TENNESSEE PROMISE ANNUAL REPORT 2020

TENNESSEE
Promise

This report is prepared pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-4-708(e), which instructs the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) and Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation (TSAC)[1] to:

> "...provide assistance to the general assembly by researching and analyzing data concerning [Tennessee Promise], including, but not limited to, student success and scholarship retention. TSAC shall report its findings annually to the education committee of the senate and the education administration and planning committee of the house of representatives by March 15."

In pursuit of its mission to increase the number of Tennesseans with a postsecondary credential, THEC and TSAC have implemented various programs and initiatives to encourage Tennesseans to engage with higher education and support students through completion. The most prominent and highly publicized of these programs (and the focus of this report) is the Tennessee Promise, signed into law by the Tennessee General Assembly in 2014.

[1] For more information about THEC and TSAC, please see the Glossary in Appendix A.

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Executive Summary

The 2020 Tennessee Promise Annual Report provides an update on the status and impact of the Tennessee Promise program. Five cohorts of Tennessee Promise students have matriculated into eligible public and private institutions, and the sixth cohort will enroll in the fall semester of this year. The report presents descriptive data on Tennessee Promise applicants and students, student outcomes, student transfer behavior, and program finances. Key findings from the report are summarized below.

- Tennessee Promise has enrolled over 88,000 students since its inception in 2015. In that time, it has helped Tennessee students cover over $115 million in college costs.
- Across the first five cohorts of Tennessee Promise applicants, approximately 85% filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the specified deadline, 42% completed community service requirements by the specified deadline, and 29% met all eligibility criteria and enrolled at an eligible institution.
- Tennessee Promise applicants for Cohort 4 have reported an average ACT composite score (19.9) below the state average for all high school seniors (20.2) but higher than the average score for incoming students at community colleges (19.2). This trend is consistent across all five cohorts.
- Based on Cohort 5 data, the profile of an average Tennessee Promise student is a White female whose parent(s) or guardian(s) attended college. Her family has an adjusted gross income of $53,500and an expected family contribution of $3,900 She scored a 19.3 on the ACT, which is below the HOPE Scholarship eligibility threshold. This profile does not substantially deviate across past cohorts of Tennessee Promise students, though the proportion of Hispanic Tennessee Promise students has steadily risen since the first cohort in 2015 (from 3.5% to 6.4%).
- The average number of credit hours attempted by Tennessee Promise students in their first semester is 13.3. This has held steady across cohorts, however the average number of credit hours earned in the first semester has decreased slightly from Cohort 1 to Cohort 4, from 10.2 to 9.8.
- Almost 6,000 Tennessee Promise students have already transferred to a Tennessee public university to continue their education.
- Previous Tennessee Promise cohorts have continued to increase their credential attainment. Forty-two percent of Cohort 1, thirty-five percent of Cohort 2, and twenty-two percent of Cohort 3 have earned an award as of Summer 2019.
- Early indicators suggest Cohort 3 may be lagging the successes seen by Cohorts 1 and 2 in terms of retention and graduation. The success rate (students graduated or still enrolled) of Cohort 3 Fall enrollees at the end of the second year was 57.5%, which was slightly lower than Cohorts 1 (59.8%) and 2 (59.9%) at the same time in the process. THEC will continue to track this trend as more data are available.

Introduction

The 2020 Tennessee Promise Annual Report comprises five primary sections:

1. The first section provides descriptive characteristics for Tennessee Promise applicants in the first six cohorts.
2. The second section provides descriptive characteristics for students who enrolled and were certified as eligible for Tennessee Promise by an institution.
3. The third section examines the outcomes of Tennessee Promise, including FAFSA-filing, college-going, student retention, degree completion, and enrollment changes at public institutions.
4. The fourth section examines transfer behavior among Tennessee Promise students.
5. The fifth section provides information about program finances, including the total annual cost of the program and the average cost per student.

Privacy Notice

Throughout this report, THEC complies with federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requirements to protect students' personally identifiable information. When tables are presented, individual cells containing five or fewer observations are suppressed. The suppressed counts are included in the table totals.

Section 1:

Program Description

Program Description

The Tennessee Promise is a last-dollar scholarship that affords recent high school graduates the opportunity to complete an associate's degree or certificate program free of tuition and mandatory fees at a public community college, a Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT),[2] or a public or private university with an eligible associate's degree program. Tennessee Promise students must enroll full-time at an eligible postsecondary institution in the fall semester immediately following high school graduation. This scholarship is intended to supplement existing financial aid.

As a last-dollar scholarship, Tennessee Promise funds the remaining balance of tuition and mandatory fees after all other gift aid has been applied. The amount of the Tennessee Promise award is based on the other gift aid a student receives. First, the federal Pell grant is applied, followed by state gift aid (e.g., Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship awards and the Tennessee Student Assistance Award). After all federal and state gift aid is applied to the student's total tuition and mandatory fees, the remaining balance is paid by Tennessee Promise. **Table 1** displays three examples of different Tennessee Promise scenarios. Individuals who have met all eligibility criteria for Tennessee Promise and who have all tuition and mandatory fee expenses covered by gift aid (i.e., have a balance of $0.00) are considered a Tennessee Promise student.

Table 1: Tennessee Promise Award Scenarios

	Example A	**Example B**	**Example C**
Tuition/mandatory fees	$2,250	$2,250	$2,250
Grant aid (HOPE, Pell, TSAA)	$3,250	$1,500	$0
Gap between grant aid and tuition/mandatory fees	$0	$750	$2,250
Tennessee Promise award amount	$0	$750	$2,250
Tuition/Mandatory Fees Balance	$0	$0	$0

Tennessee Promise students are paired with a mentor to guide them through the postsecondary application and enrollment processes. Students are required to complete eight hours of community service for each semester in which they enroll using Tennessee Promise. The mentorship and community service components are coordinated by two privately funded partnering organizations across the state: tnAchieves and the Ayers Foundation.

[2] For more information about TCATs, please see the Glossary in Appendix A.

The 2018-19 application process and corresponding deadlines, applicable to Cohort 5, are as follows:[3]

1. November 1st: Complete an online application for the Tennessee Promise program.
2. February 1st: File the 2019-20 FAFSA.
3. Fall and Spring: Attend a mandatory meeting coordinated by the partnering organization.
4. Spring: Apply to a community college or TCAT.
5. July 1st: Complete and report eight hours of community service.
6. Fall: Enroll full-time at a community college, TCAT or other eligible institution.
7. Fall: If selected, provide requested documentation to complete FAFSA verification.

Students may receive Tennessee Promise funds until they earn an associate's degree or TCAT diploma or complete five semesters at an eligible postsecondary institution (whichever occurs first). Once enrolled, Tennessee Promise students must complete the following steps to remain eligible for the scholarship:

1. All students must renew the FAFSA for each year they plan to receive the scholarship.
2. Students enrolled at community colleges and universities must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0.
3. Students enrolled at TCATs must maintain satisfactory academic progress (as determined by the institution).
4. All students must complete eight hours of community service for each semester in which they enroll using Tennessee Promise.

