Errata Sheet

Revised 12/1/2020: This report has been revised from the original due to the discovery of an error in the dataset (some PLA event records were duplicated due to a data matching error). Details on all changes made to the original report are listed below; corrections are indicated in red text, and original text/numbers that have been deleted are indicated with a strikethrough.

Page	Corrections
vii	The average number of PLA credits earned per student equaled a half-year or more nearly a semester of full-time study. The average number of PLA credits earned at the participating institutions was 23.8 14.8 credits, dropping to 1 7.1 11.7credits when excluding ACE credit recommendations for military. Box: Adult students earned: 23.8 14.8 PLA Credits, 17.1 11.7 non-military PLA credits, or at least a half-year or more of a full- time semester's worth of study nearly a semester of full-time study.
xii	Cost Savings: The adult students in our sample saved an estimated average cost of: • \$2,244 \$1,481 at 2-year public institutions • \$4,829 \$3,794 at 4-year publics • \$11,587 \$10,220 at 4-year private nonprofits, and • \$7,067 \$6,090 at for-profits Time Savings: When earning at least 12 PLA credits, associate degree earners at 2-year public institutions saved an average of 12-14 months in earning their degrees; and bachelor's degree earners saved more than -7 9 months, compared to similar students with no PLA credit. Box: PLA SAVES MONEY \$2,200 to \$11,600 \$1,500 to \$10,200 Box: PLA SAVES TIME 7 to 12-9 to 14 Months
3	Same changes as on p. xii, excluding the box corrections.
12	But, the average number of PLA credits earned per student was the equivalent of a half-year or more of nearly a half-year of full-time study. PLA credit-earning was lower for Black adult students, female adult students, and lower-income adult students , and adult students at 2-year public institutions . The average number of PLA credits earned at the participating study institutions was 23.8 14.8 credits, dropping to 1 7.1 11.7 credits among students with sources other than ACE credit recommendations for military. Across most student subgroups and institutional categories, the average number of PLA credits earned was equal to a semester or more nearly a semester of full-time study.
	Box: Adult students earned: 23.8 14.8 PLA Credits, 1 7.1 11.7 non-military PLA credits, or at least a half-year or more of a full- time semester's worth of study nearly a semester of full-time study.



WICHE /

		Average P	LA Credits	Earned
	Ori	iginal		Corrected
	PLA	PLA-non- military	PLA	PLA-non-milita
All adult students (age 25+)	23.8	17.1	14.8	11.7
Gender				
Male	25.9	17.5	15.9	12.3
Female	19.5	16.8	12.4	11.1
Race/ethnicity - U.S. Department of Education method for categ	jorizing†			
Asian	19.6	17.1	15.7	13.2
Black	16.9	14.3	15.3	12.5
Hispanic	18.4	14.1	15.5	11.8
White	20.3	18.5	17.2	14.4
Other/Multiracial (includes all NH/OPI- and AI/AN-identifying students)	22.2	16.4	18.0	14.9
Race categories with too few students to be analyzed according	to U.S. Dep	ot of Ed metho	d†	
Native Hawai'ian/Other Pacific Islander	22.0	13.0	18.1	11.2
American Indian/Alaska Native	23.5	17.9	18.9	14.5
Pell Status				
Student had received one or more Pell Grant	21.0	16.1	12.3	10.3
Student had not received a Pell Grant	26.2	16.7	16.3	11.5
Transfer student				
No transfer credits	26.7	20.7	15.1	14.2
Some transfer credits	22.5	16.1	14.6	11.0
Enrollment intensity				
Less than 20% enrollment	25.2	20.8	16.0	13.9
21-40% enrollment	24.5	18.1	16.1	13.7
41-60% enrollment	22.6	16.8	13.9	11.4
61-80% enrollment	25.0	17.6	14.2	11.0
81-100% enrollment (full-time)	23.6	17.9	14.4	12.7
Course Success Rate				
0% to less than 70%	23.0	16.9	14.6	12.5
70% to less than 90%	23.2	15.7	14.0	10.7
90% to 100%	24.5	17.7	15.1	11.9



The average number of PLA credits earned by adult students across all of the participating study institutions was equal to a half-year or more nearly a half-year of full-time study. This was the case for most student sub-groups and institutional characteristics. The average credits earned was higher for most, but not all, categories when including credits earned through ACE credit recommendations for military.

