

## **Technical Data Appendix**

The 2026 Program Performance Data (PPD:2026) was created by combining data from the Integrated Postsecondary Data System (IPEDS), the College Scorecard, the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS), the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the American Community Survey (ACS), and the Internal Revenue Services (IRS).

The dataset is uniquely identified by the college, credential level, and program. In all datasets, higher education institutions are defined by six-digit OPEIDs. When necessary, OPEIDs are linked to UNITIDs using the UNITID of the main campus, identified using the College Scorecard Crosswalk files. In a small number of cases, institutions report more than one UNITID as the main campus of an OPEID over time. For these rare cases, we use the UNITID of the main campus associated with the year that is closest to 2025.

Programs are defined using 4-digit CIP codes. In almost all cases, 4-digit CIP code titles align with the 2010 CIP code taxonomy. In some cases, 4-digit CIP codes appear only in the 2020 CIP code taxonomy. In these cases, the 2020 CIP code taxonomy is used to title the program. Programs with CIP codes that do not appear in the 2010 or 2020 CIP code taxonomies are dropped. This removes fewer than 20 individual programs, representing less than 0.006% of all higher education programs in the final data set.

Credential levels are defined by the following eight categories: (1) Undergraduate certificate programs, (2) Associate degree programs, (3) Bachelor degree programs, (4) Post-Baccalaureate degree programs, (5) Master's degree programs, (6) Doctoral programs, (7) First-Professional Programs, and (8) graduate certificate programs. These credential levels come from categories used by the Office of Federal Student Aid (FSA) in NSLDS.

A few final sample restrictions are made on the data. First, programs that had zero Title IV enrollees during the 2023-24 and 2024-25 award years are dropped. Second, we drop programs at colleges that appear in the College Scorecard but are located in foreign countries, such as Canada, Egypt, Israel, and the United Kingdom, to name a few. (Colleges located in U.S. territories and freely associated states are maintained in the data.)

Lastly, we drop programs with highly uncommon CIP codes, defined as programs where there are fewer than 100 programs in a 2-digit CIP across all credential levels, nationally. Specifically, we drop programs in the following two-digit CIP codes: 21 (“Reserved”), 28 (“Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC, ROTC”)), 33 (“Citizenship Activities”), 34 (“Health-Related Knowledge and Skills”), 35 (“Interpersonal and Social Skills”), 37 (“Personal Awareness & Self Improvement”), 53 (“High School/Secondary Diplomas”), 55 (“Reserved”), 60 (“Health Professions Residency/Fellowship Programs”) and 61 (“Medical Residency/Fellowship Programs”). In total, this drops fewer than 300 unique programs, or less than 0.15% of programs in the final data set.

The final dataset has 209,321 unique programs offered by 5,096 unique higher education institutions. The following sections describe individual components of the data and the process

used to clean and merge the individual files together. The technical appendix concludes by describing the protocols used to protect student privacy.

### ***Notice of Data Updates***

*January 7, 2026:*

Throughout the course of public negotiations, several negotiators requested the Department add several data elements to the PPD:26 dataset. These additions include program-level data on delinquency and default rates, program-level student income data using reported income on the FAFSA, institution-level geographic data (such as the county location and longitude and latitude of each college), and information on programs in CIP code 28 (“Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC, ROTC)”). In light of these requests, the Department has added these data elements to the PPD:26 dataset, and further details about these data are described below.

*January 2, 2026:*

In an earlier version of the PPD:26 data file titled “Debt, Earnings, and Earnings Test Metrics,” the variable “*mstr\_obbfail\_cip2\_wageb*” included a small issue where some post-baccalaureate certificate programs were inadvertently counted as “failing” the aligned OBBB and GE earnings test, when in reality, they should have been counted as passing the test. This issue impacted less than 100 programs, or less than 0.04% of all programs in the dataset.

The Department corrected this issue on January 2, 2026 by replacing the old data file with the updated version. Specifically, the Department removed the original data file so that individuals do not accidentally reference the dataset containing the issue in the future. Users who downloaded the affected PPD file prior to January 2, 2026 should not rely upon it and should download the updated version.