[3] Archived student checklists outlining steps and dates in prior years' application processes are located on the Tennessee Promise website at https://www.tn.gov/tnpromise/students.html

Section 2:

Tennessee Promise Applicants

Tennessee Promise Applicants

Applying for Tennessee Promise involves several steps. **Table 2** displays the total number of applicants for the first six cohorts who maintained scholarship eligibility at each interval in the application process. The number of applicants at each stage increased steadily through the fifth cohort. While Cohort 6 had 28 fewer applicants than the previous year, 562 more applicants filed the FAFSA by the deadline.

Table 2: Tennessee Promise Application Process by Counts, Cohorts 1 through 6

	Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	Cohort 4	Cohort 5	Cohort 6[4]
Applied for Tennessee Promise[5]	57,696	59,375	60,447	62,408	64,253	64,225
Filed the FAFSA	45,743	49,052	51,864	55,072	56,765	57,327
Completed Community service	22,761	23,725	25,688	27,602	28,672	
Enrolled at an eligible institution	16,207	17,191	17,912	18,350	18,826	

Table 3 below presents the proportion of applicants completing each step in the application process by cohort. Across the first five cohorts, approximately 85% filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid by the specified deadline, 42% completed community service requirements by the specified deadline, and 29% met all eligibility criteria and enroll at an eligible institution.

Table 3: Tennessee Promise Application Process by Proportion, Cohorts 1 through 6

	Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	Cohort 4	Cohort 5	Cohort 6
Applied for Tennessee Promise	57,696	59,375	60,447	62,408	64,253	64,225
Filed the FAFSA	79.3%	82.6%	85.8%	88.2%	88.3%	89.3%
Completed Community service	39.4%	40.0%	42.5%	44.2%	44.6%	
Enrolled at an eligible institution	28.1%	29.0%	29.6%	29.4%	29.3%	

[4] At the time of this report, data on community service completion and enrollment is unavailable for Cohort 6.
[5] Appendix B displays the Tennessee Promise application rates by public school district for the first five cohorts.

Table 4 presents demographic information for all Tennessee Promise applicants in Cohorts 3 through 5, including gender, race, first generation status, adjusted gross income (AGI), expected family contribution (EFC),[6] and ACT composite score.

Table 4: Demographics for Tennessee Promise Applicants, Cohorts 3 through 5

	Cohort 3	Cohort 4	Cohort 5
Gender			
Male	49.9%	49.7%	50.3%
Female	50.0%	50.3%	49.6%
Race			
White	61.7%	61.4%	61.1%
African-American	20.7%	20.2%	19.7%
Hispanic	4.8%	5.5%	6.6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.4%	1.7%	1.9%
Other	2.2%	2.5%	2.6%
Unknown	9.1%	8.7%	8.1%
First generation	36.9%	37.3%	36.0%
Median adjusted gross income	$39,294	$39,883	$42,129
Median expected family contribution	$1,870	$2,305	$2,594
Average ACT composite score	19.8	19.9	19.9
Total	**60,447**	**62,408**	**64,253**

[6] First generation status, AGI, and EFC are available only for students who complete the FAFSA. FAFSA information is available for 85.8% in Cohort 3, and 88.2% of Cohort 4, and 88.3% of Cohort 5. EFC is a measure of how much a student's family could reasonably contribute to the student's education and is used by institutions to determine a student's financial need. More information about EFC is available at https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/next-steps/how-calculated. For applicant demographics of Cohorts 1 and 2, refer to the 2019 Tennessee Promise Annual Report.

Figure 1 displays the average ACT composite scores for Tennessee Promise applicants in Cohorts 1 through 4 compared to all high school seniors and the total incoming freshmen at community colleges across the state. The vertical axis has been truncated to demonstrate the differences between groups more clearly. ACT scores range from 0-36.

Figure 1: Average ACT Composite Scores, Cohorts 1 through 4[7]

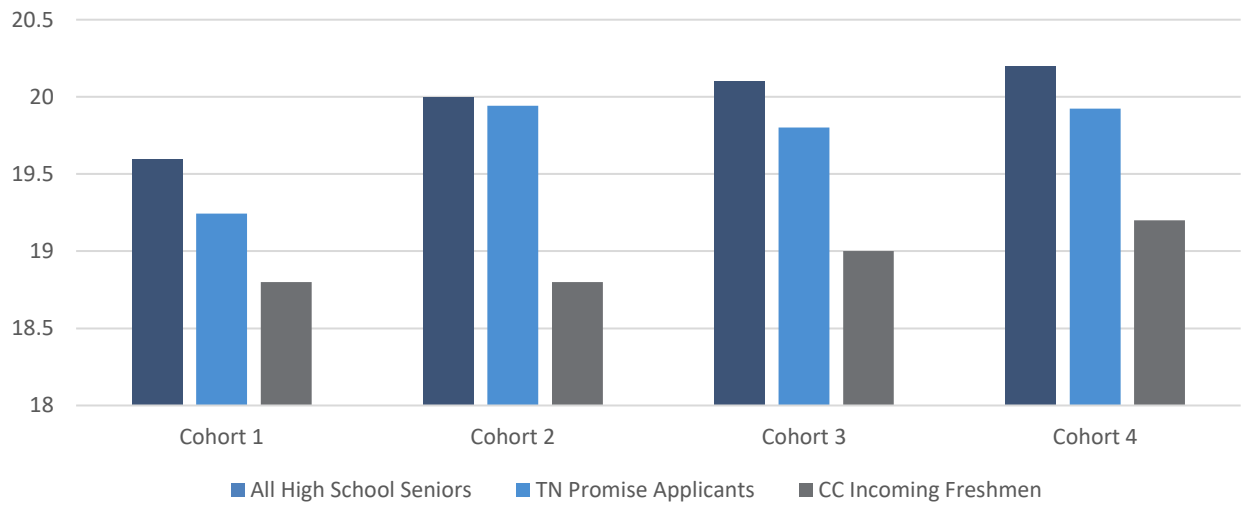
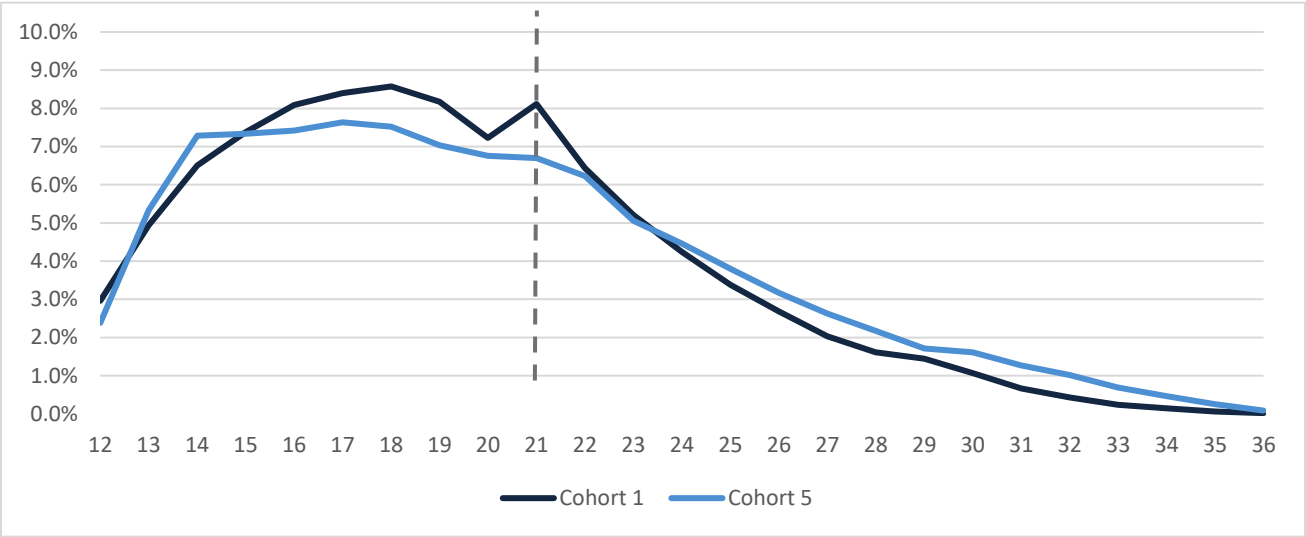


