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WHAT ARE COMMUNITY COLLEGES?
The community college is defined as any institution accredited to award the associate in arts or science as its highest degree. There are 1364 publicly supported community colleges in the United States. Most offer a comprehensive curriculum including the following programs: transfer/liberal arts programs designed for students who plan to obtain a baccalaureate degree; these programs lead to an associate degree in science or the arts; vocational/occupational programs leading to a certificate or an associate degree in applied science; community education and personal interest courses which do not award academic credit; developmental/remedial programs designed to prepare students to enter degree or certificate programs by improving their communication or mathematical skills. In addition, there are 437 private institutions, including accredited proprietary institutions.

WHO ATTENDS PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN THE UNITED STATES?

Approximately 42% of the first-time, full-time freshmen in the U.S. enroll in a community college, earning some 465,053 associate degrees in 1993-94. Credit course enrollment totaled 2 million full-time and 3.5 million part-time students in Fall 1993. The average age of the student is approximately 32. The modal age of the student is 19. Women make up 57.8% of community college enrollments. In terms of ethnicity, 69.8% of community college students are Caucasian, 11.1% are African-American, 10.5% are Hispanic, 4.6% are Asian, and 1% are Native American. Approximately 1% are nonresident aliens. Approximately 46.4% of all minorities enrolled in higher education are attending two-year colleges.

WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FACULTY?

76,413 faculty members teach in two-year institutions. About 69% are part-time instructors. 63.9% of the faculty have a masters as their highest degree and 18.9% hold a doctorate or professional degree. The average salary for instructors in public two-year colleges in 1995 was $42,101.

HOW ARE COMMUNITY COLLEGES FINANCED?

State appropriations, tuition, and local funds comprise most of the operating funds. State appropriations accounted for 43% of the operating revenue for public two-year colleges in Fall 1992. Tuition accounted for 22% of the revenue in Fall 1994. Local funds accounted for 19% of the revenues in Fall 1994. Average charges in 1996 for tuition and fees were approximately $1245 at public community colleges and $11,502 at private two-year colleges.

WHAT ORGANIZATIONS ARE CONCERNED
WITH COMMUNITY

COLLEGES?American Association of Community Colleges

President: David R. Pierce

One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 410

Washington, D.C. 20036-1176

202/728-0200

http://www.aacc.nche.edu

American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges

State Technical Institute at Memphis

5983 Macon Cove

Memphis, TN 38134

901/383-4643
http://www.amatyc.org
Association of Canadian Community Colleges
President: Tom Norton
1223 Michael St., Suite 200
Ottawa, ON K1J 7T2
613/746-6492
Association of Community College Trustees
President: Ray Taylor
1740 N. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
202/775-4667
Community College Consortium
Managing Director: Patricia Carter
Community College Humanities Association

President: David A. Berry

Essex County College

303 University Avenue

Newark, NJ 07102

201/877-3204

ERIC Clearinghouse for Community Colleges

Director: Arthur M. Cohen

3051 Moore Hall, Box 951521
University of California

Los Angeles, CA 90095

800/832-8256

http://www.gseis.ucla.edu/ERIC/eric.html League for Innovation in the Community College

Executive Director: Terry O'Banion

26522 La Alameda, Suite 370

Mission Viejo, CA 92691

714/367-2884

http://www.league.org

National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD)

Director: Suanne Roueche
Many other groups formed around curricular areas and special interests are active in the two-year college field.

**WHAT PERIODICALS FOCUS ON COMMUNITY COLLEGES?**

Community College Journal

American Association of Community Colleges

One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 410

Washington, D.C. 20036

Community College Journal of Research and Practice Taylor & Francis, Publishers
WHAT BOOKS ARE SUGGESTED FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION?


The statistics cited were gathered by the National Center for Education Statistics.

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