State of Wisconsin
Educational Approval Program

The EAP fulfills its statutory responsibility of protecting Wisconsin consumers and promoting institutional effectiveness by:

- Evaluating and approving institutions offering postsecondary training and education.

- Supporting options for innovation and quality programs offered by institutions.

- Collecting and disseminating student outcomes information.

The EAP works to:

- Create and develop positive working relationships and alliances with all stakeholders.

- Enhance the public's awareness and under-standing of the post-secondary educational choices available to consumers.

- Promote institutional effectiveness and student success.

AGENCY PROFILE

Purpose

The Educational Approval Program (EAP) is an independent unit of state government responsible for overseeing private postsecondary institutions that provide training and education to Wisconsin residents. The EAP protects both students and the schools they attend in an effort to help (working) adults gain the skills our state's economy needs.

Authority

The authority of the EAP is granted in s.440.52, *Wis. Stats.* Although it independently exercises its powers, duties and functions, the EAP receives administrative support from the Wisconsin Technical College System Board under s.15.03, *Wis. Stats.*
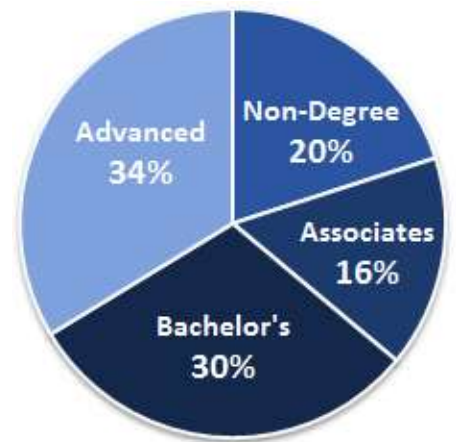
Funding and Staffing

The EAP is entirely program revenue (PR) funded through fees assessed to the schools subject to EAP oversight. By law, the fees must cover all operational expenditures. The FY 17 operating budget is $655,200 PR, which supports a total of 6.5 FTE positions and all related operating costs.

INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE

School Characteristics

The EAP currently approves 271 for-profit and certain non-profit schools, colleges, and universities.
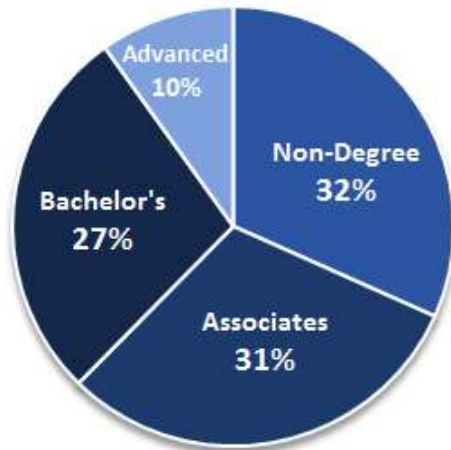
While the majority of students attend institutions located in Wisconsin, the number of students taking online programs at out-of-state institutions has been growing. The program levels offered by schools approved by the EAP are shown in the chart on the right.

Approved Program Levels

- Advanced 34%
- Non-Degree 20%
- Associates 16%
- Bachelor's 30%

January 2018

The following table provides information showing the number of students enrolled in institutions approved by the EAP according to various institutional types throughout the last three years.

Type	All	Online	On-Ground	For-Profit	Non-Profit	Degree	Non-Degree
Total	66,819	29,337	37,482	58,146	8,673	50,886	15,933
Drops	27,654	13,289	14,365	24,983	2,671	25,281	2,373

Student Characteristics

Institutions approved by the EAP serve approximately 40,000 students annually in more than 470 uniquely different degree and non-degree programs. Schools most recently reported that more than half of students are enrolled full-time and about 70% are 25 years of age or older. The gender composition is one-third male and two-thirds female.

The *Enrollment* chart at the left shows the program levels at which students from the 2012 and 2013 cohorts enrolled. For the 20,133 students that completed a program during the two cohort years, the table below shows the type of credential earned. Non-degree programs enroll 32% of students and account for 70% of all completions.

Distribution of Enrollment by Program Level

Program	Total	Non-Degree	Associates	Bachelor's	Advanced
Completed	20,133	13,923	2779	1878	6624

Student Results

Three years ago, the EAP migrated to a cohort-based method of data collection. Over the course of the last three years, schools reported that 66,819 students had enrolled in programs. While more than 20,000 (30%) students completed programs and earned some type of credential, nearly 28,000 (41%) dropped or withdrew in the same period. The chart below shows the cumulative student outcomes by cohort for all available years.

Cumulative Student Outcomes by Cohort:
Dropouts, Completions, Continuing or Transferred Out

Cohort	Dropout	Completion	Continuing/TO
2014: Year 1	6533	3612	10751
2013: Years 1-2	10044	6912	5556
2012: Years 1-3	11047	9609	2696