### ***Institution Characteristic Data***

Institution characteristic data come from the most recent institution-level College Scorecard (Most-Recent-Cohorts-Institution\_05192025). Specifically, we use this data to obtain the city, state, ZIP code, control, predominant degree, HBCU status, Tribal College status, and religious affiliation status. We use the College Scorecard Crosswalk files to obtain each institution’s name, which is identified using the name of the college in the most recent year it appears in the College Scorecard Crosswalks. Similarly, we use historic College Scorecard files (MERGED1996\_97\_PP to MERGED2022\_23\_PP) to obtain the city, state, ZIP code, control, predominant degree, HBCU status, Tribal College status, and religious affiliation status of institutions that do not appear in the most-recent institution-level College Scorecard but do appear in earlier years. This data is measured at the OPEID6 level, so it is merged to other files using a one-to-many match.

### ***Program-level Enrollment Data***

Program-level enrollment data come from NSLDS, obtained from FSA. Program-level enrollees include students in a program who currently or previously received Title IV aid while enrolled in

the program at the college. In other words, program-level enrollment includes *current* Title IV recipients (students receiving Title IV aid for the current award year) and *former* Title IV recipients (students who did not receive Title IV aid during the current award year, but had previously received Title IV aid while enrolled in the program at the college).

This measure does not include Title IV transfer students—those who received Title IV aid at a program from their original college, but not at a program from their new college. (For transfer students to be counted at their new college, they would also have to receive Title IV aid at a program from their new college or have been added to the NSLDS enrollment roster by the new college.) It also does not include Title IV students enrolled in graduate programs who received Title IV aid only as an undergraduate student, but not as a graduate student.<sup>1</sup>

This data is measured at the OPEID6, 4-digit CIP, credential level, meaning no further adjustments were needed to merge the data with the other files.

### ***Institution-Level In-State/Out-of-State Enrollment Data***

Data on the proportion of in-state and out-of-state students enrolled at an institution come from the FAFSA, obtained through FSA. For each institution (defined at the OPEID-6 level), we determine the share of Title IV enrollees (defined in the prior section) who live in the same state where the institution is located (“in-state students”) and who live in a different state from where the institution is located (“out-of-state students”).

Determining the proportion of in-state and out-of-state students involves several steps. First, to determine the institution’s location, we use the state where the main campus of the OPEID6 is located. Second, to determine the location of Title IV enrollees, we use the state of residence listed on their FAFSA. To do this, we look at the state of residence of Title IV enrollees listed on their most-recently filed FAFSA submitted during or before the award year being evaluated. Then, if no FAFSA is found prior to the award year being evaluated, we start looking forward to find the most-recently filed FAFSA that occurs after the award year being evaluated. FAFSAs with missing state codes are skipped. If no FAFSA is found with a non-missing state code, the student is excluded from the calculation.

Then, to determine the share of students from out-of-state, we divide the number of Title IV enrollees living in a different state as the institution by the total number of Title IV enrollees at the institution. If that share is more than 50%, we consider that institution as an “out-of-state serving institution” for the purposes of the earnings tests outlined in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (described below). This data is measured at the OPEID6, 4-digit CIP, credential level, meaning no further adjustments were needed to merge the data with the other files.

### ***Program-Level Demographic Data***

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<sup>1</sup> The one exception is Title IV students who attend an undergraduate and graduate program at the same institution. For these students, if the Title IV recipient received Title IV aid as an undergraduate but not a graduate student, they are included in the enrollment counts.

Program-level demographic data come from the IPEDS Completer surveys. Several steps are taken to merge this data to the other files. First, program completers from the 2017-18 and 2018 academic years are pooled together (from the c2018\_a\_rv\_data\_stata and c2019\_a\_rv\_data\_stata IPEDS files). Second, we create a credential level variable that aligns with the credential level variables used in the College Scorecard and FSA data.<sup>2</sup> Third, programs are collapsed to the UNITID, credential level, and 4-digit CIP code level. Fourth, we use the College Scorecard Crosswalk files to merge UNITIDs to OPEIDs. Lastly, programs are further collapsed to the six-digit OPEID, credential level, 4-digit CIP level. We then construct variables for the share of program completers from each sex (male; female) and race/ethnicity group (American Indian/Alaskan Native; Asian; Black; Hispanic; Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander; White; Two or More Races; Race/ethnicity Unknown; Nonresidents) out of the total number of program completers from the program. Completer data is self-reported by the institutions through IPEDS, and is inclusive of Title IV and non-Title IV students. This data is merged to other files using OPEID6, credential level and CIP codes.

