

Data Description: College-Credential-Program Level (CIP6) File

This data file is unique by college (defined as a 6-digit OPEID), credential level, and program (defined as a 6-digit CIP code). The file includes all programs that had one or more Title IV completers during the pooled AY2017-18 and AY 2018-19 cohorts.

The following credential levels are included in the file: (1) Undergraduate certificates; (2) Associate Degree; (3) Bachelor's Degree; (4) Post-Baccalaureate Certificate; (5) Master's Degree; (6) Doctoral Degree; (7) First Professional Degree; (8) Graduate Certificate.

The earnings definition included in this data is different from the earnings definition provided in the 2026 Program Performance Data ([PPD:26](#)). Specifically, in this file, earnings are measured 3 years after completers finish their highest credential, and the median value includes the earnings of individuals who are not enrolled in college and are either working or not working.

Median earnings values are determined by matching Social Security Numbers of Title IV completers to tax records maintained by the IRS. Median earnings values are inflation adjusted to 2024 dollars using CPI-U.

The data includes privacy suppression protocols to align with IRS procedures. First, programs with 15 or fewer Title IV completers are privacy suppressed (counts and earnings values are set to missing). Second, a small amount of statistical noise is added to counts and earnings values to protect individual privacy. On average, the statistical noise is 0. For programs where the statistical noise moved values more than 9% away from the true value, those values are also suppressed.

On the statistical noise:

- 62 percent of medians have a relative error less than one percent;
- 32 percent have a relative error between one percent and four percent;
- Six percent have a relative error between five percent and nine percent;
 - The median absolute error for those with relative error at or above five percent is \$2,593.
- No reported median has a relative error above nine percent.

Variable Codebook: College-Credential-Program Level (CIP6) File

Variable	Description	Notes
opeid6	6-digit OPEID	
cip2	2-digit CIP code	
cip2_title	2-digit CIP title	
cip4	4-digit CIP code	
cip4_title	4-digit CIP title	
cip6	6-digit CIP code	
cip6_title	6-digit CIP title	
credlev	Credential level	
count_ne_p3	Number of Title IV graduates not enrolled 3 years after completing.	NSLDS pooled AY2017-18, AY 2018-19 cohort.
md_earn_ne_p3	Median earnings of Title IV graduates not enrolled 3 years after completing .	NSLDS pooled AY2017-18, AY 2018-19 cohort, earnings measured in CY 2021 and 2022, inflation adjusted to 2024 dollars using CPI-U. Includes individuals who are working and non-working. Excludes individuals who are currently enrolled in college.

Data Description: Credential-Program Level (CIP6) File

This data file is unique by credential level and program (defined as a 6-digit CIP code). The file includes all programs that had one or more Title IV completers during the pooled AY2017-18 and AY 2018-19 cohorts.

The following credential levels are included in the file: (1) Undergraduate certificates; (2) Associate Degree; (3) Bachelor's Degree; (4) Post-Baccalaureate Certificate; (5) Master's Degree; (6) Doctoral Degree; (7) First Professional Degree; (8) Graduate Certificate.

The earnings definition included in this data is different from the earnings definition provided in the 2026 Program Performance Data ([PPD:26](#)). Specifically, in this file, earnings are measured 3 years after completers finish their highest credential, earnings are measured at the 25th percentile, median, and 75th percentile, and each earnings measure includes the earnings of individuals who are not enrolled in college and are either working or not working.

Earnings values are determined by matching Social Security Numbers of Title IV completers to tax records maintained by the IRS. All earnings values are inflation adjusted to 2024 dollars using CPI-U.

The data includes privacy suppression protocols to align with IRS procedures. First, programs with 15 or fewer Title IV completers are privacy suppressed (counts and earnings values are set to missing). Second, a small amount of statistical noise is added to counts and earnings values to protect individual privacy. On average, the statistical noise is 0. For programs where the statistical noise moved values more than 9% away from the true value, those values are also suppressed.

On the statistical noise:

- 77 percent of medians have a relative error less than one percent;
- 19 percent have a relative error between one percent and four percent;
- Four percent have a relative error between five percent and nine percent;
 - The median absolute error for those with relative error at or above five percent is \$2,898.
- No reported median has a relative error above nine percent.

Variable Codebook: Credential-Program Level (CIP6) File

Variable	Description	Notes
cip2	2-digit CIP code	
cip2_title	2-digit CIP title	
cip4	4-digit CIP code	
cip4_title	4-digit CIP title	
cip6	6-digit CIP code	
cip6_title	6-digit CIP title	
credlev	Credential level	
count_ne_p3	Number of Title IV graduates not enrolled 3 years after completing.	NSLDS pooled AY2017-18, AY 2018-19 cohort.
p25_earn_ne_p3	25th percentile earnings of Title IV graduates not enrolled 3 years after completing.	NSLDS pooled AY2017-18, AY 2018-19 cohort, earnings measured in CY 2021 and 2022, inflation adjusted to 2024 dollars using CPI-U. Includes individuals who are working and non-working. Excludes individuals who are currently enrolled in college.
md_earn_ne_p3	Median earnings of Title IV graduates not enrolled 3 years after completing.	NSLDS pooled AY2017-18, AY 2018-19 cohort, earnings measured in CY 2021 and 2022, inflation adjusted to 2024 dollars using CPI-U. Includes individuals who are working and non-working. Excludes individuals who are currently enrolled in college.
p75_earn_ne_p3	75th percentile earnings of Title IV graduates not enrolled 3 years after completing.	NSLDS pooled AY2017-18, AY 2018-19 cohort, earnings measured in CY 2021 and 2022, inflation adjusted to 2024 dollars using CPI-U. Includes individuals who are working and non-working. Excludes individuals who are currently enrolled in college.