

# NEBRASKA OPPORTUNITY GRANT 2018-19 YEAR-END REPORT

#### **COMMISSIONERS**

Dr. Deborah A. Frison, Chair

Omaha, District 7

Dr. John Bernthal, Vice-Chair

Lincoln, District 1

**Colleen Adam** 

Hastings, District 5

**Gwenn Aspen** 

Omaha, Member-at-Large

**Tim Daniels** 

Omaha, Member-at-Large

**Charles Garman** 

Omaha, Member-at-Large

Dr. Ron Hunter

Hay Springs, District 6

**Mary Lauritzen** 

West Point, Member-at-Large

**Dwayne Probyn** 

Omaha, District 4

Dr. Paul Von Behren

Fremont, District 3

W. Scott Wilson

Joe Velasquez

Mike Wemhoff

**Facilities Officer** 

Database Manager

Plattsmouth, Member-at-Large

#### **STAFF**

Dr. Michael Baumgartner

**Executive Director** 

Dr. Kathleen Fimple

Academic Programs Officer

Jill Heese

Research Coordinator

Kadi Lukesh

Bookkeeper, Budget Coordinator & Office Manager

J. Ritchie Morrow

Financial Aid Officer

**Helen Pope** 

Executive Assistant

**Edie Schleiger** 

Administrative Assistant

**Gary Timm** 

Chief Finance & Administrative

Officer

**Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education** 

140 N. 8th Street, P.O. Box 95005, Lincoln, NE 68509-5005

Phone: (402)471-2847

The Commission's reports are available online at ccpe.nebraska.gov/reports

# **NEBRASKA OPPORTUNITY GRANT PROGRAM**

The Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG) program provides financial aid to students who are residents of Nebraska; have not earned a bachelor's, graduate, or professional degree; have high financial need (defined as having an expected family contribution equal to or less than 110% of the maximum family contribution that qualifies students for a federal Pell Grant); and who are attending eligible Nebraska colleges and universities to earn a degree or credential. The NOG program uses information from the federal Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as the basis for determining eligibility; there is no separate application.

NOG is the State of Nebraska's only need-based financial aid program for postsecondary students and is funded through General fund appropriations and lottery funds. As of the 2017-18 academic year, when analyzing national need-based undergraduate grant dollars per undergraduate enrollment, Nebraska ranked 35<sup>th</sup> in the country, the same ranking as in 2016-17.

The NOG program is a decentralized financial aid program. The commission allocates state funding to participating institutions based on a statutory formula that takes into account the proportion of all eligible students attending each institution and their tuition and fees (capped at tuition and fees at the University of Nebraska Lincoln) and verifies student eligibility but does not determine individual student award amounts or dictate how many eligible students receive NOG grants. Participating institutions award NOG grants to eligible students subject to eligibility criteria, maximum award limits, and available allocations.

For the 2018-19 NOG program award year:

- \$17,978,264 was awarded
- 12,753 students received a Nebraska Opportunity Grant
- \$1,409.73 was the average grant award

Pages 3-6 include charts showing the number of Nebraska students who received a federal Pell grant and the unmet financial need of these students as reported by the institutions. The US Department of Education defines financial need as the difference between how much college costs and how much a student and the student's family can pay towards those costs. The difference between financial need and the amount of financial aid offered by the college to the student to cover the financial need is considered unmet financial need. Students must cover their unmet need from either private loans or out-of-pocket funds.

The remainder of the report reflects various details specifically related to the NOG program, broken out by sector. Of particular interest is the table on page 13 showing the percentage of eligible students that received a NOG award by sector. The table demonstrates both that the NOG program is an important part of the overall financial aid strategy of postsecondary institutions and that many eligible students are not served by the NOG program due to lack of funding.