### ***Program-Level Federal Financial Aid Data***

Program-level data on federal financial aid recipients and disbursements come from NSLDS, obtained through FSA. For each award year, this data includes the number of Pell Grant recipients in a program, the aggregate annual amount of Pell Grants disbursed to the program, the number of undergraduate subsidized Stafford loan recipients, the aggregate annual amount of undergraduate subsidized Stafford loans disbursed to the program, the number of undergraduate unsubsidized Stafford loan recipients, the aggregate annual amount of undergraduate unsubsidized Stafford loans disbursed to the program, the number of graduate unsubsidized Stafford loan recipients, the aggregate annual amount of graduate unsubsidized Stafford loans disbursed to the program, the number of Grad PLUS loan recipients, the aggregate annual amount of Grad PLUS loans disbursed to the program, the number of dependent students who had a parent and/or guardian take a Parent PLUS loan on their behalf, and the aggregate annual amount of Parent PLUS loans disbursed to the parents and/or guardians of students in the program.

Lastly, this data also includes an unduplicated count of Title IV federal loan recipients (which is the unduplicated count of all students in a program who received subsidized loans, unsubsidized loans, Grad PLUS loans, or were beneficiaries of Parent PLUS loans during the award year) and the total federal loan volume disbursed to students in the program (which is the sum of all subsidized loans, unsubsidized loans, Grad PLUS loans, and Parent PLUS loans disbursed to students in the program during the award year).

All of the dollar-based program-level financial aid variables are measured in nominal dollars; they are not inflation adjusted. This data is measured at the OPEID6, 4-digit CIP, credential level, meaning no further adjustments were needed to merge the data with the other files.

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<sup>2</sup> Specifically, awlevel 1, 2, and 4 are classified as undergraduate certificates, awlevel 3 is classified as associate degree, awlevel 5 is classified as bachelor degree, awlevel 6 is classified as post baccalaureate certificate, awlevel 7 is classified as masters, awlevel 17 and 19 is classified as doctoral, awlevel 18 is classified as first professional, and awlevel 8 is classified as graduate certificate.

### ***Program-level Completion and Non-Completion Data***

Data on program-level completion and non-completion come from NSLDS, obtained through FSA. A program completer is defined as any Title IV student who earns a certificate or degree from their program during the award year. A program non-completer is defined as a Title IV student who is enrolled in a program in the current award year, does not earn a certificate or degree during that award year, does not enroll as a Title IV aid recipient at any program at any college during both of the next two award years, and also does not earn a certificate or degree as a Title IV aid recipient from any program at any college during both of the next two award years.

For example, a Title IV student enrolled in a program in the 2019-20 award year would be counted as a non-completer if they do not earn a certificate or degree during the 2019-20 award year, and if they also do not enroll as a Title IV aid recipient in any program at any college during the 2020-21 and 2021-22 award years and do not earn a certificate or degree as a Title IV aid recipient during the 2020-21 and 2021-22 award years from any program at any college. Thus, this definition of Title IV non-completion does not count Title IV students who transfer colleges or switch programs; students are only considered as Title IV non-completers if they are enrolled in one award year and then do not appear anywhere during the next two award years and also earn no certificate or degree during any of those years as a Title IV recipient.

The Title IV non-completion rate variable is calculated by dividing the number of Title IV non-completers from a program by the total number of Title IV students enrolled in the program. The Title IV non-completer variables and the Title IV non-completion rate variables cannot be computed for the 2024 and 2025 award years, because two full award years subsequent to these years (2025/2026 and 2026/2027 award years, respectively) are not yet available. This data is measured at the OPEID6, 4-digit CIP, credential level, meaning no further adjustments were needed to merge the data with the other files.

