

What Do We Know about the Undergraduate Class of 2016?

For the second year in a row, more of the graduates came to UPIKE as new freshmen than as transfer students: 64% started here as first-time students; 36% transferred to UPIKE from another institution of higher education.

- 16% of new freshmen had participated in the UPIKE dual credit program
- 48% of transfers came from a KCTCS institution
 - 79% of these coming from Big Sandy Community and Technical College

The average time to degree completion for graduates who started at UPIKE as first-time students and receiving bachelor's degrees is now less than 4½ years (4.41). The "Endurance Award" goes to Allyson Danielle Gibson (BBA in Business Administration-Management & BA in Art), who is graduating today after originally beginning her studies at Pikeville College in fall 1996.

The oldest graduates are 50 years old (2) and the youngest graduate is 20 years old; two graduates have birthdays on commencement day, May 14: Kurtis Coleman (BS in Religion) and Jaimie Mullins (BS in Mathematics).

- More than 4 in 5 (85%) 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 \$25,631. [The average student loan debt among college seniors nationally was \$28,950 in 2014. (Source: <http://projectonstudentdebt.org/>)]
- 80% took at least one online and/or hybrid course at UPIKE; on average these students took 8.9% of their UPIKE credit hours in some type of distance learning format
- 78% are Kentucky residents, which is equivalent to the general student population
 - 45% of these graduated from a high school in Pike County, Kentucky
 - 33% of these graduated from East Ridge High School
- 73% are from Appalachia, which is equivalent to the general student population
- Two-thirds (67%) lived on campus at some point during their matriculation at UPIKE
- 61% qualified for Federal need-based aid, which is LESS than the general student population (69%)
 - 33% are from families in poverty, which is LESS than the general student population (43%)
- 54% were involved with intercollegiate athletics at some point during their matriculation at UPIKE
 - 23% soccer
 - 14% football
 - 12% basketball
 - 9% softball
 - 7% baseball
 - 35% all other sports
- 45% are first generation college students, which is equivalent to the general student population
- 37% are male, which is LESS than the general student population (50%)
- Less than one third (30%) 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, 50% of new freshmen to UPIKE enroll in at least one developmental course during their first term)
- About one in five (19%) graduates are non-traditional students [i.e., over the age of 25 and/or married], which is higher than last year