## **NOG Program Participating Institutions**

#### University of Nebraska

- University of Nebraska at Kearney
- University of Nebraska -Lincoln
- University of Nebraska Medical Center
- University of Nebraska at Omaha
- Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture

#### State Colleges

- Chadron State College
- Peru State College
- Wayne State College

### **Community Colleges**

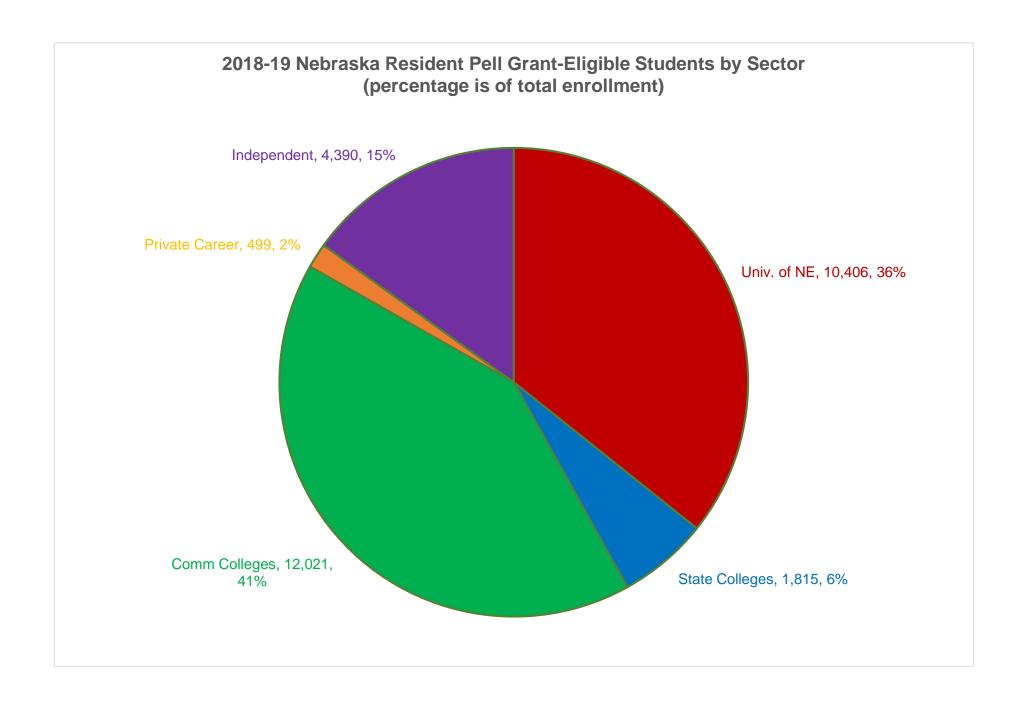
- Central Community College
- Metropolitan CommunityCollege
- Mid-Plains Community College
- Northeast CommunityCollege
- Southeast Community College
- Western Nebraska Community College

