

FACTSHEET

PREPARED for SUCCESS

College upgrading programs continue to prepare graduates for success in postsecondary programs

What is PREPARED for SUCCESS?

PREPARED for SUCCESS (PFS) is an annual study conducted by the College Sector Committee for Adult Upgrading (CSC). It examines the postsecondary outcomes of students who have moved from upgrading programs to full time postsecondary programs at their colleges.

How long has this study been conducted?

The PFS study has been conducted annually since 2001, or 18 years.

What is the purpose of PFS?

The purpose of this study is to document the positive impact that academic upgrading has on the success of students who enter postsecondary programs.

What has this study shown?

Every year, PFS has shown that individuals who have received prior training in college academic upgrading programs:

- achieve **high marks** in postsecondary programs;
- have the necessary **commitment** to complete their education; and
- make the **right program choices** (low rate of program change).

Academic upgrading programs continue to provide **thousands of dedicated, well-**

prepared, successful students to Ontario's public colleges.

Who provides the data for this study?

All 24 Ontario public colleges are asked to participate each year. In 2016-2017, 22 colleges provided data.

What are the highlights of the 2016-2017 study?

- A total of 3,750 upgrading graduates enrolled in postsecondary programs — an **increase of 386 students** over the previous year (with two colleges not reporting data).
- These students represent **at least \$9 million in tuition revenue** — plus operating grant funding — for Ontario public colleges in 2016-2017.*

**Calculated at \$2400 tuition per student. Source: ontariocolleges.ca/colleges/paying-for-college*

Conclusions

Academic upgrading graduates are **high-achieving, low-attrition** contributors to the Ontario public college system (71% re-enrollment in a second semester, 5% program change, average GPA of 3.15).

Well-prepared, high-performance and career-focussed, these students are poised to become highly-skilled workers, contributing significantly to the provincial economy.