Figure 2 compares the distributions of ACT composite scores for the first and fifth cohorts. The HOPE scholarship eligibility threshold is indicated below with a vertical dashed line (21 or above). The horizontal axis has been truncated to demonstrate the differences between groups more clearly Since the first cohort of Tennessee Promise applicants, the proportion of those scoring between 15 and 22 has decreased, and the share of those scoring above 24 has increased slightly.

Figure 2: Distribution of ACT Composite Scores, Cohorts 1 and 5



[7] Groups are not mutually exclusive.

Section 3:

Tennessee Promise Students

Tennessee Promise Students

Table 5 presents the demographic characteristics of the Tennessee Promise students in Cohorts 3, 4, and 5 as compared to the demographic characteristics of the total applicant pool. Tennessee Promise applicants are those who submitted a Tennessee Promise application, while Tennessee Promise students are those who enrolled and were certified as eligible for Tennessee Promise by an institution (including those who received $0 from Tennessee Promise). Though there is gender similarity among applicants, the majority of Tennessee Promise students are female. The proportion of Hispanic applicants and students have trended upward in recent years. Compared to the applicants, Tennessee Promise students have a higher median AGI and EFC and slightly lower ACT scores.

Table 5: Tennessee Promise Applicants and Tennessee Promise Students, Cohorts 3 through 5

	Cohort 3		**Cohort 4**		**Cohort 5**	
	Applicants	Students	Applicants	Students	Applicants	Students
Gender						
Male	49.9%	46.8%	49.7%	46.6%	50.3%	47.2%
Female	50.0%	53.2%	50.3%	53.4%	49.6%	52.8%
Race						
White	61.7%	71.7%	61.4%	69.6%	61.1%	69.0%
African-American	20.7%	13.4%	20.2%	14.0%	19.7%	13.4%
Hispanic	4.8%	4.1%	5.5%	5.1%	6.6%	6.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.4%	1.2%	1.7%	1.4%	1.9%	1.5%
Other	2.2%	1.7%	2.5%	2.0%	2.6%	2.2%
Unknown	9.1%	7.9%	8.7%	7.7%	8.1%	7.5%
First generation	36.9%	40.6%	37.3%	40.1%	36.0%	40.0%
Median adjusted gross income	$39,294	$53,388	$39,883	$52,651	$42,129	$53,545
Median expected family contribution	$1,870	$3,931	$2,305	$3,786	$2,594	$3,907
Average ACT composite score	19.8	19.4	19.9	19.4	19.9	19.3
Total	**60,447**	**17,912**	**62,408**	**18,350**	**64,253**	**18,826**

Table 6 displays the sector in which Tennessee Promise students first enrolled. The majority of Tennessee Promise students enroll first at a community college, but a growing proportion are matriculating at TCATs and private institutions. **Appendix C** provides Tennessee Promise enrollment counts by institution.

Table 6: First Enrollment of Tennessee Promise Students by Sector, Cohorts 3 through 5

	Cohort 3		**Cohort 4**		**Cohort 5**	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Community college	14,300	79.8%	13,966	76.1%	14,235	75.6%
TCAT	2,101	11.7%	2,452	13.4%	2,676	14.2%
Private institution	855	4.8%	1,093	6.0%	1,293	6.9%
APSU or TSU	656	3.7%	839	4.6%	622	3.3%
Total	**17,912**	**100%**	**18,350**	**100%**	**18,826**	**100%**

Table 7 provides financial aid information for Tennessee Promise students in Cohorts 1 through 4. These data are reflective of a student's eligibility for financial aid through their entire enrollment history. For example, if a student ever received a TSAA grant (regardless of when or even if only in one semester), the student is included in the percentage of students receiving TSAA. The proportion of Tennessee Promise students eligible to receive Pell Grants differ from past versions of this report. Prior to this report, the proportion of students eligible to receive Pell Grants was reflective only of those who enroll at a public institution. The statistics quoted in Table 7 are not limited to public institutions.

Table 7: Financial Aid for Tennessee Promise Students, Cohorts 1 through 4

	Cohort 1	**Cohort 2**	**Cohort 3**	**Cohort 4**
Eligible for Pell Grant (any amount)[8]	61.8%	60.9%	62.1%	61.7%
Received maximum Pell Grant ($0 EFC)	28.3%	29.2%	30.3%	29.7%
Received TSAA[9]	35.6%	33.7%	36.8%	32.9%
Received HOPE, GAMS, Aspire, or Access[10]	51.0%	51.6%	54.1%	54.5%
Received Wilder-Naifeh Technical Skills Grant[11]	11.0%	10.3%	10.1%	10.6%
Total	**16,207**	**17,191**	**17,912**	**18,350**

[8] Data sourced from e*GRandS; prior reporting sourced data from THEC SIS

[9] TSAA is a first-come, first-serve, need-based grant. Due to limited funding, the eligibility requirements for TSAA are more stringent than the eligibility requirements for a Pell Grant, so fewer students qualify for and receive TSAA compared to Pell.

[10] For more information about the TELS program, please see the Glossary in **Appendix A**.

[11] **Table 5** displays students' institution of first enrollment. **Table 6** displays students' eligibility for financial aid through their entire enrollment history. Consequently, it appears that the share of students receiving a Wilder-Naifeh Technical Skills Grant exceeds the share of students enrolled at a TCAT. This is due to students who begin at a community college or university, transfer to a TCAT, and then receive the Wilder-Naifeh Technical Skills Grant.

Section 4:

Tennessee Promise Outcomes

Impact on Students

Figure 3 displays Tennessee's FAFSA-filing and college-going rates. The first dashed line represents the implementation of Tennessee Promise in 2015, and the second dashed line represents a change in the methods for calculating the FAFSA-filing rate.[12] The college-going rate reflects the share of public high school graduates who enroll at a postsecondary institution in the summer or fall semester immediately after high school graduation.

