

# EDUCATION IN KENTUCKY: IMPROVING BY DEGREES

A new report from the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education shows that Kentuckians attaining postsecondary degrees and credentials has increased 11.4% over the last five years. The state’s most significant gains were made in closing the achievement gaps for underrepresented minority students, with that group’s attainment statistics rising 23% over the last five years. STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) was the area of study with the largest growth in awards, with a five-year increase of 45.4% at the undergraduate level and an increase of 85.3% at the graduate level.

KENTUCKY’S DEGREE AND CREDENTIAL PRODUCTION, 2013-2019

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	5-year Change
Short-Term Certificates	22,325	20,690	21,461	24,953	26,405	18.3%
Associate	10,846	10,789	10,665	10,867	10,652	-1.8%
Bachelor’s	21,634	22,041	22,799	23,189	23,666	9.4%
Graduate Certificate	491	462	542	498	575	17.1%
Specialist	166	234	322	412	416	150%
Master’s	8,161	8,108	8,121	8,274	9,114	11.7%
Doctorate	1,858	1,804	1,919	1,953	2,110	13.6%
Total	65,481	64,128	65,829	70,146	72,936	11.4%

Source: Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education