On average, adult students with PLA credits earned 23.8-14.8 credits through PLA. When examining credits earned by adult students using methods other than ACE credit recommendations for military, the average dropped to 17.1-11.7 credits, or slightly more than the number of credits students typically earn in a half-year of full-time study (based on 15 credits per half-year for "on-time" degree completion). By institution, the average number of PLA credits earned per student (including ACE credit recommendations for military) ranged from a low of 2.7 to a high of 54.8-41.4. At 4-year public and for-profit institutions, the influence of military credits on average PLA credits earned is particularly evident: the average number of PLA-non-military credits (Figure 4). There was only slight variation in the average number of any PLA credits or non-military PLA-credits earned, by sector, except for for-profit institutions where the influence of military credit on average PLA credit recommendations for military-was 26.3 and when excluding ACE credit recommendations for military are average number of PLA credits adult students at -year institutions is noteworthy, given that most degrees at the 2-year publics require half the amount of credits.

New Figure 4, with the following changes:

17

19

	0	riginal	Co	rrected
	Avg PLA credits earned	Avg PLA-non-military credits earned	Avg PLA credits earned	Avg PLA-non-military credits earned
2-year public	18.4	18.0	12.5	14.1
4-year public	19.9	15.4	17.7	11.5
4-year private	17.9	17.2	16.4	15.8
for-profit	26.3	17.5	14.0	10.4
Total	23.8	17.1	14.8	11.7

18 Other institutional categories. Predominantly online institutions had higher-lower average PLA credit-earning per student (26.4 14.2 credits), compared to institutions that were not predominantly online (18.5-15.9 credits)*. Minority-serving institutions had lower average PLA credit-earning per student (16.8-11.3 credits), compared to institutions that were not minority-serving (24.1-14.9 credits)*. A similar pattern was found for these types of institutions for PLA-non-military credits.

Student demographics and other characteristics. Adult students who were not transfer students or not Pell Grantrecipients earned greater average numbers of PLA credits, compared to other student groups* (Table 3). Within the othervarious demographic and academic categories, notable is the consistently low average credit earning (whether PLA or PLAnon-military) by Black and Hispanic adult students* (Table 3).

[Relative] "dosage" of PLA interaction appears to matter for completion: Students with 30-15 or more PLA credits (or seven as well as 15 credits or more of non-military PLA credits) realized even larger impacts of PLA participation.

As shown in the previous section, a relatively small percentage (11%) of adult students in our sample earned credit through PLA, and those who did earned an average of a half-year's nearly a semester's worth of college credits.

21 New Figure 6, with the following changes:

Figure 6. PLA credit-earning provided a consistent boost to completion for both PLA students and PLA-non-military students; PLA students saw additional benefits to credential completion with 30-15 or more PLA credits

	Orig	inal	Correc	ted
	PLA Marginal Effect	PLA-non-military Marginal Effect	PLA Marginal Effect	PLA-non-military Marginal Effect
1 to 6	17%	27%	16%	28%
7 to 14	15%	33%	15%	29%
15 to 29	16%	30%	19%	33%
30 to 59	19%	29%	23%	30%
60 or More	24%	31%	25%	41%