Figure 3: Tennessee FAFSA-Filing and College-Going Rates[13]

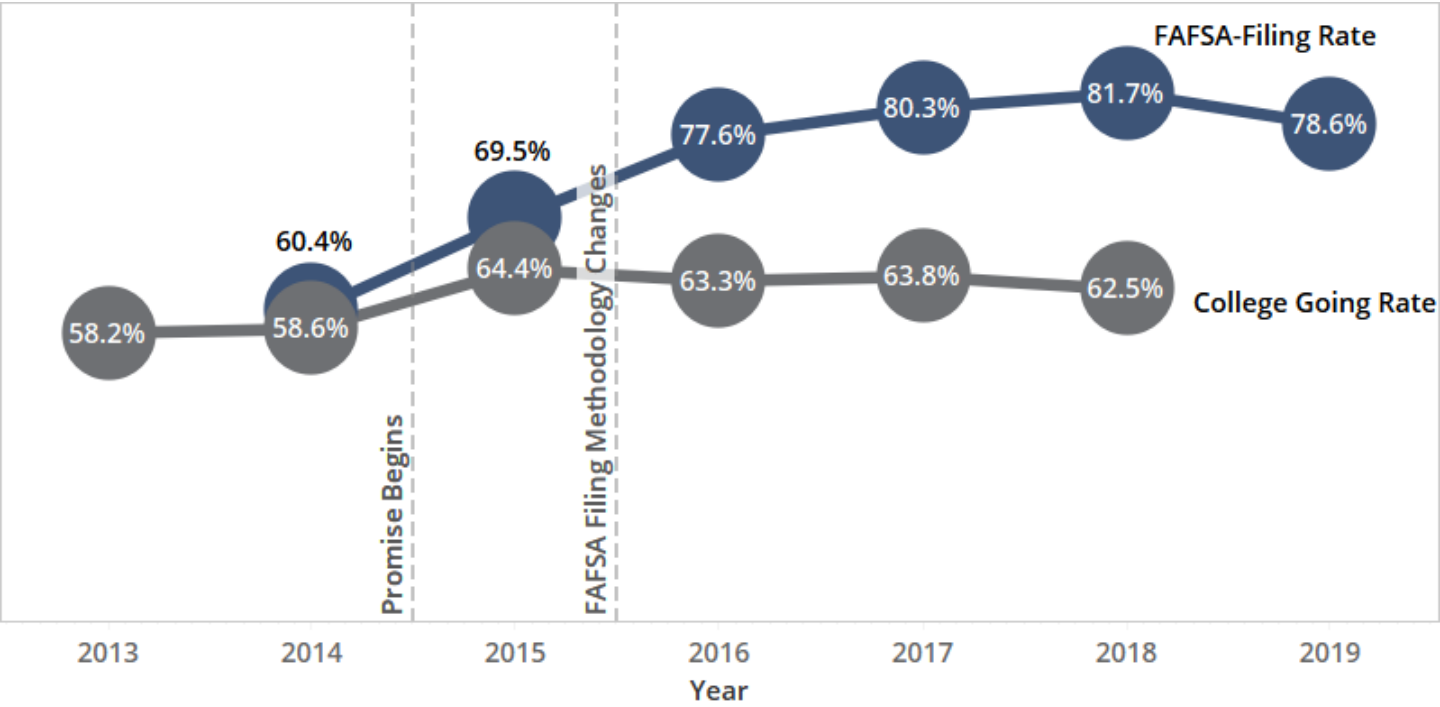
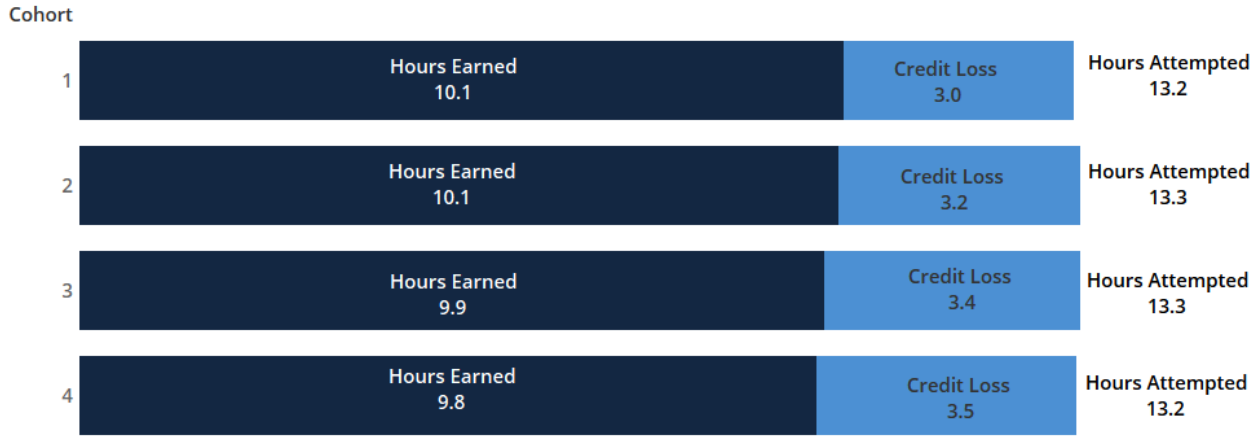


Figure 4 displays the credit hours attempted and earned by each cohort in the first semester they enrolled. Tennessee Promise students are required to enroll in at least 12 hours to maintain scholarship eligibility. Cohorts 1-4 have averaged 13.3 hours attempted overall. Credit loss in the first semester appears to be trending upward, with Cohort 1 losing about 3 of their attempted credits in semester one, while Cohort 4 lost 3.5 hours.

[12] Previously, the FAFSA-filing rate included first-time filers 18 and younger. Beginning in 2016, the FAFSA-filing rate includes first-time filers 19 and younger. Due to the change in methodology, the FAFSA-filing rates for 2016-2018 are not directly comparable to previous years.

[13] Due to delays in data reporting from the National Student Clearinghouse, fall 2019 data are unavailable for college-going rate.

Figure 4: Hours Attempted and Earned in First Semester, by Cohort[14]