### ***Program Level Earnings Data***

Program-level earnings data come from three sources. The first is the 2023 Program Performance Data (PPD:2023) released by Biden Administration. We use the variable *md\_earn\_ne\_p3\_1516*, which is the median earnings of Title IV program completers from the pooled 2014-15 and 2015-16 award years, measured three years after graduation. This measure includes individuals who are working and non-working, but excludes individuals who are enrolled in college three years later. We inflation-adjust this measure to 2024 dollars using the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U).

The second source is the College Scorecard Field of Study Data Files (Most-Recent-Cohorts-Field-of-Study). We use the variable *md\_earn\_wne\_p4\_1516*, which is the median earnings of Title IV program completers from the pooled 2014-15 and 2015-16 award years, measured four years after graduation. This measure includes individuals who are working, but excludes individuals who are enrolled in college four years later. We inflation-adjust this measure to 2024 dollars using the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U).

The third source of earnings data is the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The IRS produced a new program-level earnings variable, *md\_earn\_wne\_p4*, which is the median earnings of Title IV program completers during the 2017-18 and 2018-19 award years, measured 4 years after graduation. This measure includes only individuals who are working, and excludes students who are enrolled in college four years later. This variable is measured 2024 dollars.

All of these earnings variables are observed at the OPEID6, 4-digit CIP, credential level, meaning no further adjustments were needed to merge the data with the other files. Program-level earnings data from the College Scorecard, IRS, and PPD:2023 data are perturbed by the IRS to protect student privacy. Further, small programs and programs where the data perturbation changed the median earnings value by more than 9% are also suppressed. (More information is included in the privacy suppression section at the end of this document.)

### ***Program-Level Debt Data***

Program-level debt data come from the College Scorecard Field of Study Data Files. Specifically, we use the file corresponding to Title IV completers from the pooled 2017-18 and 2018-19 award years (FieldOfStudyData1718\_1819\_PP). We use this specific pooled cohort because it aligns with the cohort of completers for which earnings data are measured from the IRS.

The specific variables we use are *debt\_all\_stgp\_eval\_mdn* (Median Stafford and Grad PLUS loan debt disbursed at this institution), *debt\_all\_stgp\_eval\_mean* (Average Stafford and Grad PLUS loan debt disbursed at this institution), and *debt\_all\_stgp\_eval\_n* (Borrower count for average/median Stafford and Grad PLUS loan debt disbursed at this institution). Dollar-based program-level debt variables are measured in 2019 nominal dollars.

We maintain programs at colleges flagged as the main campus. Because of this, this data is measured at the OPEID6, 4-digit CIP, credential level, meaning no further adjustments were needed to merge the data with the other files.

### ***Earnings Benchmark Data***

We use earnings data from the 2023 ACS 5-year estimates to compute various earnings benchmarks that are included in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. These include:

1. ***The In-State High School Earnings Benchmark:*** The median income of individuals aged 25-34 living in the same state where the college is located with only a high school diploma (or equivalent) that are not enrolled in college and employed with a positive, non-zero annual income.
2. ***The National High School Earnings Benchmark:*** The national median income of individuals aged 25-34 with only a high school diploma (or equivalent) that are not enrolled in college and employed with a positive, non-zero annual income.
3. ***The Same-State, Same-Field Bachelor's Degree Earnings Benchmark:*** The median income of individuals aged 25-34 living in the same state where the college is located with

a bachelor's degree in the same field of study that are not enrolled in college, do not have a graduate-level credential, and are employed with a non-zero annual income.

4. ***The Same-State Bachelor's Degree Earnings Benchmark:*** The median income of individuals aged 25-34 living in the same state where the college is located that are not enrolled in college, do not have a graduate-level credential, and are employed with a positive, non-zero annual income.
5. ***The National Same-Field Bachelor's Degree Earnings Benchmark:*** The national median income of individuals aged 25-34 with a bachelor's degree in the same field of study that are not enrolled in college, do not have a graduate-level credential, and are employed with a positive, non-zero annual income.
6. ***The National Bachelor's Degree Earnings Benchmark:*** The national median income of individuals aged 25-34 with a bachelor's degree that are not enrolled in college, do not have a graduate-level credential, and are employed with a positive, non-zero annual income.