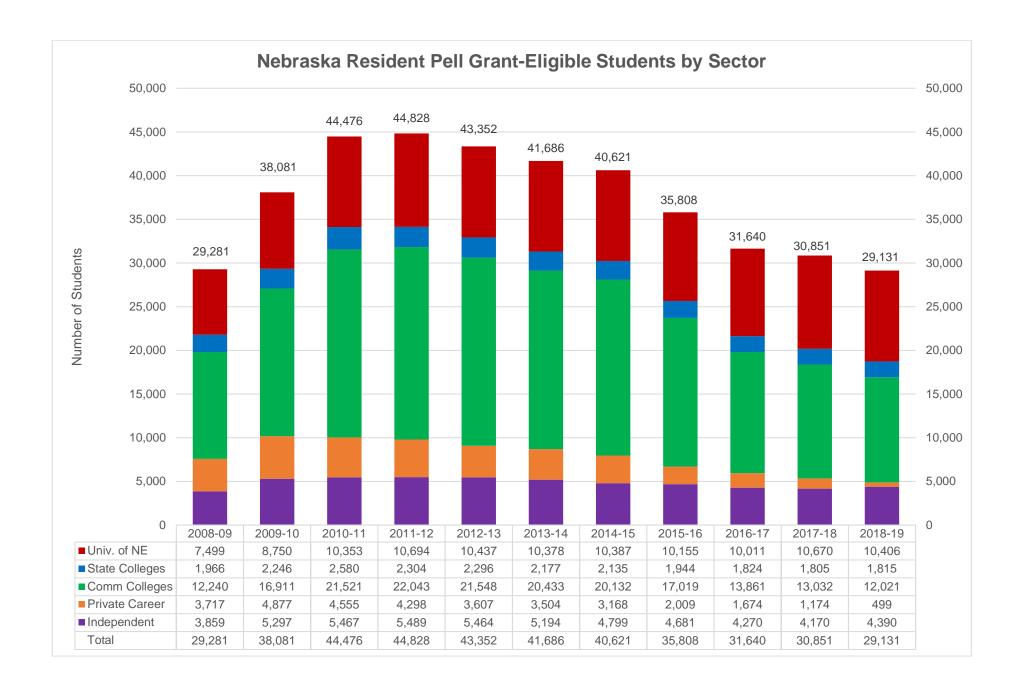
### **Private Career Colleges**

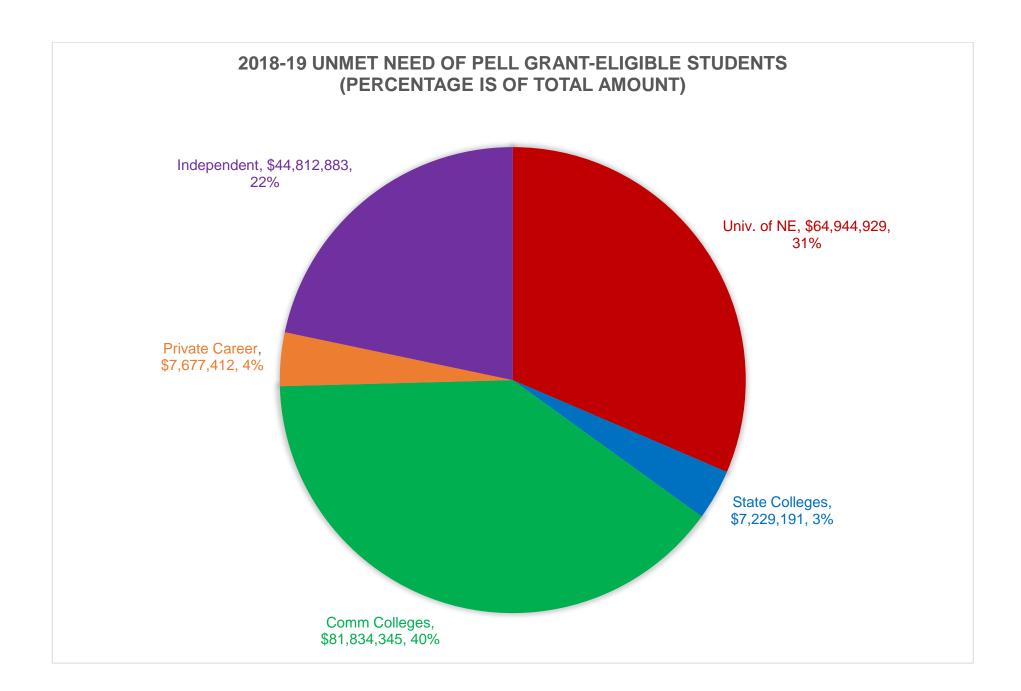
- Capitol School of Hairstyling
- College of Hair Design
- Creative Center
- Joseph's College of Beauty
- La'James College
- National AmericanUniversity
- Xenon International School of Hair