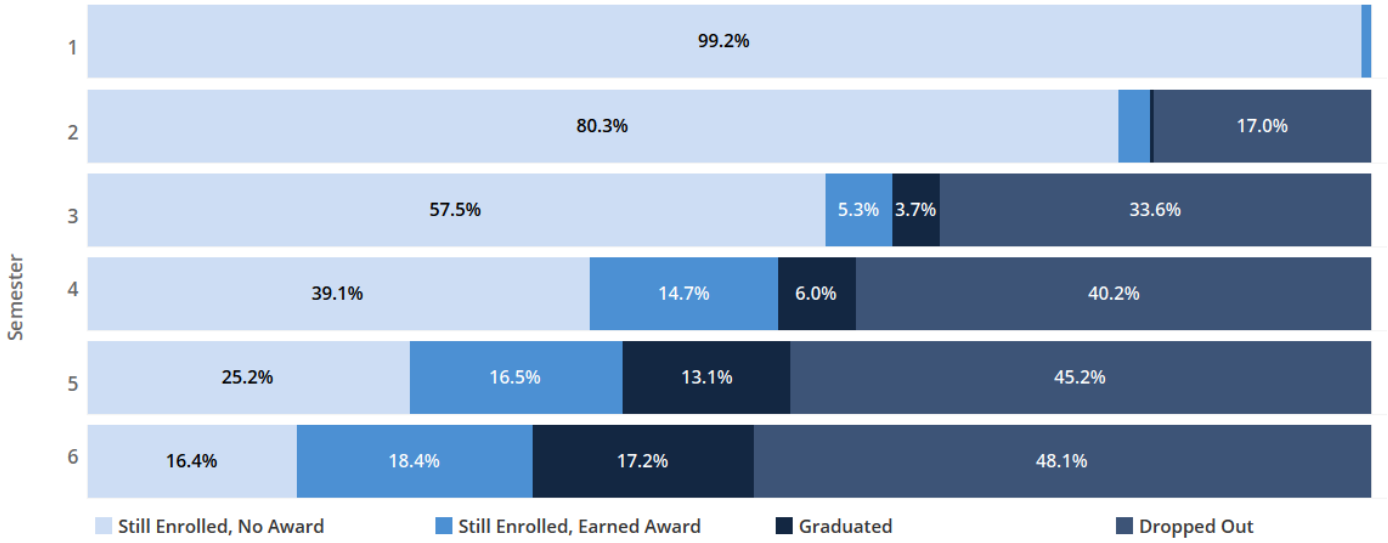


Retention and Completion

Figure 5, Figure 6, and Figure 7 depict the success rates of Tennessee Promise students through their first few years of the program, limited to fall and spring semesters. The success rate comprises students who are still enrolled with no award, students who earned a credential and remain enrolled, and those who have graduated. These data are inclusive of all Tennessee public institutions, including TCATs. Awards data include certificates, associate's, and bachelor's degrees.

Each figure begins with the fall semester. Each cohort shows similar trends in outcomes by semester. The biggest loss of students to dropout occurs between the first fall and the first spring. Graduations begin as early as semester one, with students earning certificates. Large jumps in credential attainment occur at the end of the second year (semester 4).

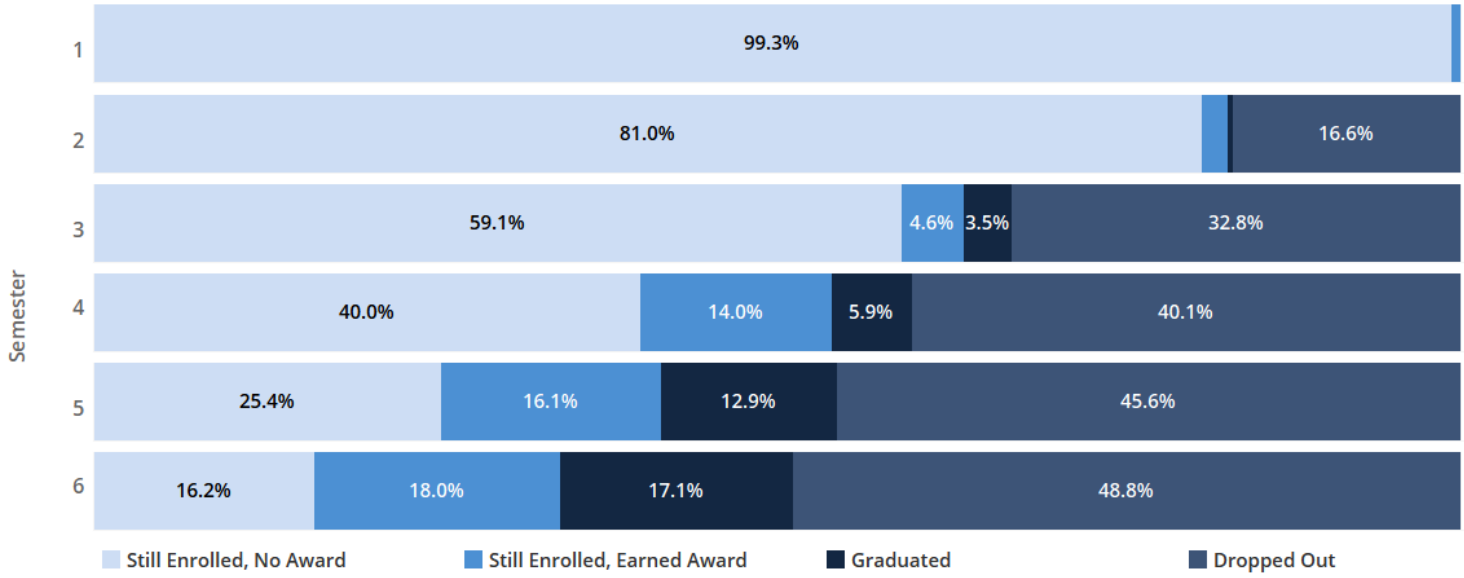
Figure 5: Success Rates by Semester, Cohort 1



Notes: Semester 1 shows fall 2015 results, semester 2 shows spring 2016, semester 3 shows fall 2016 and so on. Data are limited to students who enrolled in the fall of their cohort year. Awards are noted as of the end of that semester.

[14] Data are limited to enrollees at the public community colleges and universities.

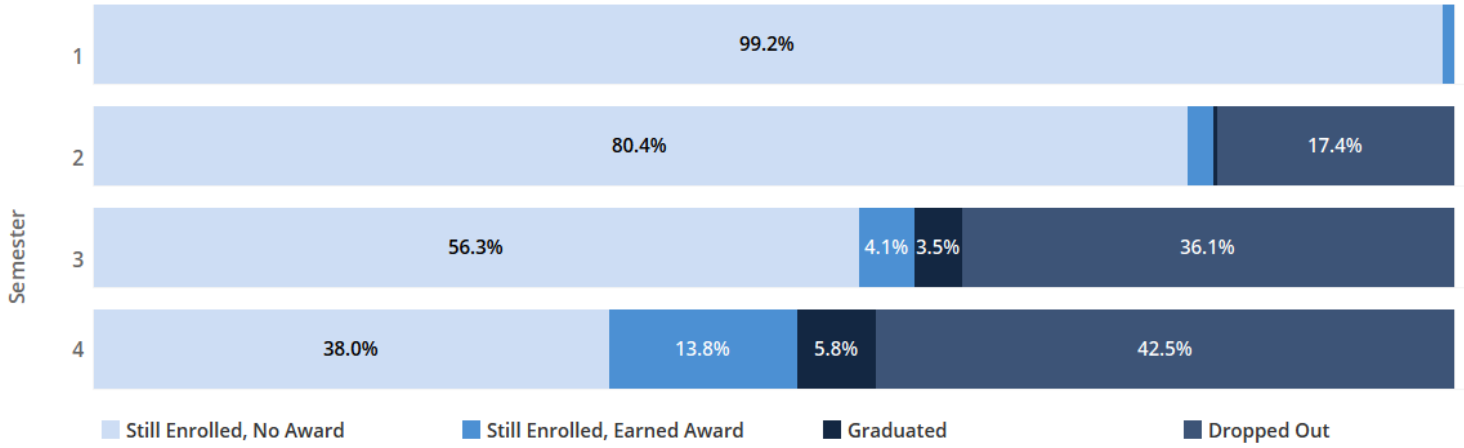
Figure 6: Success Rates by Semester, Cohort 2



Notes: Semester 1 shows fall 2016 results, semester 2 shows spring 2017, semester 3 shows fall 2017 and so on. Data are limited to students who enrolled in the Fall of their cohort year. Awards are noted as of the end of that semester.