Survey weights are used to calculate each earnings benchmark, and each benchmark is inflation adjusted to 2024 dollars using the CPI-U. Appendix Figures 1 and 2 display which earnings benchmark is used for a specific program, based on the program's location, credential level, and by whether the institution enrolls mostly in-state or out-of-state students.

For each earnings benchmark, values are suppressed if there are fewer than 30 individuals (raw counts) sampled in the ACS that meet the benchmark's criteria. In these instances, programs are judged against the other relevant earnings benchmarks that apply to the program. National median earnings for the National High School Earnings Benchmark, the National Same-Field Bachelor's Degree Earnings Benchmark, and the National Bachelor's Degree Earnings Benchmark are calculated by excluding individuals in Puerto Rico.

For the purposes of computing the earnings benchmarks with ACS data, "earnings" is defined as personal income from wages, salary, and business income (the associated variables in the ACS are *incwage* and *incbus00*). "Working" is defined as individuals who are in the labor force, employed, and have positive, non-zero earnings (the associated variables in the ACS are *empstat*, *incwage*, and *incbus00*). "Same field of study" is defined using two-digit CIP codes, such that graduate programs and bachelor's programs are determined to be in the "same field of study" if they are from the same two-digit CIP code. The field of study variable in the ACS (*degfield*) is matched to 2-digit CIP codes using the crosswalk shown in Appendix Table 1.

The US Census Bureau does not collect data needed to compute all of the earnings benchmarks for colleges located in US territories, other than Puerto Rico. Thus, for colleges located in US territories, we use Puerto Rico data from the US Census Bureau to calculate all of the associated "in-state" earnings benchmarks. For example, for an undergraduate degree program at a college located in Guam that primarily serves students from Guam, we use the median earnings of working 25-34 year olds with only a high school diploma (or equivalent) living in Puerto Rico. See Appendix Figure 2 for additional details.

### ***Gainful Employment Data***

We use earnings and debt data to calculate variables related to the Gainful Employment regulations. For the earnings test, we first create a measure that is aligned with the 2023 Gainful Employment regulations. For this variable, the program earnings variable used is *md\_earn\_ne\_p3\_1516* (3-year median earnings of working and non-working individuals) and the earnings benchmark is either the In-State High School Earnings Benchmark or the National High School Earnings Benchmark, depending on whether the institution predominantly enrolls students from in-state or out-of-state. Second, we create modified versions of these variables that align the earnings test with the earnings test described in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. For the modified version, the earnings variable used is *md\_earn\_wne\_p4* (4-year median earnings of working individuals) and the earnings benchmark is the relevant earnings benchmark shown in Figure 1, except undergraduate certificate programs are judged against either the In-State High School Earnings Benchmark or the National High School Earnings Benchmark, depending on whether the institution predominantly enrolls students from in-state or out-of-state.

For the debt to earnings test, we use debt and earnings data to estimate the annual rate measure and discretionary rate measure. For both measures, we begin by estimating a borrower's annualized student loan payment amount using median program debt data from the College Scorecard (the specific variable is *debt\_all\_stgp\_eval\_mdn*). For this estimate, we assume that borrowers in undergraduate certificate programs, associate degree programs, bachelor's degree programs, post-baccalaureate certificate programs, and graduate certificate programs amortize their federal student loan balance over ten years with a 4.45% interest rate. For borrowers in master's degree programs, we assume these individuals amortize their federal student loan balance over 15 years using a 6.23% interest rate. For borrowers in doctoral and first professional programs, we assume that these individuals amortize their federal student loan balance over 20 years using a 6.23% interest rate.

### ***Addendum: Program-Level Delinquency and Default Data***

Program-level data on delinquency and default come from NSLDS, obtained through FSA. These data cover loans that entered repayment during the 2015-16 award year (henceforth, “the 2015-16 repayment cohort”).

