in the report:

Include individuals:

- Employed in Washington
- Earning at least 75 percent of full-time hours at Washington's minimum wage*
- Working all four quarters in a calendar year

Do **not include** individuals:

- Employed exclusively outside Washington
- Earning less than 75 percent of full-time hours at Washington's minimum wage*
- That are self-employed
- Employed by the Federal Government

*See Earnings definition for specific criteria

What does this report NOT represent?

This report does not represent employment rates or earnings for completers who are self-employed individuals, federal employees, and those employed exclusively outside Washington. It also does not include total numbers of certificates or degrees awarded by an institution or organization.

Why do I see institutions or fields of study listed but no earnings information is displayed?

If the report does not show earnings information for a field of study, it is because that program does not have at least 30 completers employed in Washington.

Why does a program need 30 completers employed in Washington to show earnings information?

We adhere to the student and employment privacy laws that dictate how data should be publicly displayed. In addition, conclusions based on less than 30 people are less reliable.

Is there any out-of-state employment information for Washington graduates?

Washington participated in a pilot project led by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) and shared education and employment data with Oregon, Idaho and Hawaii. Reports are available.

Can I get this same type of information for other states?

Yes, www.Collegemeasures.org has earnings information for other states including Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

I have questions that need more detailed information. Is this available to me?

We are happy to share de-identifiable data in the form of aggregated data tables or data sets. Please visit ERDC's data access page for more information.

Is there a website that can help me find the education and training I need to get a job?

Yes, www.careerbridge.wa.gov is Washington's one-stop source for career and education planning. The site has a career interest quiz, lists jobs that are in high demand, and displays performance information for education programs.

Can I save the data from this report?

Yes, click on the arrow next to the disc icon at the top of the page and choose from the following formats: XML, CSV, PDF, MHTML, Excel, TIFF and Word.

Can I print this report?

Yes, click on the printer icon at the top of the page.

Why are you providing this information?

The 2014 Legislature, via a budget proviso, requested that ERDC "create a report of employment and earnings outcomes for degrees, apprenticeships and certificates earned at institutions of higher education" (ESSB 6002, Sec 129). In addition, institutions have relied on graduate surveys to get important feedback information for accreditation and program improvement purposes. While wage outcomes are not the only way to evaluate a program, linking completion and employment data and providing this to institutions can assist them in decision-making.