Figure 7 shows the four semesters of data that THEC has available for Cohort 3, which lags behind the successes seen by Cohort 1 in terms of both graduation and retention and behind Cohort 2 for retention.

Figure 7: Success Rates by Semester, Cohort 3



Notes: Semester 1 shows fall 2017 results, semester 2 shows spring 2018, semester 3 shows fall 2018 and so on. Data are limited to students who enrolled in the fall of their cohort year. Awards are noted as of the end of that semester.

Table 8 shows the proportion of students from each community college that have transferred to a four-year institution, by cohort. Motlow State leads among Cohort 1 transfers to four-year institutions. Cohorts 1 and 2 have had more time to transfer than Cohort 3. Transfer rates for Cohort 3 will continue to increase as students work their way through their college careers.

Table 8: University Enrollment for Tennessee Promise Students by Community College and Cohort

	Cohort					
	1		2		3	
	Total Enrollment	% with University Enrollment	Total Enrollment	% with University Enrollment	Total Enrollment	% with University Enrollment
Chattanooga State	1,089	17.4%	1,036	16.4%	1,058	2.1%
Cleveland State	442	26.5%	506	24.9%	514	4.9%
Columbia State	1,004	22.2%	1,126	22.0%	1,204	4.7%
Dyersburg State	300	24.7%	368	20.7%	331	4.2%
Jackson State	690	24.9%	757	18.2%	724	4.7%
Motlow State	1,350	32.9%	1,365	25.6%	1,402	3.1%
Nashville State	1,151	22.4%	1,049	15.1%	853	3.6%
Northeast State	1,085	27.4%	1,112	22.5%	1,161	2.8%
Pellissippi State	1,756	28.4%	1,798	20.5%	1,838	5.8%
Roane State	997	25.8%	1,005	19.6%	1,066	2.8%
Southwest TN	964	20.7%	1,107	13.7%	1,242	2.7%
Volunteer State	1,445	22.4%	1,452	16.5%	1,631	5.1%
Walters State	1,096	22.4%	1,172	18.8%	1,275	2.2%
Total	13,369	24.7%	13,853	19.4%	14,299	3.8%

Table 9 provides a matrix with the number Tennessee Promise students from Cohorts 1 through 4 that each community college sent to each Tennessee public university through summer 2019. Pellissippi State has sent the largest number of students onto public universities (N=936), followed by Motlow State (N=794) and Volunteer State (N=560). Middle Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville lead among recipients of Tennessee Promise students, with each enrolling over a thousand Tennessee Promise students to date.

Table 9: Tennessee Promise Transfer to Universities by Sending Community College, Cohorts 1-4

Sending Institution	APSU	ETSU	MTSU	TSU	TTU	UofM	UTC	UTK	UTM	**Grand Total**
Chattanooga State	*	15	38	*	22	*	247	17	*	**352**
Cleveland State	*	25	16	*	19	*	97	36	*	**195**
Columbia State	19	*	224	8	53	*	61	54	39	**468**
Dyersburg State	9	*	7	*	8	38	*	*	80	**150**
Jackson State	23	*	29	10	*	106	11	9	125	**319**
Motlow State	9	8	531	17	143	*	41	31	13	**794**
Nashville State	99	*	93	48	39	6	16	18	29	**353**
Northeast State	*	489	9	*	21	*	*	16	*	**543**
Pellissippi State	11	98	59	*	66	*	39	657	*	**936**
Roane State	*	67	28	*	210	*	18	91	*	**420**
Southwest TN	17	3	25	17	3	268	6	11	14	**364**
Volunteer State	80	7	144	32	180	*	45	56	13	**560**
Walters State	*	247	15	*	19	*	12	100	*	**403**
Grand Total	**283**	**970**	**1,218**	**137**	**788**	**432**	**603**	**1,099**	**327**	**5,857**

Section 5:

Program Finances

Program Finances

Tennessee Promise awards are funded by the interest generated from the Tennessee Promise scholarship endowment fund[15] and excess Tennessee Education Lottery funds. As stated in T.C.A. § 4-51-111(b)(3), a minimum of $100 million must remain in a reserve account to fund Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarships (e.g., HOPE Scholarships). The transfers to the Promise Endowment account took place in 2014-15 (July through Oct 2014) in the following amounts: $312,542,000 from the lottery reserve, and $48,839,300 from TSAC's operating fund for a total initial transfer of $361,381,300.

Table 10 and **Table 11** depict the average Tennessee Promise dollars awarded in each semester since program inception. **Table 10** shows averages including students who were paid $0, and **Table 11** shows averages without $0 payments included. In each case, the average amount for the winter semester is substantially lower than other semesters because winter is a payment term only used for TCATs. Because tuition at a TCAT is less than tuition at a community college and many students receive the Wilder-Naifeh Technical Skills Grant, the average award amount for TCAT students is lower than the average award amount for community college students.

Table 10: Average Tennessee Promise Dollars Awarded Per Student, by Academic Year and Semester ($0 Payments Included)

Academic Year	Fall	Spring	Summer	Winter	Total Cost
2015-16	$ 521	$ 556	$ 903	$ 209	$ 15,169,156
2016-17	$ 576	$ 619	$ 1,054	$ 249	$ 25,106,165
2017-18	$ 580	$ 607	$ 664	$ 244	$ 28,142,509
2018-19	$ 579	$ 604	$ 423	$ 251	$ 28,745,449
2019-20	$ 603				

Table 11: Average Tennessee Promise Dollars Awarded Per Student, by Academic Year and Semester ($0 Payments Excluded)

Academic Year	Fall	Spring	Summer	Winter	Total Cost
2015-16	$ 992	$ 935	$ 1,033	$ 515	$ 15,169,156
2016-17	$ 1,039	$ 1,014	$ 1,125	$ 540	$ 25,106,165
2017-18	$ 1,077	$ 1,035	$ 1,043	$ 579	$ 28,142,509
2018-19	$ 1,095	$ 1,060	$ 985	$ 603	$ 28,745,449
2019-20	$ 1,141				

[15] The Tennessee Promise scholarship endowment fund was created by T.C.A. § 49-4-708(d).

Appendices

Appendix A: Glossary

Locally Governed Institution (LGI): There are six public universities in Tennessee that have a local governing board. The six institutions are as follows: Austin Peay State University, East Tennessee State University, Middle Tennessee State University, Tennessee State University, Tennessee Technological University, and the University of Memphis.

Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR): The Tennessee Board of Regents is one of the two public systems of higher education in Tennessee. The Tennessee Board of Regents governs 13 community colleges and 27 Colleges of Applied Technology across the state.

Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship (TELS): The Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship program is a collection of scholarship and grant programs funded by state education lottery proceeds. These programs are intended to provide financial awards to offset costs associated with pursuing postsecondary education (HOPE, GAMS, Aspire, Access, and Wilder-Naifeh Technical Skills Grant, among others).

Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC): The Tennessee Higher Education Commission was created in 1967 by the Tennessee General Assembly to coordinate and foster unity within higher education. The Commission coordinates two systems of public higher education (the University of Tennessee and the Tennessee Board of Regents) and the six locally governed institutions (Austin Peay State University, East Tennessee State University, Middle Tennessee State University, Tennessee State University, Tennessee Technological University, and the University of Memphis).

Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation (TSAC): The Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation was created in 1974 by the Tennessee General Assembly as a non-profit corporation with the merging of the Tennessee Educational Loan Corporation and the Tennessee Tuition Grant Program. Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation (TSAC) administers over 20 different state student financial aid programs, including the HOPE scholarship, Tennessee Promise, Tennessee Reconnect, Tennessee Student Assistance Award, and the Dual Enrollment grant.

The University of Tennessee (UT): The University of Tennessee is one of the two public systems of higher education in Tennessee. The University of Tennessee's Board of Trustees governs 3 universities (Knoxville, Chattanooga, and Martin), the Health Science Center, the Space Institute, the Institute for Agriculture, and the Institute for Public Service.

Appendix B: Tennessee Promise Application Rates by District, Cohorts 1 through 5

School District	Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	Cohort 4	Cohort 5
Achievement School District	90.1%	89.7%	91.2%	88.5%	78.4%
Alcoa	85.4%	78.5%	83.2%	92.8%	97.6%
Anderson County	97.9%	97.7%	86.6%	89.5%	90.4%
Arlington	56.4%	91.7%	87.0%	98.8%	100.0%
Bartlett	49.5%	43.1%	53.8%	67.6%	67.5%
Bedford County	92.5%	89.1%	89.1%	88.9%	91.1%
Benton County	90.9%	94.4%	92.2%	89.5%	95.2%
Bledsoe County	82.8%	83.5%	56.4%	91.6%	95.9%
Blount County	70.6%	67.5%	75.4%	83.8%	98.8%
Bradford	100.0%	100.0%	86.1%	100.0%	100.0%
Bradley County	83.1%	75.0%	82.6%	91.1%	95.6%
Bristol	88.2%	76.0%	87.5%	90.6%	92.4%
Campbell County	94.4%	90.2%	92.6%	90.2%	93.6%
Cannon County	87.8%	85.1%	86.4%	95.7%	90.2%
Carter County	94.0%	95.5%	88.6%	92.1%	95.6%
Cheatham County	75.6%	83.7%	82.0%	84.4%	92.1%
Chester County	100.0%	100.0%	95.6%	96.1%	96.7%
Claiborne County	96.4%	98.5%	97.4%	96.1%	97.5%
Clay County	100.0%	100.0%	96.8%	100.0%	98.8%
Cleveland	78.6%	68.1%	72.6%	71.5%	91.4%
Cocke County	89.7%	93.6%	99.7%	100.0%	94.6%
Coffee County	83.7%	87.2%	85.0%	94.8%	94.7%
Collierville	40.1%	54.0%	62.6%	68.8%	51.4%
Crockett County	94.4%	93.9%	92.1%	93.7%	97.6%
Cumberland County	76.2%	86.1%	85.4%	81.0%	93.9%
Davidson County	86.7%	85.3%	80.1%	76.0%	81.0%
Decatur County	100.0%	98.9%	98.3%	98.4%	97.5%
DeKalb County	64.1%	66.9%	63.3%	61.9%	68.0%
Dickson County	85.9%	80.8%	92.5%	98.1%	98.3%
Dyer County	97.1%	95.6%	96.8%	95.7%	95.7%
Dyersburg	89.8%	88.0%	94.4%	69.8%	96.8%
Elizabethton	81.6%	83.6%	82.7%	88.8%	83.5%
Fayette County	95.9%	98.0%	93.2%	92.8%	95.7%
Fayetteville	96.0%	91.4%	97.4%	96.6%	95.2%
Fentress County	97.7%	98.0%	98.2%	97.8%	95.2%

School District	Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	Cohort 4	Cohort 5
Franklin County	86.2%	92.0%	89.9%	92.7%	96.3%
Germantown	24.7%	42.0%	56.2%	51.5%	56.4%
Gibson County	93.7%	94.7%	97.4%	98.0%	95.2%
Giles County	96.9%	96.1%	93.1%	97.4%	97.4%
Grainger County	96.4%	92.2%	95.4%	99.1%	93.5%
Greene County	99.2%	97.4%	94.6%	96.1%	92.9%
Greeneville	82.0%	85.8%	94.0%	90.6%	96.2%
Grundy County	88.1%	96.7%	95.6%	94.9%	94.8%
Hamblen County	91.6%	88.6%	90.5%	91.6%	90.7%
Hamilton County	78.0%	75.5%	74.3%	77.1%	76.5%
Hancock County	90.5%	94.0%	94.7%	90.0%	94.9%
Hardeman County	97.0%	97.3%	93.1%	97.2%	98.4%
Hardin County	92.1%	95.8%	97.6%	92.4%	95.6%
Hawkins County	92.5%	94.3%	96.7%	97.2%	99.6%
Haywood County	100.0%	91.0%	92.9%	93.3%	92.2%
Henderson County	96.0%	98.1%	94.2%	97.5%	95.1%
Henry County	46.3%	46.4%	84.1%	92.9%	95.6%
Hickman County	93.3%	96.3%	96.6%	95.5%	96.0%
Hollow-Rock Bruceton	100.0%	84.6%	87.3%	97.6%	95.6%
Houston County	66.3%	72.1%	58.3%	64.0%	28.6%
Humboldt	100.0%	100.0%	97.4%	98.4%	94.1%
Humphreys County	82.4%	82.3%	83.7%	88.9%	97.2%
Huntingdon	76.1%	67.0%	68.1%	74.4%	100.0%
Jackson County	94.7%	89.2%	90.1%	91.3%	100.0%
Jefferson County	71.3%	89.1%	89.0%	94.9%	95.3%
Johnson City	53.2%	60.5%	59.9%	57.1%	62.6%
Johnson County	92.3%	92.9%	94.0%	89.2%	92.4%
Kingsport	73.8%	82.4%	72.2%	80.2%	75.6%
Knox County	78.8%	80.9%	79.1%	82.0%	81.5%
Lake County	93.0%	94.8%	96.2%	100.0%	95.7%
Lauderdale County	96.5%	94.3%	96.4%	94.5%	95.8%
Lawrence County	89.6%	91.6%	92.6%	93.5%	96.3%
Lenoir City	78.8%	82.9%	88.5%	94.6%	93.3%
Lewis County	98.6%	100.0%	97.0%	95.0%	98.2%
Lincoln County	88.0%	82.0%	96.7%	97.3%	92.3%
Loudon County	76.3%	81.5%	83.2%	91.8%	91.2%
Macon County	95.2%	97.8%	95.1%	94.1%	95.9%
Madison County	100.0%	100.0%	89.8%	90.0%	93.7%
Marion County	94.3%	93.3%	89.2%	94.9%	89.7%
Marshall County	83.7%	85.8%	92.8%	97.1%	96.3%

