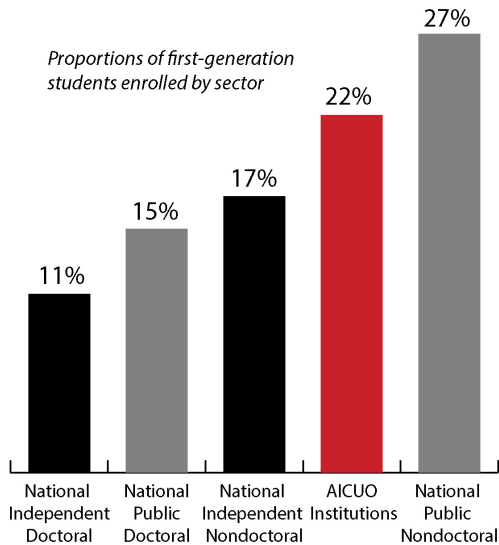


The Truth About: First-Generation Students



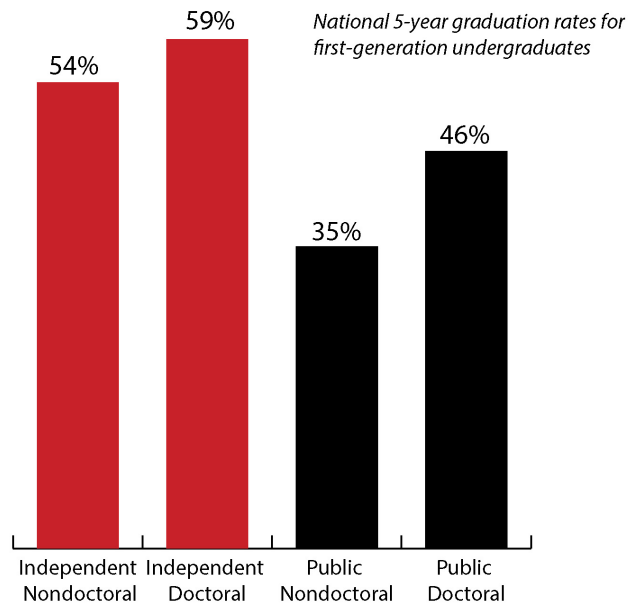
Source: The Council of Independent Colleges, *Expanding Access and Opportunity* (2015); AICUO analysis of First-Generation Students (2015)

First-Gen Enrollment Above Average at AICUO

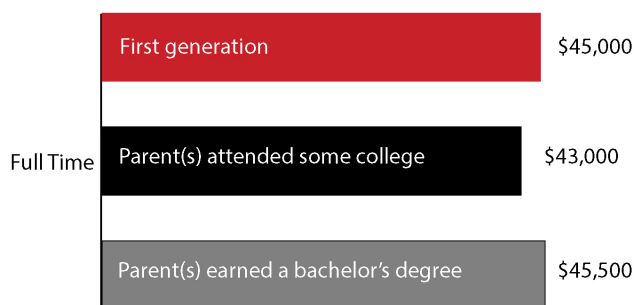
AICUO institutions' average enrollment percentage of first-generation students is above the national average for independent institutions and public doctoral institutions. These findings show Ohio's independent institutions enroll students from a wide range of educational backgrounds, creating social mobility pathways for those underserved in higher education.

First-Gen Students Do Better At Independents

First-generation students at independent institutions are more likely to graduate than those at public universities. This can be partly attributed to their being more likely to experience high-quality interactions with faculty members. These interactions have been shown to increase students' cognitive skills, self-confidence, and academic motivation.



Source: NCES, *Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study (BPS: 04/09)*. Analysis by the Council of Independent Colleges



Among 2007-08 bachelor's degree recipients who had a primary job, median annualized salary for their primary job, by parents' highest level of education and work intensity: 2012

Source: NCES, *2008/12 Baccalaureate and Beyond Longitudinal Study*

First-Gen Graduates Do Well After Graduation

Among bachelor's degree recipients, first-generation students fare well compared with their peers, whose parent(s) went to college, in the labor market. Median annualized salaries saw no statistically significant difference between the three groups. These earnings outcomes show that a four-year degree is highly effective at providing a **pathway to social mobility** for low-income and first-generation students who graduate.