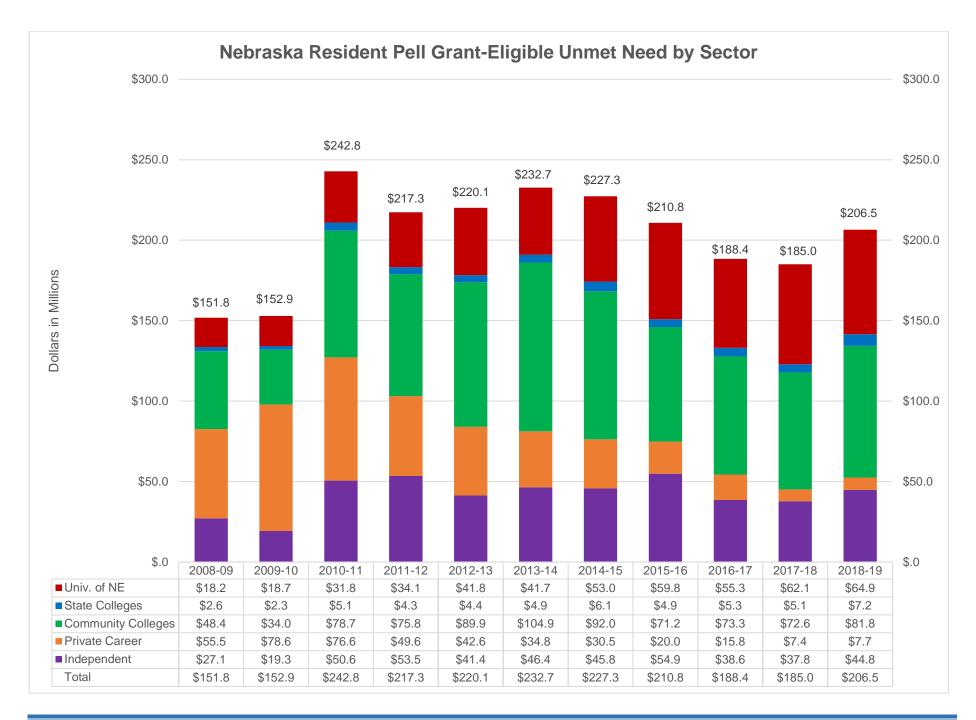
## Independent Colleges & Universities

- Bellevue University
- Bryan College of Health Science
- Clarkson College
- College of Saint Mary
- Concordia University
- Creighton University
- Doane University
- Hastings College
- Little Priest TribalCollege
- Midland University
- Nebraska Christian College
- Nebraska MethodistCollege
- Nebraska Wesleyan University
- Purdue University Global (Lincoln &Omaha)
- Union College
- York College





