

COMMON DATA SET

2016-2017



December 2016

Institutional Research and Assessment
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Tulsa Community College **Common Data Set**

Overview

The information contained in the Common Data Set is based on Fall 2016 preliminary enrollment data, unless otherwise specified. These data are stored after the last day to drop or add a course, which is typically the first business day of the third week of classes.

Several TCC offices assist in providing information for the Common Data Set – Academic Compliance, Admissions & Enrollment Services, Bursar's Office, Financial Aid, Human Resources, and Student Activities.

About CDS (obtained from www.commondataset.org)

"The Common Data Set (CDS) initiative is a collaborative effort among data providers in the higher education community and publishers as represented by the College Board, Peterson's, and U.S. News & World Report. The combined goal of this collaboration is to improve the quality and accuracy of information provided to all involved in a student's transition into higher education, as well as to reduce the reporting burden on data providers.

This goal is attained by the development of clear, standard data items and definitions in order to determine a specific cohort relevant to each item. Data items and definitions used by the U.S. Department of Education in its higher education surveys often serve as a guide in the continued development of the CDS. Common Data Set items undergo broad review by the [CDS Advisory Board](#) as well as by data providers representing secondary schools and two- and four-year colleges. Feedback from those who utilize the CDS also is considered throughout the annual review process.

The CDS is a set of standards and definitions of data items rather than a survey instrument or set of data represented in a database. Each of the higher education surveys conducted by the participating publishers incorporates items from the CDS as well as unique items proprietary to each publisher. Consequently, the publishers' surveys differ in that they utilize varying numbers of items from the CDS.

Those who report data for their colleges are urged to abide by the definitions and the cohorts specified when answering CDS items. They are also urged to use the answers to CDS items when responding to the numerous survey requests they receive, by distributing photocopies of their answers, posting them on their web sites, or by other effective means."

Prepared By

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