Loans are tied to programs through a multi-step process. First, we begin with all loans that entered into repayment during the 2015-16 award year. Second, we obtain the date that those loans were disbursed, and to which college those loans were disbursed to. Third, we check if the recipient of the loan has a program-level enrollment record at the associated college that overlaps with when the loan was disbursed. If so, we assume the disbursed loan was associated with that program, and we tie the loan to that specific program. For students who are enrolled in multiple programs at the same college at the time a loan is disbursed, we assign the loan to the program where the student was most-recently enrolled. If no program-level enrollment record is found that overlaps with when the loan was disbursed, those loans are dropped.

We then calculate the share of borrowers who entered delinquency or default within three years. Starting with the delinquency measure, we begin with the universe of loans that were tied to a

specific program as described in the prior paragraph. Then, we flag loans where borrowers were delinquent for greater than 90 days by the end of the third award year (i.e., by the end of the 2018-19 award year) from when the loan first entered into repayment. To calculate the program-level delinquency rate, we divide the number of borrowers who had one or more loans enter into by the total number of borrowers in the repayment cohort.

Program-level default is measured similarly, except we flag loans where borrowers enter technical default (no payments for 270 days as based on the status of the loan as reported to NSLDS by the loan servicers) by the end of the third award year (i.e., by the end of the 2018-19 award year) from when the loan first entered into repayment. To calculate the program-level default rate, we divide the number of borrowers who had one or more loans enter into technical default by the total number of borrowers in the repayment cohort.

We calculate counts of default and delinquency two ways: First, we use all borrowers with loans that enter repayment during the 2015-16 award year (regardless of completion status); second, we use the subset of borrowers who completed their program and had loans that enter repayment during the 2015-16 award year. This data is measured at the OPEID6, 4-digit CIP, credential level, meaning no further adjustments were needed to merge the data with the other files.

### ***Addendum: Geographic Data***

Institution-level geographic data come from IPEDS. This information includes information on the state and county location of the college, the CBSA of the college (if applicable), the CSA of the college (if applicable), and the Congressional District where the college is located.

Each college's location was determined using geographic data the college reported to IPEDS in 2024, or in the year that is closest to 2024 if geographic information were not reported by the college in that year. Geographic data is linked to PPD data using UNITIDs. For colleges with more than one UNITID per OPEID6, we use the location of the college associated with the UNITID of the main campus.

The geographic data also includes publicly available data from the US Census Bureau. This information includes data elements on the share of each county's population and housing units that are in rural Census Blocks. This Census data is from the 2020 Census, available for download [here](#).

### ***Addendum: Student Income Reported on the FAFSA***

Program-level information on the student income comes from the FAFSA. Specifically, this income variable measures the average pre-program income of program entrants (as reported on the FAFSA) for Title IV students from the pooled 2015-2017 Award Years. Income values are inflation adjusted to constant 2024 dollars using the CPI-U.

Several caveats apply to this data. First, data are conditional on the program having at least one Title IV completer between the 2015-2017 award years. Second, income data is for the *student's* reported income, not family income. Third, when measuring pre-program student income, this

value is captured only for Title IV students whose pre-program earnings are equivalent to full-time work for three quarters of the year at the Federal minimum wage, and we only compute the average pre-program income of students if there are at least 30 Title IV students in the program who meet these criteria. These restrictions closely mirror restrictions used by the US Census Bureau in the Census Postsecondary Employment Outcomes data, available at: [lehd.ces.census.gov/data/pseo\\_documentation.html](http://lehd.ces.census.gov/data/pseo_documentation.html).

This data also includes information on the average age of Title IV students in the program (as listed on the FAFSA), the percent of Title IV students who are at or above the age of 24 (as listed on the FAFSA), and the percent of Title IV students who are dependent and independent (as listed on the FAFSA).

All of these variables are privacy suppressed if there are fewer than 30 total Title IV enrollees in a program across the 2016 and 2017 award years.

