



# Career Education in Utah

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The role of for-profit colleges in  
Utah postsecondary education



# UTAH FOR-PROFIT COLLEGE FACTS 2024

12,844



Students enrolled full  
or part-time at for-  
profit colleges



58%

Associate's Degree  
Completion

82%

Certificate Completion



15:1

Student-Teacher  
Ratio

7%

Black or  
African  
American

16%

Hispanic or  
Latinx



729 Associate's  
2.9K Bachelor's  
1.3K Certificates  
awarded



82%

Women



18%

Men

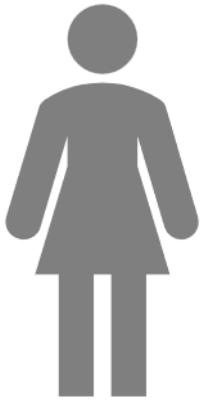
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# **DIVERSE POPULATIONS SERVED**

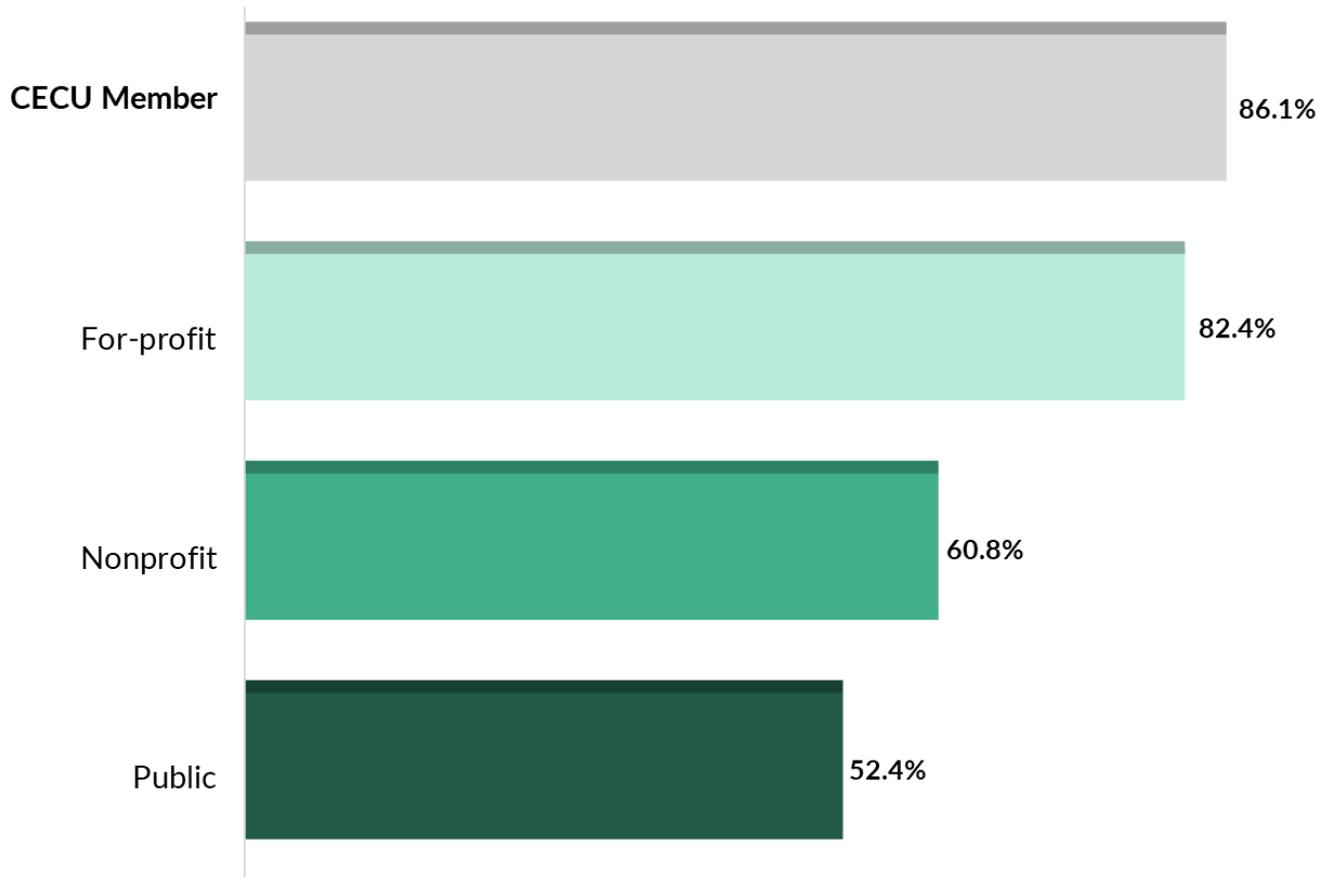
# Diverse Populations Served: Female

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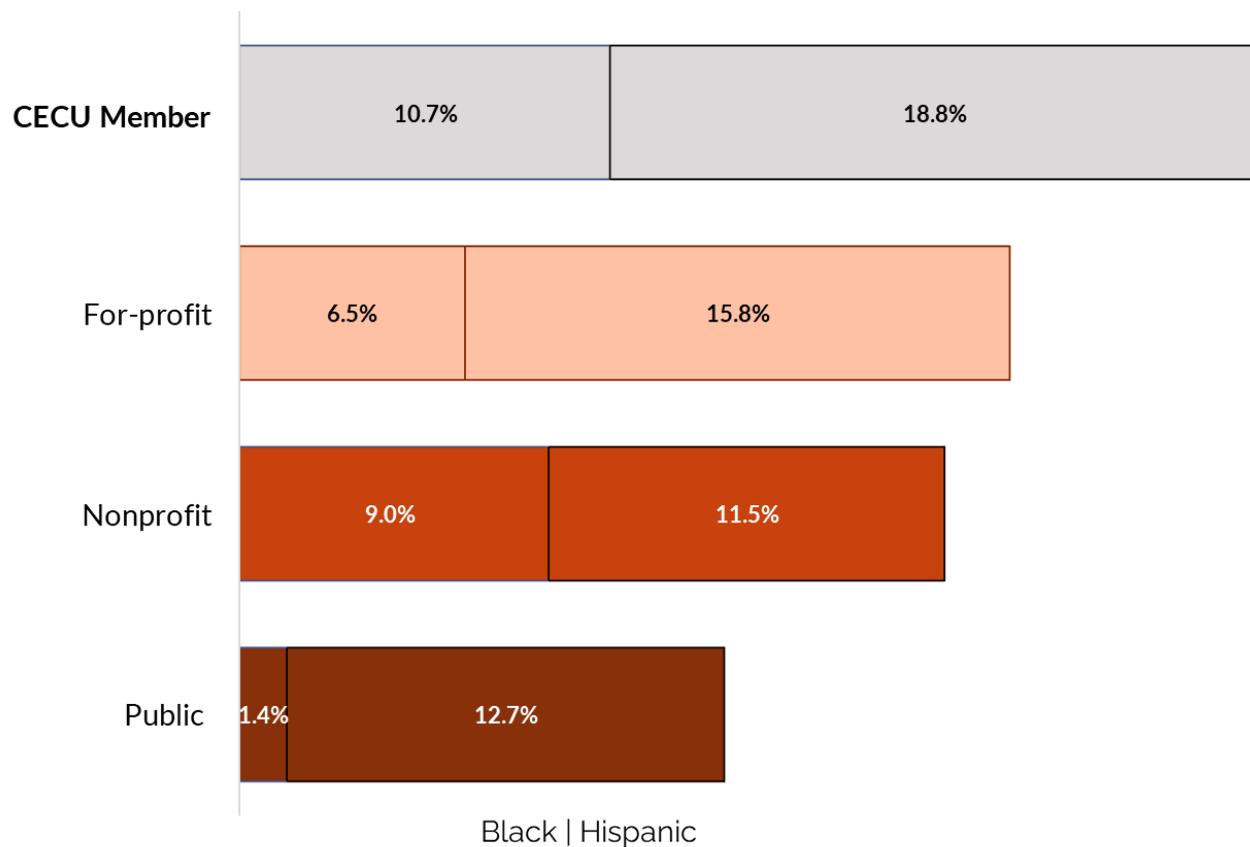
First, we look at the percentage of women enrolled at for-profit colleges in Utah in the 2022-23 school year. For-profit colleges, regardless of level of institution, enrolled the highest percentage of women (82%) compared to public (52%) and private nonprofit (61%) colleges.

