Big Bend Student Success with State, Regional, and National Peer Institutions

Big Bend selected state, regional, and national peer colleges based on criteria showing how similar they are to Big Bend. Criteria was based on degree of urbanization*, fall enrollment, and percent of Hispanic enrollment, in line with BBCC's Guiding Principle "Honor our Role as a Hispanic-Serving Institution". This information was obtained through the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). The purpose of IPEDS is to collect institution-level data from providers of postsecondary education, primarily all Title IV-eligible universities, colleges, and technical and vocational education providers in the United States and other jurisdictions. IPEDS data shown are based on degree/certificate seeking students.

The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) accredits each of the state and regional institutions comparison colleges that BBCC selected. NWCCU standards require colleges to measure student achievement with a focus on eliminating equity gaps and to compare college performance against regional and national peer institutions. National peer institutions are similar in degree of urbanization, percent Hispanic, and enrollment and are accredited by national accrediting bodies.

Comparison Institutions Selected based on IPEDS Data Feedback Report 2022 with degree of urbanization, student headcount, and percent Hispanic.

Fall 2021		Campus Setting	Student Headcount	Percent Hispanic
Big Bend Community College	WA	Town: Remote	1778	41

Statewide Comparison Schools

Walla Walla Community College	WA	City: Small	3084	24
Wenatchee Valley College	WA	City: Small	2661	42
Yakima Valley College	WA	City: Small	3643	59

Regional Comparison Schools

College of Eastern Idaho	ID	City: Small	2156	17
Great Basin, Elko	NV	Town: Remote	3414	24
Treasure Valley	OR	Town: Distant	1417	29

National Comparison Schools

Clovis Community College	NM	Town: Remote	2162	44
Garden City Community College	KS	Town: Remote	1962	49
Lake Tahoe Community College	CA	Rural Fringe	2024	35

*Locale codes identify the geographic status of a school on an urban continuum ranging from "large city" to "rural." They are based on a school's physical address. The urban-centric locale codes introduced in this file are assigned through a methodology developed by the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Division in 2005. The urban-centric locale codes apply current geographic concepts to the original NCES locale codes used on IPEDS files through 2004.

City: Small: Territory inside an urbanized area and inside a principal city with population less than 100,000.

Town: Distant: Territory inside an urban cluster that is more than 10 miles and less than or equal to 35 miles from an urbanized area.

Town: Remote: Territory inside an urban cluster that is more than 35 miles of an urbanized area.

Rural: Fringe: Census-defined rural territory that is less than or equal to 5 miles from an urbanized area, as well as rural territory that is less than or equal to 2.5 miles from an urban cluster.

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Fall 2021 Race/Ethnicity

The chart above shows that BBCC has comparable race/ethnicities and gender make-up of our peer institutions allowing the college to gauge student achievement against similar institutions.

Student Aid



Grants are categorized by their funding source into federal, state and local, and institutional grants.

Federal grants primary categories include Pell, Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG), Basic Food Employment and Training (BFET), and WorkFirst.

Pell grants are federal grants and the primary source of financial aid for most students.

State and local grants primary categories include Washington College Grant, Washington State Opportunity Grant, College Bound Scholarship, Tuition Waiver, Opportunity Grant, Early Achievers Grant, and Worker Retraining Grant.

Institutional grants primary categories include: Foundation scholarships, outside scholarships, 2.5/3.5% Waivers, Athletic waivers and scholarships.

Big Bend is similar to the comparison Washington colleges in the percentage of on any grant aid but lags behind its peers in the percentage of students receiving federal grants. This provides the college with information on potential opportunities for improvement. BBCC has a much lower higher percentage of students who receive State/Local and Institutional grants. Fortunately, only six percent of BBCC students receive loans. This is lower than other colleges because BBCC Financial Aid doesn't package loans into a student's financial aid package. If a student wants a loan they have to apply for it.

Graduation and Transfer Rates



Graduation (degrees and certificates) and Transfer Rates for					
Full-time, first-time students, IPEDS Report 2022, BBCC 2015 Cohort					
	Big Bend	State	Regional	National	
Graduation	38%	34%	38%	40%	
Transfer	14%	12%	10%	12%	
Total	52%	46%	48%	52%	

IPEDS Graduation (degrees and certificates) and Transfer Rates are the standard measures of student achievement nationally. Graduation rates include students who graduated *and* students who graduated and transferred. Transfer rates include students who transferred without completing a degree or certificate.

The IPEDS Report in 2022 had BBCC's graduation rate at 38% for full-time, first-time students within 150% of time to degree. The national comparisons colleges were at 40%. However, when you add the transfers to the graduation rate, BBCC and the national comparison colleges are both at 52%.





The majority of BBCC degree/certificate-seeking students report as Hispanic (41%) or White (46%). BBCC's Hispanic Graduation/Completion rate is similar to other Washington state comparison institutions, 30% vs. 31%. However, it is below the regional and national comparisons of 39% and 38% respectively. This provides the college with information on potential opportunities for growth.

The very small populations of American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander students at BBCC cause the rates to fluctuate with a small number of completions.