

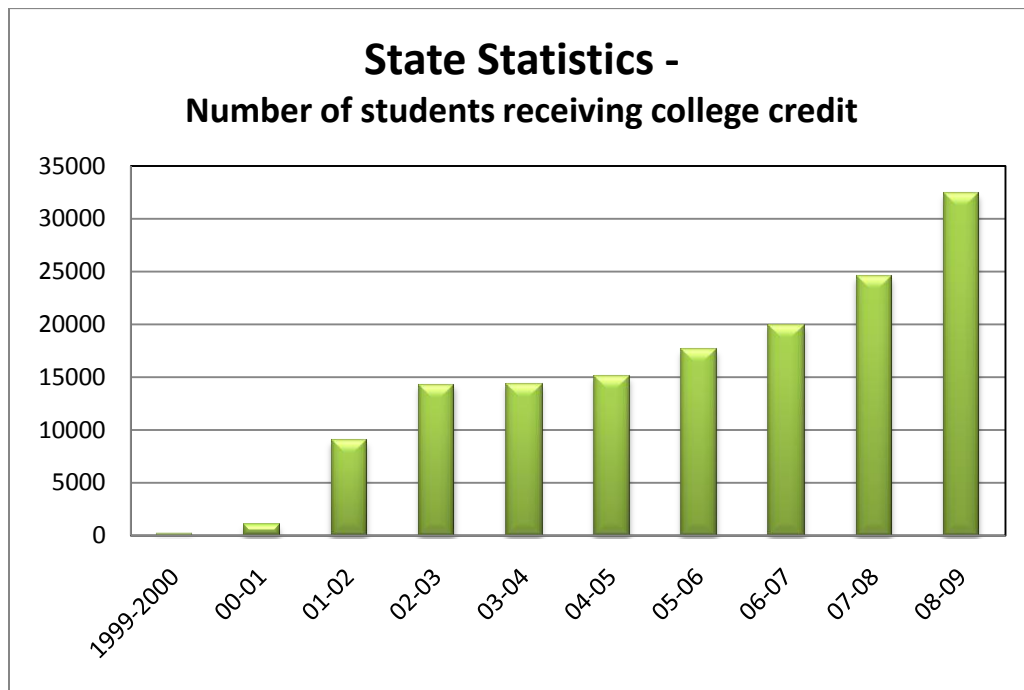


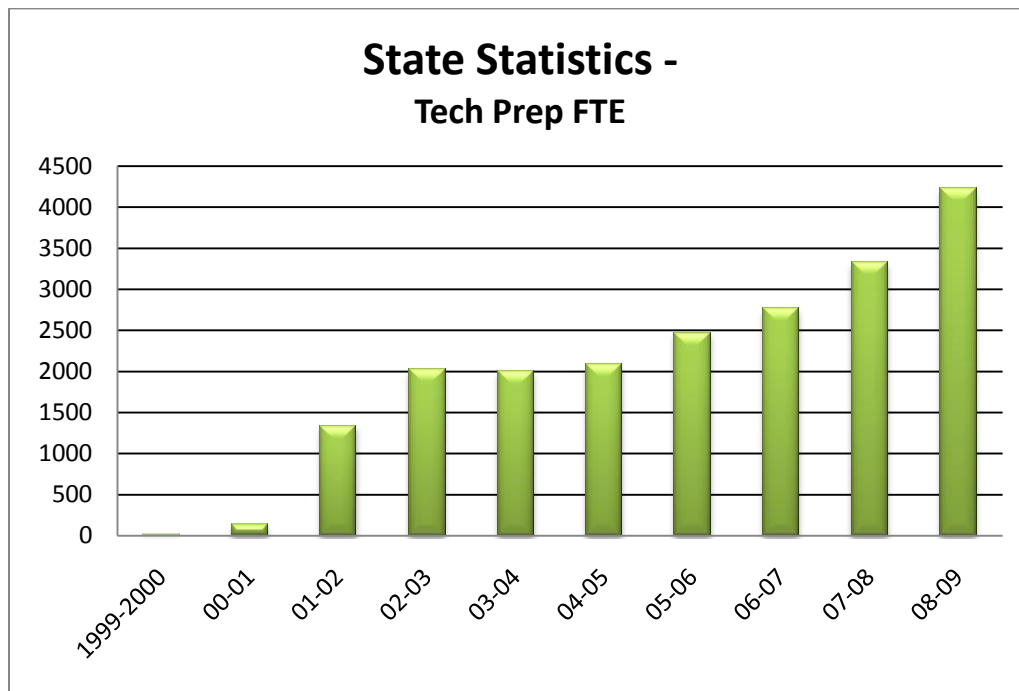
Tech Prep: *Students get the credit they deserve*

More than 32,300 students participated in Tech Prep program for a total of 4,233 FTE in 2008-09.

Tech Prep is a federally funded cooperative effort between K-12 schools, community and technical colleges, and the business and labor community to develop applied integrated academic and technical programs. These professional technical courses are taught on high school campuses by high school instructors. The high school instructors work with local colleges to assure the courses are taught at the college-level and articulate to the college program. This industry and education partnership is committed to providing a well trained and motivated workforce by training students for high-demand occupations while they are co-enrolled in both high school and college.

Tech Prep is competency-based and aligned with occupational pathways in a sequential course of study. Programs emphasize strong academic, technical, problem-solving and critical-thinking skills. Students complete each program with a demonstrated set of validated competencies that are recognized by business and the cooperating institutions. Tech Prep students are prepared for the world of work and better equipped to meet the needs of tomorrow’s workplace.





Savings to Families and Taxpayers

In 2008-09, students and their families realized a savings of over \$14.5 million by earning Tech Prep credits because they did not pay college tuition for these courses that were taught at the high school. Tech Prep credits provided a savings to taxpayers of over \$22.4 million in state-support education, because these credits were earned without enrolling in classes at a community or technical college. That's over \$36.9 million saved in 2008-09 and a good return for Washington from a \$1.9 million investment of federal funds. (Savings based on 190,606 college credits at \$76 per credit costs = \$14,486,056, and annualized FTE (45 credits) at \$5,300 each.)

Direct Transcription

Each of the state's 22 Tech Prep consortia have developed competency-based articulation agreements between high schools and colleges that help students transition from high school into post-secondary professional-technical programs. Through Tech Prep articulation agreements, colleges award credit to students who successfully complete college-equivalent courses and programs with a "B" or better while still in high school. Articulation agreements between the individual college and school define the criteria for equivalency and the granting of credit.

Advantages of Tech Prep

- Students earn college credit while still in high school
- Students gain valuable occupational skills and related work experience
- Families save money on tuition, books and lab fees
- Program is supported by federal funds (\$1.9 million)
- Program serves mostly middle and lower income students

For more information about Tech Prep, contact:
 Pat Ward, Program Administrator
 State Board for Community and Technical Colleges
 (360) 704-4342, pward@sbctc.edu