22	The results for PLA credit-earners (including milit level of PLA credit (6 or fewer credits) see a 17% 1 and effect of PLA credit. Second, the figure illustr larger impacts of PLA participation. At 30 15 cred 24% 25%. In other words, PLA credit accumulatio begin to increase even more (i.e., even greater cr	16% increase in ates that stude its, the effect ir n pays off rath edential compl	completion, which p nts with 30- 15 or mo pcreases to 19% and er consistently up ur etion).	provides strop pre PLA credit at 60 or mor ntil about 30	ng evidence of the ts begin to realize of e credits, the effec 15 credits, where t	boost even t jumps to he effects
	When disaggregating these results for method or recommendations for military, the marginal effect credits, with a slight non-linear pattern. However, credits. for students with more than 6 PLA-non-m military credits, but there was no clear additive with highest marginal effect was for adult students with	cts ranged betv , the effect incr nilitary credits v alue to comple t	veen 28% and 33% fo eased to 41% for stu vere consistently hig ion with each additi	or students b idents with 6 her than for	elow 60 PLA-non-r 0 or more PLA-nor students with 1-6 l	nilitary ı-military _A-non-
40	The adult students in our sample saved an estimate at 4-year publics, \$11,587-\$10,220 at 4-year private costs of PLA compared to course tuition.					
41	In the case of the adult students at the institutior PLA ranged from \$2,244 \$1,481 at 2-year publics cost savings for PLA methods other than through \$1,835 \$1,222 at 2-year publics to more than \$10 Box: PLA SAVES MONEY \$2,200 to \$11,600 \$1,500 to \$10,200	to <mark>\$11,587</mark> \$10 h ACE credit rec	,220 at 4-year privat ommendations for r	e non-profits nilitary were	. [Average] estim slightly lower, rand	ated
42	New Table 11, with the following changes: Table 11. With PLA credit-earning, adult students upon institutional sector, 2018-19 school year and	saved betweer d dollars	n \$2,224 \$1,481 and	\$11,587 \$10,	220, on average, d	epending
		Studer	nts with PLA		ents with on-military	
		Mean	25%-75% distribution	Mean	25%-75% distribution	
	2-year public (n=27 & 26 institutions)	\$2,244 \$1,481	\$787-\$2,484 \$477-\$1,643	\$1,835 \$1,222	\$578-\$2,42 8 \$322-\$1,428	
	4-year public (n=19 institutions)	\$4,829 \$3,794	\$1,574-\$6,10 5 \$1,329-\$4,943	\$3,991 \$3,048	\$840-\$4,511 \$833-\$2,665	
	4-year private nonprofit (n=10 institutions)	\$11,587 \$10,220	\$5,607-\$18,958 \$5,064-\$15,252	\$10,384 \$8,938	\$5,033-\$18,958 \$4,407-\$11,413	
	For-profit (n=4 institutions)	\$7,067 \$6,090	\$6,393-\$7,742 \$5,201-\$6,980	\$5,903 \$5,322	\$5,495-\$6,312 \$4,332-\$6,312	
43	Associate degrees: At 2-year public institutions, a associate degree if they earned at least 12 PLA cr institutions— only about four a little more than fin the associate degree at for-profit institutions was	edits. The time ve months for s	savings for associat tudents with more t	e degree ear han 12 PLA c	ners was less at fo	r-profit
	Bachelor's degrees: On average, adult students s they had 12 or more PLA credits.	aved more that	n seven nine months	s in earning a	bachelor's degree	when
	Box: PLA SAVES TIME 7 to 12 9 to 14 Months					



WICHE

44

Associate Degree Earners at 2-Year Public Institutions Saved 12-14 Months with 12 or More PLA Credits

Associate degrees: At 2-year public institutions, adult students saved an average of 12 14 months in the earning of an associate degree if they earned at least 12 PLA credits. The time savings for associate degree earners was less at for-profit institutions—<u>only about four a little more than five</u> months for students with more than 12 PLA credits, but overall time to the associate degree at for-profit institutions was far lower at for-profits than at 2-year publics.

New Figure 18. At 2-year public institutions, adult students completed associate degrees with an average of about 12 14 fewer months if they earned more than 12 PLA credits*[..]

		Original			Correcte	d
	No PLA credits	1-12 PLA credits	More than 12 PLA credits	No PLA credits	1-12 PLA credits	More than 12 PLA credits
Months, 2-yr public	45.5	42.4	33.3	45.5	42.9	31.5
Months, For-profit	28.5	28.2	24.3	28.5	27.5	22.9
N, 2-yr public	1,541	110	108	1,541	122	96
N, For-profit	6,705	389	350	6,705	552	187

45

Bachelor's Degree Students Saved Seven Nine Months in Earning a Degree with 12 or More PLA Credits Bachelor's degree earning adult students also saw reduced time to degree with PLA credits. On average, adult students saved more than seven nine months on their path to earning their bachelor's degree when they had 12 or more PLA credits, compared to [...]

New Figure 19. Adult students saved more than seven nine months on their path to earning their bachelor's degree when they had 12 or more PLA credits, compared to [...]

