

What are the trends for two-year college enrollment?

On target with state funds

- The two-year college system is projected to complete this academic year on target with its state-funded enrollment.
- After a period of record enrollments during the recent recession, two-year college enrollments are more in line with historic levels prior to the state's economic downturn.
- The state provided funding for 4,185 additional FTE, which allowed the colleges to provide service more in line with their budgeted level.

Getting people back to work

- Two-year colleges play a critical role in retraining workers for a changing economy.
- Worker retraining enrollments fluctuate with unemployment trends by helping people re-start their careers and getting the state back on track when it's needed most.
- Through the Worker Retraining program, 3,913 laid-off workers graduated with a degree or certificate in 2004-05. Worker retraining graduations were at their peak in 2003-04 at 5,149, up from 3,990 in 2002-03.

Success of Running Start

- Students taking advantage of the Running Start program are fully utilizing community colleges during their high school years, which is leading to a decline in their transfer to two-year colleges after graduation.
- The success of the Running Start program means that more high school graduates are prepared to transfer to four-year colleges earlier.
- The number of Running Start students going directly to universities after high school is increasing at a fast rate – 10% a year.

The future

- Growth in the number of high-school graduates has leveled off, but will accelerate substantially in 2007.
- In the long-term, demand for service will continue to go up. Enrollment projections show increasing demand for academic transfer, adult literacy, technical bachelor's degrees and workforce training.