

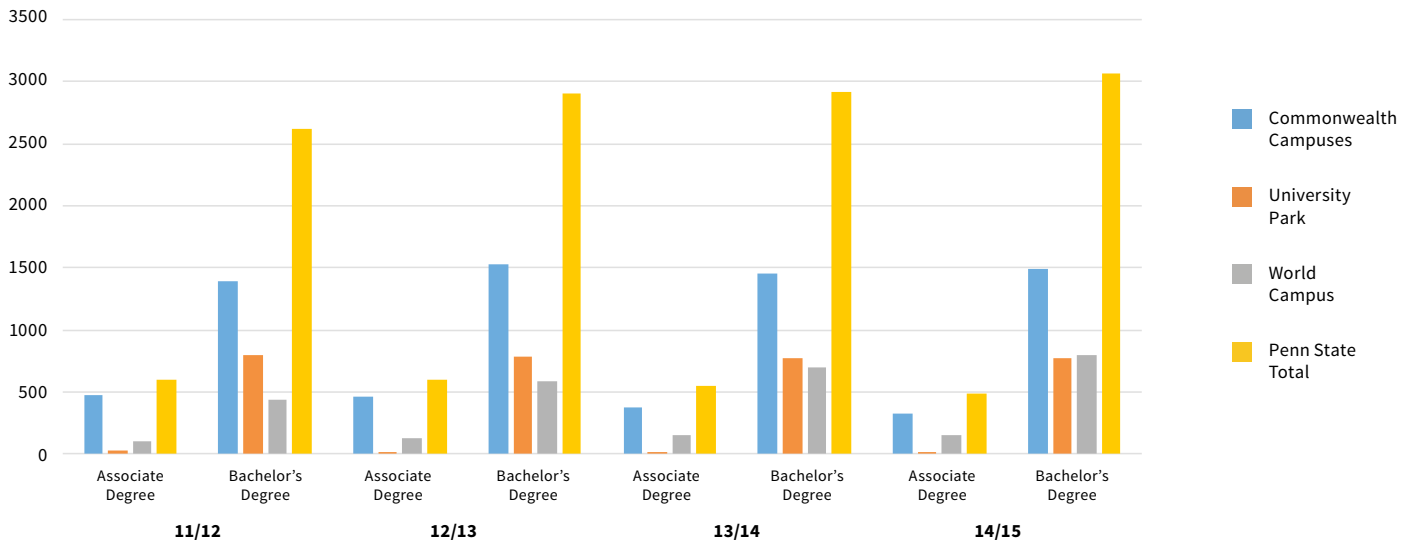


FACT SHEET

Adult Learner—may be 24 years of age or older; a veteran of the armed services or active-duty; returning to school after four or more years of employment, homemaking, or other activity; a person who assumes multiple adult roles, such as parent, spouse/partner, and employee.

Academic Snapshot of Adult Learner Graduates 2011–15

Undergraduate Degrees Awarded by Type of Degree



Adult Learner Scholastic Awards

Academic Years 11/12–14/15

Undergraduate students achieving academic excellence at Penn State are recognized annually through the presentation of four awards:

- Freshman Award
- President Sparks Award
- Evan Pugh Award-Junior (EJ)
- Evan Pugh Award-Senior (ES)

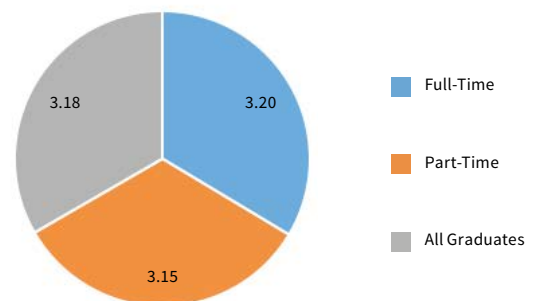
From 2011–12 through 2014–15, 242 adult learners University-wide received scholastic awards.

Average GPA by Status

Academic Years 11/12–14/15

On average, adult learner graduates successfully complete their undergraduate degree with a GPA of at least 3.0.

Note: Students may be counted more than once if they received both an associate and a bachelor's degree during the range of years.





FACT SHEET

Penn State's Commission for Adult Learners is composed of faculty, staff, and students from several University locations. Members are dedicated to improving the adult learner experience at Penn State.

The official charge to the Commission is to:

- provide a visible University-wide body whose primary purpose is to contribute to a supportive climate for adult learners
- monitor the recruitment, retention, and satisfaction of adult learners
- advocate for adult learners' concerns by recommending changes in policy, practice, and procedures that impact adult learners
- foster coordination and information exchange regarding programs and services that attract and retain adult learners to Penn State
- serve as a repository and facilitating body for adult learner-focused initiatives University-wide

2015–16 Objectives

Engage the Commission's sponsors in continuing dialogue in order to make progress in the following areas:

1. Reining in cost for adult learners
2. Implementing adult-friendly PLA practices
3. Implementing adult-friendly transfer policies
4. Enhancing financial literacy (developing modules for website)
5. Mitigating challenges with adult learner academic preparedness
6. Revisiting lack of adult degree completion option

Additional Activities

- host the annual Hendrick Best Practices for Adult Learners Conference on Thursday, May 12, 2016, at The Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel
- use the Adult Learner Fact Sheet to inform and highlight adult learners
- propose improvements for our military and veteran students' experience based on survey results
- provide information bullets to the President and Provost to include in their University-wide updates

Please visit our website for additional information about our Commission.