		Original			Correcte	ed
	No PLA credits	1-12 PLA credits	More than 12 PLA credits	No PLA credits	1-12 PLA credits	More than 12 PLA credits
Months	53	52.9	45.3	53	51.5	43.7
N	3,106	272	1,059	3,106	546	785

46 For students using a single method of PLA, those with ACE military credits earned the largest average number of credits (25.2), followed by credit for certification and licenses (19.3) and portfolio assessment (18.5). For students using a single method of PLA, those with credits from ACE/NCCRS credit recommendations earned the largest average number of credits (17.4), followed by credit for certification/licenses (15.9) and credits from ACE military credit recommendations (14.9). Students using multiple methods of PLA earned more PLA credits on average: 44-26.4 credits for adult students using both ACE military and standardized exams, and 32.6-23.6 credits for those using other method combinations.



WICHE ///

		Orig	inal Average PLA Credits	Corrected Averag	ge PLA Credits		
	Standardized exams		15.5	8.9			
	Challenge exams		7.8	5.8			
	ACE/NCCRS		18.6	17.4	ļ		
	ACE Military		25.2	14.9)		
	Portfolio assessment		18.5	13.2	2		
	Credits for certificatio	ns/licenses	19.3	15.9)		
	Other PLA Method		18.0	13.9)		
	ACE Military and Standardized exams		44.0	26.4	1		
	Other multiple metho	ds	32.6	23.6	5		
55	 numbers of PLA credits. Service members with PLA credits had lower completion rates. PLA credits earned. Service members with PLA at the participating institutions also earned more PLA credits, on average, compared to non-service members with PLA* (24-2 15.0 for service members, compared to 16-2 11.1 for non-service members). Compared to other students, service members had 4.9 additional credits at 2-year 4.4 additional credits at 4-ye public institutions, 6-7 4.6 additional credits at 4-year privates, and 10.4 4.1 additional credits at for-profits*. At 4-year 2-y publics, PLA credit earning by service members was about the same as non-service members (and the difference was not statistically significant) (Figure 24). In addition, 24% of the service members with PLA had 16 or more PLA credits, compare to only 1% of non-service members with PLA*. 						
	compared to non-servio members). Compared t public institutions, 6.7 -4 publics, PLA credit earn statistically significant) to only 1% of non-servi	ce members with PLA* (to other students, servic 4.6 additional credits at sing by service members (Figure 24). In addition, ce members with PLA*.	24.2 15.0 for service member e members had 4.9 additiona 4-year privates, and 10.4 4.1 a s was about the same as non- 24% of the service members	s, compared to 16.2 l credits at 2-year 4. Idditional credits at service members (a	11.1 for non-service 4 additional credits at 4-ye for-profits*. At 4-year 2-ye nd the difference was not		
	compared to non-servio members). Compared t public institutions, 6.7 -4 publics, PLA credit earn statistically significant) to only 1% of non-servi	ce members with PLA* (to other students, servic 4.6 additional credits at sing by service members (Figure 24). In addition, ce members with PLA*.	24.2 15.0 for service member e members had 4.9 additiona 4-year privates, and 10.4 4.1 a s was about the same as non- 24% of the service members- verage PLA credit-earning:	s, compared to 16.2 credits at 2-year 4. dditional credits at service members (a with PLA had 16 or r	11.1 for non-service 4 additional credits at 4-ye for-profits*. At 4-year 2-ye nd the difference was not more PLA credits, compar		
	compared to non-servio members). Compared t public institutions, 6.7 -4 publics, PLA credit earn statistically significant) to only 1% of non-servi	ce members with PLA* (to other students, servic 4.6 additional credits at sing by service members (Figure 24). In addition, ce members with PLA*.	24.2 15.0 for service member e members had 4.9 additiona 4-year privates, and 10.4 4.1 a s was about the same as non- 24% of the service members- verage PLA credit-earning: Original	s, compared to 16.2 l credits at 2-year 4. Idditional credits at service members (a with PLA had 16 or r	11.1 for non-service 4 additional credits at 4-ye for-profits*. At 4-year 2-ye nd the difference was not		
	compared to non-servio members). Compared t public institutions, 6.7 -4 publics, PLA credit earn statistically significant) to only 1% of non-servi	ce members with PLA* (co other students, servic 4.6 additional credits at ning by service members (Figure 24). In addition, ce members with PLA*. e following changes to a	24.2 15.0 for service members e members had 4.9 additiona 4-year privates, and 10.4 4.1 a s was about the same as non- 24% of the service members- verage PLA credit-earning: Original Any military service o	s, compared to 16.2 I credits at 2-year 4. Idditional credits at service members (a with PLA had 16 or r No service or	11.1 for non-service 4 additional credits at 4-ye for-profits*. At 4-year 2-ye nd the difference was not more PLA credits, compare Corrected		