### ***Addendum: Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC, ROTC) Programs***

The original version of the PPD:26 data excluded programs in CIP code 28 (Reserve Officer Training Corps). Upon request from negotiators, we have provided a data supplement that includes these programs. Privacy protocols (discussed below) are applied to this data supplement.

Note that an earlier version of this Technical Data Appendix inadvertently stated that programs in CIP 29 (“Military Sciences”) were excluded. This was an inadvertent typo; these programs were always included in the data. The typo is now fixed.

### ***Privacy Suppression***

We take numerous steps to protect student privacy in the PPD:2026 data. First, all earnings data (from the IRS) are suppressed if there are fewer than 16 Title IV completers from a program that report federal income taxes. Additionally, for non-suppressed programs, statistical noise is added to values used to construct the median earning measure, and to the completer counts.

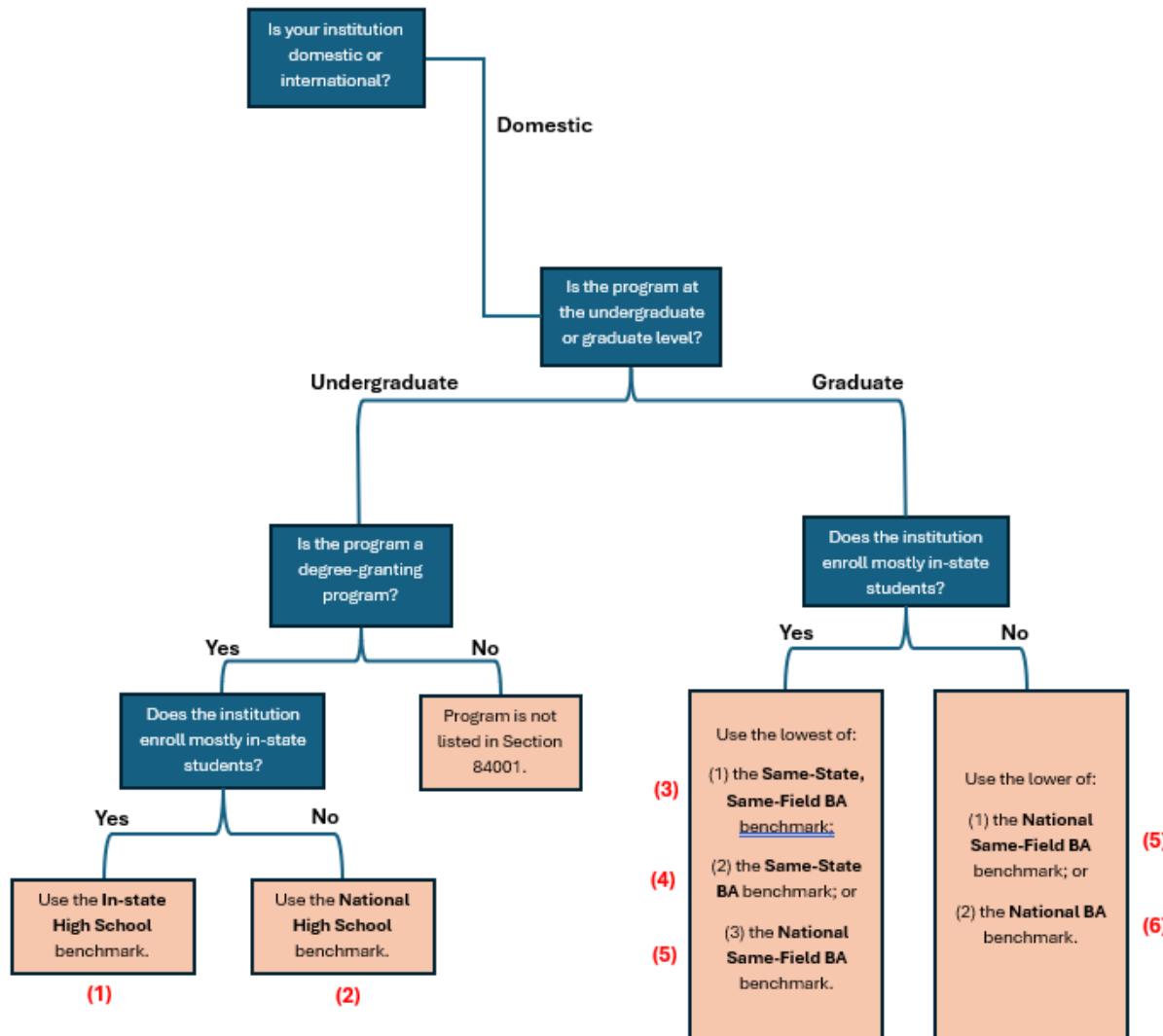
Second, for all cell sizes where there are 9 or fewer individuals, counts are privacy suppressed. Additionally, if multiple cells sum together to make a total, the second smallest cell size in that group is also privacy suppressed, regardless of the size of that cell. Any percentages associated with these suppressed cells are also privacy suppressed.

