Washington State Community and Technical Colleges

Applied Baccalaureate Degrees

March 2014

History

2001 College system creates Associate of Applied Science – Transfer degree
  • Joint effort with universities

2003 Presidents create task force to study applied baccalaureate degrees

2004 Baccalaureate capacity study.
  • Joint effort between State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, Higher Education Coordinating Board and public universities
  • Showed unmet need for upper division capacity, low transfer rates for technical associate degree graduates
  • Findings included in state master plan for higher education

2004 Applied baccalaureate study.
  • Joint effort with Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board
  • Case for support for BAS degrees
  • http://sbctc.edu/college/d_transfer.aspx report 05-1

2005 State legislation enacted providing SBCTC authority to approve four pilot applied baccalaureate degree programs.
  • Three bills dropped by legislators
  • BAS definition and criteria included in statute
  • Earmarked appropriation provided for start up and on-going enrollment costs

2006 SBCTC approves four pilot BAS programs
  • Pilot colleges adopt common policies and practices
  • Pilot colleges work together on regional accreditation applications

2007 State legislation enacted increasing SBCTC authority to 7 pilot BAS programs
  • Three additional programs approved

2009 Pilot colleges receive regional accreditation as baccalaureate degree granting institutions

2010 State legislation removes pilot status for BAS degrees, removing limitation on number of programs and number of colleges

2013 SBCTC publishes research report on BAS outcomes
  • Adult working students served, high student diversity
  • Strong employment outcomes and wage gains, in spite of economic recession
  • http://www.sbctc.edu/college/education/13-6BASEvaluation_000.pdf
BAS program growth

Number of BAS Programs
2007-08 through 2013-14

Annualized FTES and Headcount in BAS Program:
2007-08 through 2013-14