	compared to non-servio members). Compared t public institutions, 6.7- publics, PLA credit earn statistically significant) to only 1% of non-servi New Figure 24, with the	ce members with PLA* (co other students, servic 4.6 additional credits at sing by service members (Figure 24). In addition, ce members with PLA*. e following changes to a No service or unkn	24.2 15.0 for service members e members had 4.9 additiona 4-year privates, and 10.4 4.1 a s was about the same as non- 24% of the service members verage PLA credit-earning: Original Original Any military service o military PLA	s, compared to 16.2 I credits at 2-year 4. Idditional credits at service members (a with PLA had 16 or r	11.1 for non-service 4 additional credits at 4-ye for-profits*. At 4-year 2-ye nd the difference was not more PLA credits, compare Corrected Any military service or military PLA		
	compared to non-servio members). Compared t public institutions, 6.7. publics, PLA credit earn statistically significant) to only 1% of non-servi New Figure 24, with the 	ce members with PLA* (co other students, servic 4.6 additional credits at sing by service members (Figure 24). In addition, ce members with PLA*. e following changes to a No service or unkn 13.2	24.2 15.0 for service members e members had 4.9 additional 4.9 ad	s, compared to 16.2 I credits at 2-year 4. Idditional credits at service members (a with PLA had 16 or r No service or unknown 10.1	11.1 for non-service 4 additional credits at 4-ye for-profits*. At 4-year -2-ye nd the difference was not more PLA credits, compare Corrected Any military service or military PLA 10.4		
	compared to non-servio members). Compared t public institutions, 6.7 -4 publics, PLA credit earn statistically significant) to only 1% of non-servi New Figure 24, with the 2-year public 4-year public 4-year private	ce members with PLA* (to other students, servic 4.6 additional credits at sing by service members (Figure 24). In addition, ce members with PLA*. e following changes to a No service or unkn 13.2 17.5	24.2 15.0 for service members had 4.9 additional 4	s, compared to 16.2 I credits at 2-year 4. Idditional credits at service members (a with PLA had 16 or r No service or unknown 10.1 12.2	11.1 for non-service 4 additional credits at 4-ye for-profits*. At 4-year 2-ye nd the difference was not more PLA credits, compare Corrected Any military service or military PLA 10.4 16.6		
	compared to non-servio members). Compared t public institutions, 6.7. publics, PLA credit earn statistically significant) to only 1% of non-servi New Figure 24, with the 2-year public 4-year public 4-year private nonprofit	ce members with PLA* (co other students, servic 4.6 additional credits at ning by service members (Figure 24). In addition, ce members with PLA*. e following changes to a No service or unkn 13.2 17.5	24.2 15.0 for service members emembers had 4.9 additional 4.9 aditinal 4.9 additional 4.9 additional 4.9 addit	s, compared to 16.2 I credits at 2-year 4. Idditional credits at service members (a with PLA had 16 or r No service or unknown 10.1 12.2 14.9	11.1 for non-service 4 additional credits at 4-ye for-profits*. At 4-year-2-ye nd the difference was not more PLA credits, compare Corrected Any military service or military PLA 10.4 16.6 19.5		
	compared to non-servio members). Compared t public institutions, 6.7. publics, PLA credit earn statistically significant) to only 1% of non-servi New Figure 24, with the 2-year public 4-year public 4-year public 4-year private nonprofit For-profit Total	ce members with PLA* (co other students, servic 4.6 additional credits at ing by service members (Figure 24). In addition, ce members with PLA*. e following changes to a No service or unkn 13.2 17.5 16.4 17.9 16.2 r variations: at 4-year 2- l at 4-year private non-p	24-2 15.0 for service members had 4.9 additional 4.9 aditional 4.9 additional 4.9 aditional 4.9 additional 4.9	s, compared to 16.2 I credits at 2-year 4. Idditional credits at service members (a with PLA had 16 or r No service or unknown 10.1 12.2 14.9 10.6 11.1 s and non-service m	11.1 for non-service 4 additional credits at 4-year for-profits*. At 4-year-2-year nd the difference was not more PLA credits, compare Corrected Any military service or military PLA 10.4 16.6 19.5 14.7 15.0		



WICHE /