Third, for cell sizes between 10 and 19 (inclusive), cell sizes are adjusted to the midpoint value, 15. If that cell is used to form a total count—for example, if multiple cells are summed together to form a total, and one of those cells that make up the total is adjusted to the value of 15 because the true cell size was between 10 and 19—then the total count is also adjusted to reflect the modified midpoint value. Similarly, percentages derived from these modified counts are also adjusted.

**Appendix Table 1. Crosswalk between ACS Degree Fields and 2-digit CIP Codes**

Degree Field	Degree Field Title (ACS)	CIP	CIP Code Title (NCES)
11	Agriculture	1	Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, And Related
13	Environment and Natural Resources	3	Natural Resources And Conservation.
14	Architecture	4	Architecture And Related Services.
15	Area, Ethnic, and Civilization Studies	5	Area, Ethnic, Cultural, And Gender Studies.
19	Communications	9	Communication, Journalism, And Related Programs.
20	Communication Technologies	10	Communications Technologies/Technicians And
21	Computer and Information Sciences	11	Computer And Information Sciences And Support
22	Cosmetology Services and Culinary Arts	12	Personal And Culinary Services.
23	Education Administration and Teaching	13	Education.
24	Engineering	14	Engineering.
25	Engineering Technologies	15	Engineering Technologies/Technicians.
26	Linguistics and Foreign Languages	16	Foreign Languages, Literatures, And Linguistics.
29	Family and Consumer Sciences	19	Family And Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences.
32	Law	22	Legal Professions And Studies.
33	English Language, Literature, and Composition	23	English Language And Literature/Letters.
34	Liberal Arts and Humanities	24	Liberal Arts And Sciences, General Studies And
35	Library Science	25	Library Science.
36	Biology and Life Sciences	26	Biological And Biomedical Sciences.
37	Mathematics and Statistics	27	Mathematics And Statistics.
38	Military Technologies	29	Military Technologies
40	Interdisciplinary and Multi-Disciplinary Studies	30	Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies.
41	Physical Fitness, Parks, Recreation, and Leisure	31	Parks, Recreation, Leisure, And Fitness Studies.
48	Philosophy and Religious Studies	38	Philosophy And Religious Studies.
49	Theology and Religious Vocations	39	Theology And Religious Vocations.
50	Physical Sciences	40	Physical Sciences.
51	Nuclear, Industrial Radiology, and Biological	41	Science Technologies/Technicians.
52	Psychology	42	Psychology.
53	Criminal Justice and Fire Protection	43	Security And Protective Services.
54	Public Affairs, Policy, and Social Work	44	Public Administration And Social Service Professions.
55	Social Sciences	45	Social Sciences.
56	Construction Services	46	Construction Trades.
57	Electrical and Mechanic Repairs and	47	Mechanic And Repair Technologies/Technicians.
59	Transportation Sciences and Technologies	49	Transportation And Materials Moving.
60	Fine Arts	50	Visual And Performing Arts.
61	Medical and Health Sciences and Services	51	Health Professions And Related Clinical Sciences.
62	Business	52	Business, Management, Marketing, And Related
64	History	54	History

**Appendix Figure 1. Earnings Benchmark Matrix (Domestic Institutions)**



**Appendix Figure 2. Earnings Benchmark Matrix (International Institutions)**

