

## What Do We Know about the Undergraduate Class of 2017?

While smaller than last year, for the third year in a row, more of the graduates came to UPIKE as new freshmen than as transfer students: 61% started here as first-time students; 39% transferred to UPIKE from another institution of higher education.

- 18% of new freshmen had participated in the UPIKE dual credit program
- 51% of transfers came from a KCTCS institution
  - 88% of these coming from Big Sandy Community and Technical College

The three most popular majors are Business Administration (33), Biology (32), and Psychology (29)

The average time to degree completion for graduates who started at UPIKE as first-time students and receiving bachelor's degrees continues to be less than 4½ years (4.43). The "Endurance Award" goes to Shalem Justus Callaway (BS in Mathematics), who is graduating today after originally beginning his studies at Pikeville College in fall 2007.

The oldest graduate is 58 years old and the youngest graduates are 20 years old (5).

- More than 4 in 5 (83%) of the graduates who started at UPIKE as first-time students and receiving bachelor's degrees took out student loans to pay for their education. The average per borrower cumulative principal borrowed is \$24,322 (LESS than last year). [The average student loan debt among college seniors nationally was \$30,100 in 2015. (Source: <http://projectonstudentdebt.org/>)]
- 88% took at least one online and/or hybrid course at UPIKE (HIGHER than last year); on average these students took 8.2% of their UPIKE credit hours in some type of distance learning format
- 79% are Kentucky residents, which is equivalent to the general student population
  - 45% of these graduated from a high school in Pike County, Kentucky
    - 23% of these graduated from Pike County Central High School
- 71% are from Appalachia, which is equivalent to the general student population
- Two-thirds (66%) lived on campus at some point during their matriculation at UPIKE
- 61% graduated with the same major as what they intended at the time of admission to UPIKE
- 60% qualified for Federal need-based aid, which is LESS than the general student population (65%)
  - 35% are from families in poverty, which is LESS than the general student population (43%)
- 49% were involved with intercollegiate athletics at some point during their matriculation at UPIKE
  - 20% football
  - 15% baseball
  - 10% soccer
  - 10% bowling
  - 7% softball
  - 6% basketball
  - 31% all other sports
- 48% are male, which is equivalent to the general student population
- 43% are first generation college students, which is equivalent to the general student population
- One third (32%) of the graduates who started at UPIKE as first-time students had enrolled in at least one developmental course during their first term of college (on average, 49% of new freshmen to UPIKE enroll in at least one developmental course during their first term)
- About one in five (21%) graduates are non-traditional students [i.e., over the age of 25 and/or married], which is higher than last year