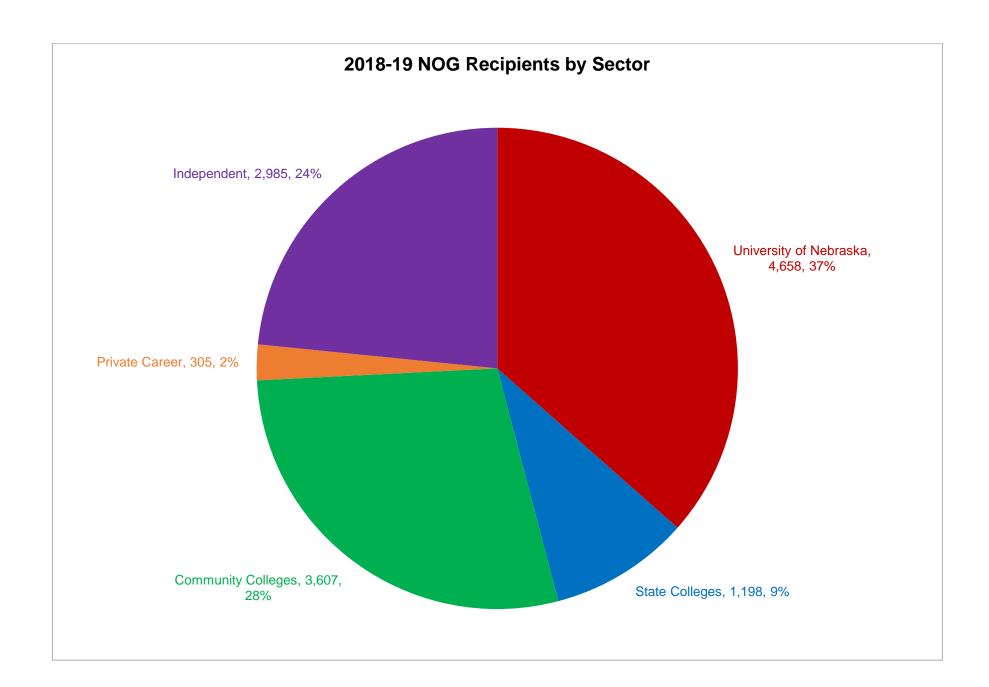


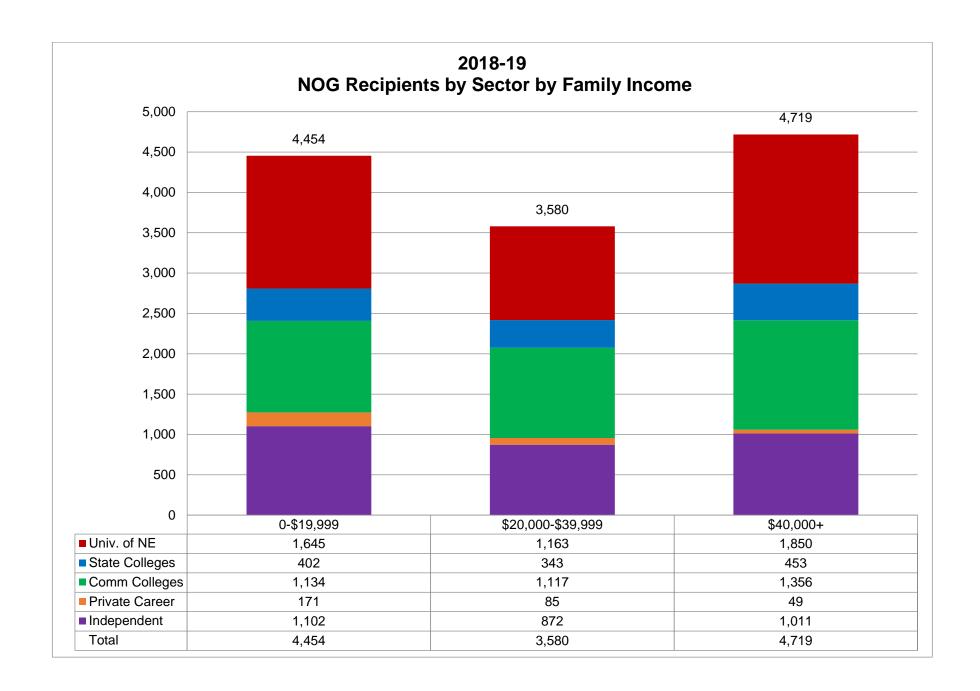


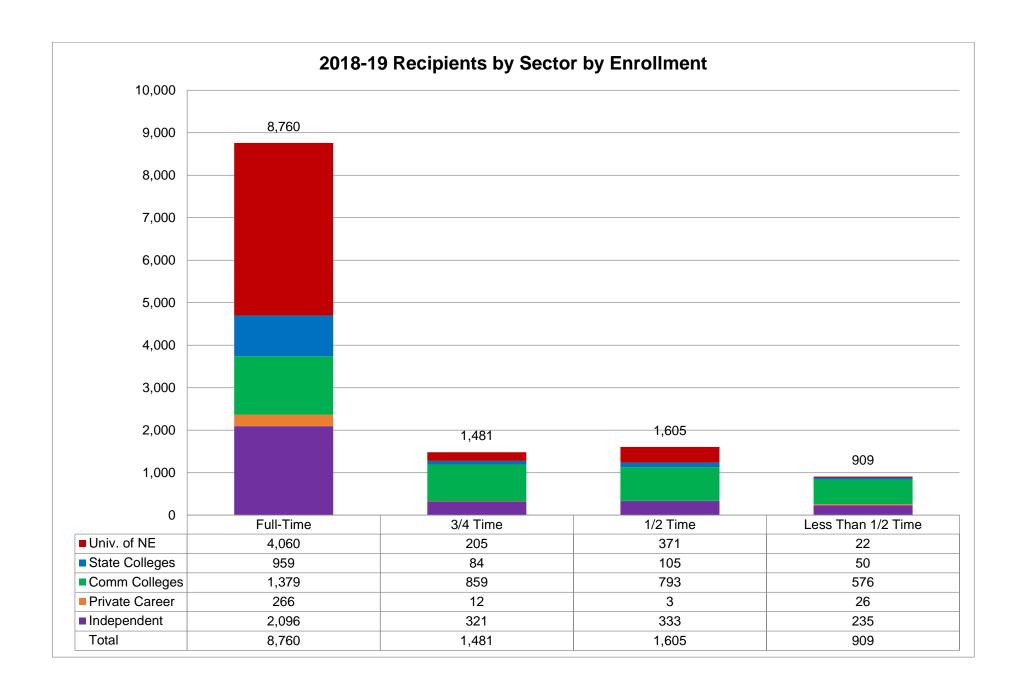
## **NOG Yearly Process**

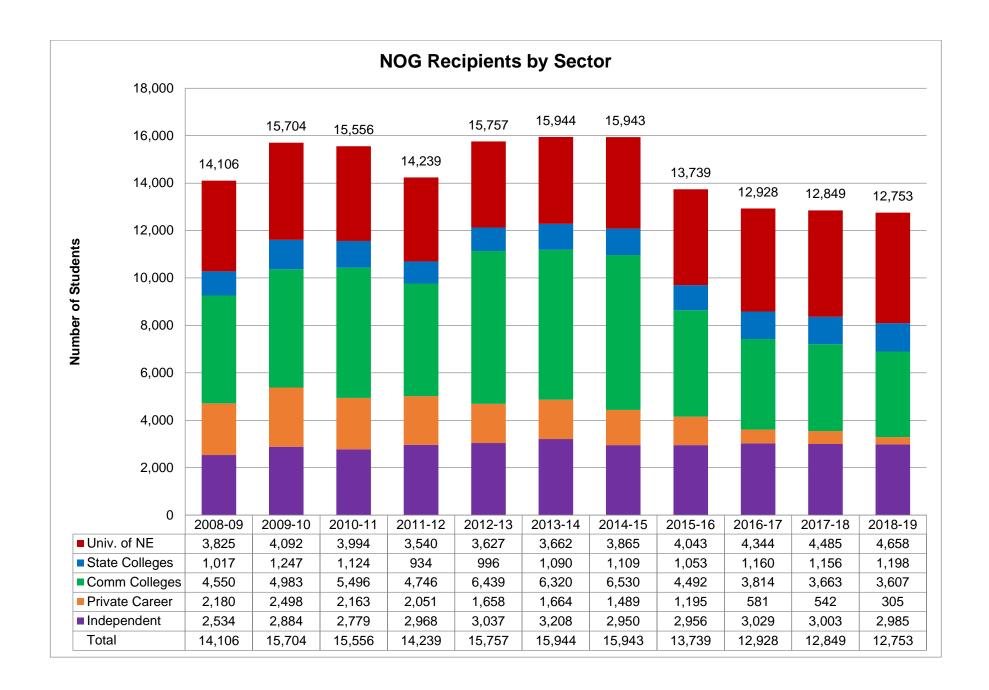
Each year the Commission allocates NOG funding that has been appropriated by the Legislature to participating institutions. In order to provide these institutions timely information, funding estimates are used until a final appropriation bill is approved in late spring. Allocations are calculated using the formula found in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1912. Below are key events of the NOG process:

- Tentative allocation using estimated state General and lottery funds is sent out to institutions in January for the next academic year
- NOG applications to participate are sent to institutions and returned to the Commission in June
- Data from the applications, including the calculation of full-time-equivalent eligible students and tuition and fees charged, are used in the allocation formula
- Final lottery distribution received by the Commission in June
- Final allocation notice sent to institutions in July
- Institutions submit a list of recommended students for Commission approval
  - Must be done prior to disbursal to student
  - o Send in multiple lists throughout the year
  - o Funds sent at least twice a year based on approved list of students
  - o Final submission must be submitted by May 31st of the academic year
- Commission performs audits of student eligibility at each participating institution every fall









