



# GENERAL REPORT

March 2024

Brett Campbell

## Analysis: Completions of HB144-Eligible Students

Under Utah House Bill 144, some unauthorized immigrant (UI) students who attend a Utah high school are exempt from paying the non-resident cost of tuition at Utah higher education institutions. This analysis examines awards earned by undergraduates who were eligible for the HB144 waiver: UI students who attended high school in Utah. Completion data of students who graduated from any Utah higher education institution between 2017-21 was provided by the National Student Clearinghouse. Students who left Utah to attend school were excluded from this analysis.

### Key Findings

- More UI students attend degree-granting institutions than technical colleges.
- Only 28% of UI students earned an award compared to the state’s 46%.
- Like the general student population, more UI women sought postsecondary awards.

### Analysis

Slightly more HB144-eligible students attended four-year USHE institutions (56%) compared to two-year institutions (44%). Further, more HB144-eligible women attended USHE institutions compared to the general student population (56% vs. 53%); however, fewer HB-144 eligible men attended compared to the general student population (44% vs. 47%).

Of the 2,751 enrolled, 762 HB144-eligible students (28%) completed 968 awards. Most were associate degrees. One in three were bachelor’s degrees, and one in five were certificates. This is compared to the USHE general population, where 46% of all students earned an award. More students in the general population completed bachelor’s degrees (49%) with fewer associate degrees (35%) and certificates (15%). In short, most HB-144 eligible students enrolled in four-year programs but earned one- or two-year awards, whereas in the general student population, more bachelor’s degrees were earned.

Finally, HB-144 eligible women (39%) earned more awards than HB-144 eligible men (31%), but both graduation rates are lower than the general population for women (50%) and men (49%). HB144-eligible students' ethnicity is not reported in line with IPEDS direction.

**Table 1. Awards earned by HB144-eligible students**

Award	First Award	Multiple Awards	Total Awards
Certificate	188 (19%)	18 (2%)	206 (21%)
Associate	308 (31%)	143 (15%)	451 (46%)
Bachelor's	266 (27%)	63 (6%)	329 (33%)

**Figure 1: HB144-eligible student enrollments and awards by year**