School District	Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	Cohort 4	Cohort 5
Maryville	70.0%	73.0%	80.4%	90.3%	86.7%
Maury County	90.7%	93.3%	93.6%	97.2%	93.2%
McKenzie	78.6%	86.5%	97.7%	82.0%	98.2%
McMinn County	90.8%	90.5%	87.1%	81.9%	81.7%
McNairy County	96.2%	95.1%	96.3%	98.2%	95.0%
Meigs County	95.2%	100.0%	97.7%	95.2%	99.2%
Milan	100.0%	96.7%	93.2%	94.8%	94.9%
Millington	88.9%	88.2%	92.4%	94.4%	97.7%
Monroe County	97.6%	93.3%	87.3%	95.6%	96.6%
Montgomery County	74.0%	74.7%	71.8%	77.5%	73.4%
Moore County	97.2%	92.3%	98.3%	97.4%	97.1%
Morgan County	85.0%	88.9%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Oak Ridge	74.5%	77.4%	74.0%	86.4%	92.0%
Obion County	96.5%	97.0%	93.1%	93.2%	98.6%
Oneida	92.4%	92.6%	97.3%	94.9%	98.8%
Overton County	98.6%	92.1%	95.9%	97.5%	100.0%
Perry County	99.0%	95.0%	98.9%	100.0%	94.4%
Pickett County	89.1%	93.1%	90.9%	95.2%	97.4%
Polk County	91.7%	93.0%	72.9%	77.1%	94.3%
Putnam County	65.3%	69.1%	64.0%	76.6%	92.4%
Rhea County	83.7%	74.2%	92.1%	82.3%	93.3%
Richard City	86.7%	96.4%	100.0%	100.0%	84.2%
Roane County	96.1%	92.3%	95.7%	97.0%	97.5%
Robertson County	73.4%	75.6%	85.2%	85.6%	94.3%
Rutherford County	72.3%	75.6%	79.8%	77.7%	84.8%
Scott County	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	95.2%	96.4%
Sequatchie County	86.6%	95.1%	93.6%	97.1%	93.4%
Sevier County	84.5%	84.4%	86.3%	86.0%	93.7%
Shelby County	87.3%	82.2%	86.3%	81.2%	87.3%
Smith County	83.4%	92.6%	93.9%	83.3%	91.5%
South Carroll	91.9%	93.5%	100.0%	86.2%	94.4%
Stewart County	59.3%	66.0%	74.2%	89.9%	74.9%
Sullivan County	93.2%	92.5%	94.2%	96.1%	94.4%
Sumner County	89.3%	93.5%	96.3%	99.4%	98.5%
Tipton County	97.1%	96.5%	93.8%	93.7%	95.7%
Trenton	93.7%	93.8%	96.1%	95.6%	97.2%
Trousdale County	98.7%	87.2%	91.3%	94.0%	96.8%
Tullahoma	74.6%	72.0%	65.0%	62.2%	89.8%
Unicoi County	93.0%	86.1%	97.0%	95.2%	95.6%
Union City	98.9%	98.8%	39.8%	92.6%	87.9%

School District	Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	Cohort 4	Cohort 5
Union County	96.8%	95.6%	91.8%	98.3%	97.9%
Van Buren County	95.5%	78.7%	95.8%	100.0%	98.3%
Warren County	98.4%	100.0%	95.8%	92.7%	93.9%
Washington County	77.4%	83.4%	77.1%	79.2%	87.2%
Wayne County	100.0%	97.8%	95.8%	97.2%	96.0%
Weakley County	79.4%	61.7%	53.7%	86.9%	81.3%
West Carroll	94.2%	97.1%	93.9%	92.1%	100.0%
White County	93.4%	96.5%	96.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Williamson County	53.6%	58.8%	54.7%	63.6%	73.8%
Wilson County	96.1%	94.2%	93.4%	89.2%	86.0%
No District Listed[16]	4,128	3,885	3,876	4,295	4,484
Total Applicants	**57,696**	**59,375**	**60,447**	**62,408**	**64,253**

[16] Includes applications received from any non-public Tennessee school district, adult high schools, alternative schools, state-operated schools, and unknown or invalid high schools.

Appendix C: Enrollment Counts by Cohort and Institution

Institution	Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	Cohort 4
Community Colleges				
Chattanooga State Community College	1,089	1,036	1,058	1,156
Cleveland State Community College	442	506	514	487
Columbia State Community College	1,004	1,126	1,204	1,246
Dyersburg State Community College	300	368	331	344
Jackson State Community College	690	757	724	712
Motlow State Community College	1,350	1,365	1,402	1,223
Nashville State Community College	1,151	1,049	853	848
Northeast State Community College	1,085	1,112	1,161	1,041
Pellissippi State Community College	1,756	1,798	1,838	1,900
Roane State Community College	997	1,005	1,066	988
Southwest Tennessee Community College	964	1,107	1,242	1,256
Volunteer State Community College	1,445	1,452	1,631	1,573
Walters State Community College	1,096	1,172	1,275	1,179
Public 4-Years				
Austin Peay State University	322	584	615	817
Tennessee State University	55	48	41	21
Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology				
TCAT-Athens	98	64	85	68
TCAT-Chattanooga	95	119	100	132
TCAT-Covington	21	24	29	40
TCAT-Crossville	46	50	47	74
TCAT-Crump	28	41	29	67
TCAT-Dickson	126	135	176	177
TCAT-Elizabethton	94	88	114	136
TCAT-Harriman	62	78	87	82
TCAT-Hartsville	75	90	103	107
TCAT-Hohenwald	98	62	74	90
TCAT-Jacksboro	38	35	34	65
TCAT-Jackson	57	57	47	58
TCAT-Knoxville	204	226	202	179
TCAT-Livingston	97	91	95	98
TCAT-McKenzie	33	40	25	28
TCAT-McMinnville	51	32	36	41
TCAT-Memphis	143	98	93	84
TCAT-Morristown	140	148	173	214
TCAT-Murfreesboro	107	102	107	126
TCAT-Nashville	103	118	140	193
TCAT-Newbern	39	53	60	59
TCAT-Oneida	27	16	31	60

Institution	Cohort 1	2	3	4
TCAT-Paris	34	35	28	48
TCAT-Pulaski	61	60	58	65
TCAT-Ripley	13	6	*	8
TCAT-Shelbyville	129	144	103	117
TCAT-Whiteville	15	22	16	19
Private and Proprietary				
Art Institute of Tennessee - Nashville	23			
Baptist College of Health Sciences		*		
Bethel University	24	29	13	28
Bryan College	24	18	26	6
Carson Newman University	27	53	47	86
Christian Brothers University		*		
Cumberland University	61	232	357	409
Hiwassee College	34	36	37	36
John A Gupton College	6	7	10	7
Johnson University	*	*	*	13
Lane College		*	*	7
Lemoyne-Owen College		19	28	31
Lincoln Memorial University	11	14	24	11
Martin Methodist College	99	117	102	131
South College	69	77	129	175
Southern Adventist University	14	20	13	22
Trevecca Nazarene University	22	19	26	25
Tusculum University		6	10	52
Welch College	*	10	19	21