Sector	# and % of NOG Eligible Students	# and % of NOG Recipients	% of Elig who Received NOG	\$ and % of NOG Awarded	Average NOG Award	
University of Nebraska (5)	11,660	4,658	20.0%	\$9,467,798	\$2,032.59	
	33.5%	36.5%	39.9%		\$Z,U3Z.59	
State Colleges (3)	2,046	1,198	58.6%	\$1,383,314	<b>#</b> 4.454.00	
	5.9%	9.4%	58.6%	7.7%	\$1,154.69	
Community Colleges (6)	15,777	3,607	00.00/	\$3,063,829	\$849.41	
	45.3%	28.3%	22.9%	17.0%		
Private Career Schools (9)	623	305	40.007	\$544,379	0.5	
	1.8%	2.4%	49.0%	3.0%	\$1,784.85	
Independent Colleges & Universities (15)	4,737	2,985		\$3,518,944	\$1,178.88	
	13.6%	23.4%	63.0%	19.6%		
Total	34,843	12,753		\$17,978,264		
	100.0%		36.6%	100.0%	\$1,409.73	

The National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) is a not-for-profit organization that serves as a central repository of postsecondary student enrollment, degree, and diploma data voluntarily submitted by more than 3,700 colleges and universities. These institutions enroll an estimated 97.0% of the college students in the United States that attend Title IV, degree-granting institutions. In Nebraska, all institutions except three private career schools report to NSC.

The cumulative graduation rates tables include only first-time students that also received a NOG scholarship beginning in their first year. Graduation rates were calculated for the student's initial enrollment institution regardless of the type of institution of the subsequent graduation.

Cumulative Graduation Rates by Year: First-time Students Initially Enrolled in a 2-Year
Institution and Received NOG Beginning with Their First Academic Year

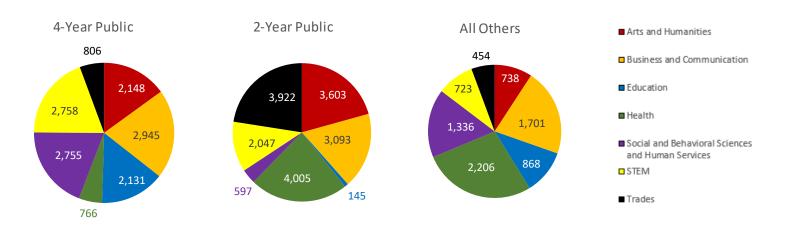
Academic			Years to Graduate						
Year First Received NOG	n	1 or less	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		i				_		-	
2010-11	803	1.5%	21.4%	34.2%	40.6%	45.2%	48.3%	50.2%	51.9%
2011-12	713	1.1%	22.9%	34.2%	41.5%	46.6%	49.5%	52.2%	53.6%
2012-13	1,055	0.6%	15.4%	25.5%	30.4%	35.2%	37.9%	39.1%	
2013-14	1,098	3.8%	19.0%	29.5%	36.2%	41.1%	44.4%		
2014-15	903	4.4%	22.7%	33.1%	37.5%	41.6%			
2015-16	796	7.5%	27.3%	37.4%	44.2%				

# Cumulative Graduation Rates by Year: First-time Students Initially Enrolled in a 4-Year Institution and Received NOG Beginning with Their First Academic Year

Academic		Years to Graduate							
Year First									
Received NOG									
Scholarship	n	1 or less	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2010-11	929	0.3%	3.4%	6.6%	29.0%	49.1%	58.4%	61.9%	63.4%
2011-12	702	2.6%	5.4%	9.3%	29.5%	49.7%	56.3%	59.3%	61.1%
2012-13	722	0.6%	3.2%	5.0%	23.3%	45.4%	54.0%	58.2%	
2013-14	846	0.6%	1.7%	4.4%	24.6%	44.9%	52.6%		
2014-15	952	1.4%	4.8%	7.6%	27.4%	47.4%			
2015-16	946	1.1%	3.8%	6.4%	22.5%				

By the Numbers: 2010-11 through 2018-19						
Unique students awarded a NOG scholarship	73,445	Majors conferred to NOG recipients after receiving a NOG scholarship	39,747			
Unique NOG recipients that earned a degree, diploma, or certificate after receiving a NOG (Does not include students currently attending an institution that have not earned a first aw ard.)	37,489	Number of first-time freshman awarded a NOG scholarship in their freshman year	13,671			

# Majors Conferred to NOG Recipients after Receiving a NOG Scholarship, by Discipline Cluster



All degree majors earned after a student received a NOG scholarship are included in the above charts. NSC data provides discipline information at the degree major level only. Not all institutions report the degree earned or degree major.