Across all institutional levels and controls, CECU member schools in Utah showed an average enrollment of approximately 86% women.



# Diverse Populations Served: Students of Color

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For-profit colleges had the highest enrollment of students that are Hispanic (16%) compared to public (13%) and private nonprofit (12%) schools. For-profit colleges also had the second-highest enrollment of students that are Black (7%).

At CECU member schools in Utah, 30% of enrolled students identified as Black or Hispanic.



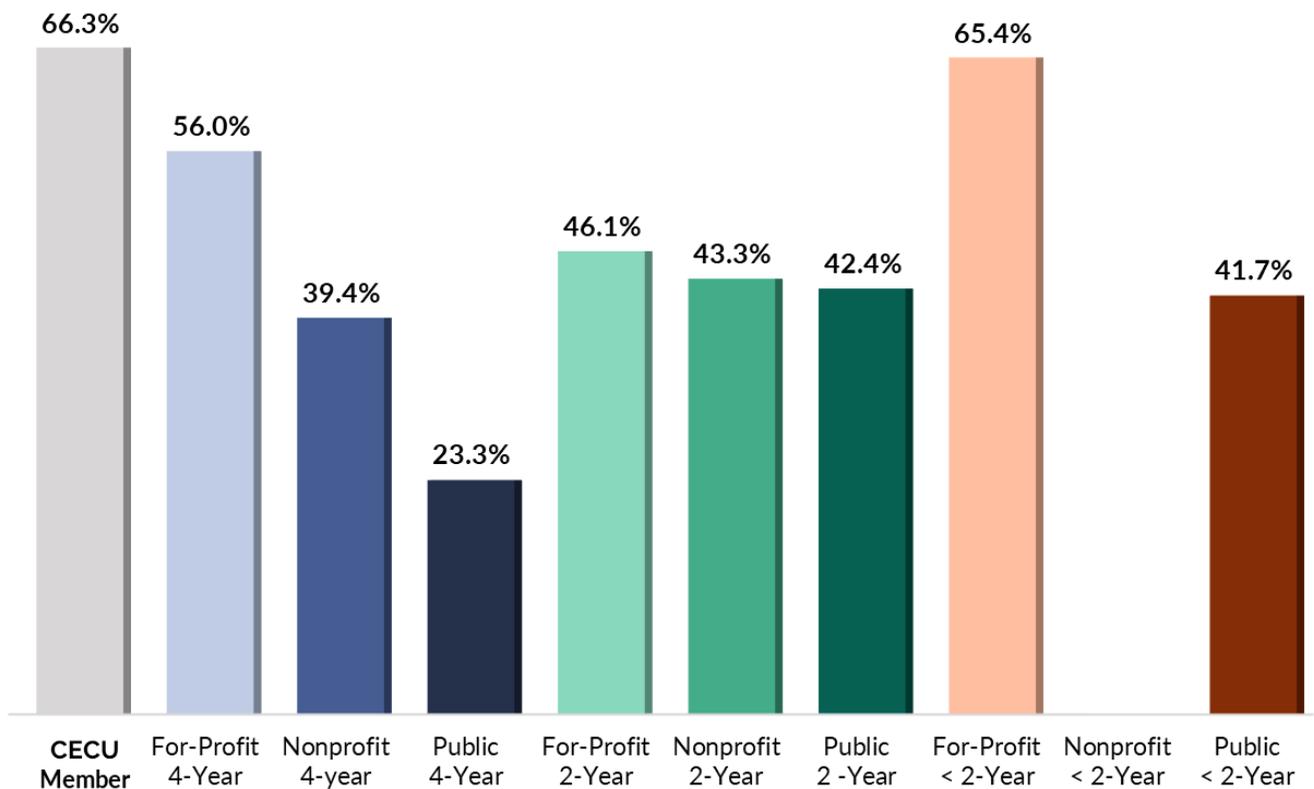
# Diverse Populations Served: Low-Income

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## Low Income

Other areas of underserved populations accommodated by for-profit colleges in Utah include low-income students. For-profit colleges served the highest percentage of low-income students in the 2022-23 school year at four-year (56%), two-year (46%), and less-than-two-year (65%) schools.

CECU member schools in Utah enrolled 66% low-income students across all institutional levels.

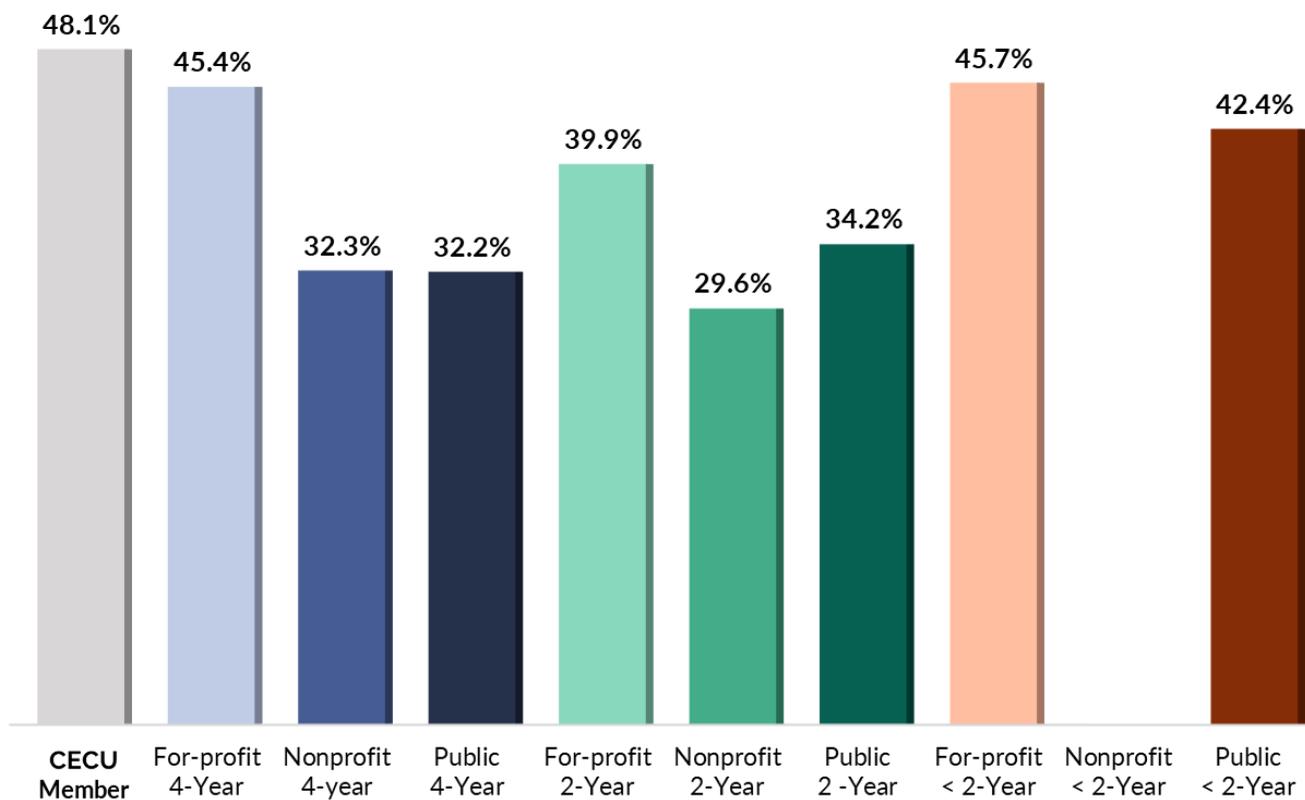


# Diverse Populations Served: First-Generation

For-profit colleges also served a large share of first-generation students in the 2022-23 school year, leading the way in first-generation enrollment at four-year (45%), two-year (40%), and less-than-two-year (46%) schools. These schools support students in being among the first generation in their family to attend college.

**1<sup>st</sup>  
Gen**

CECU member schools in Utah had a student population with 48% first-generation students.



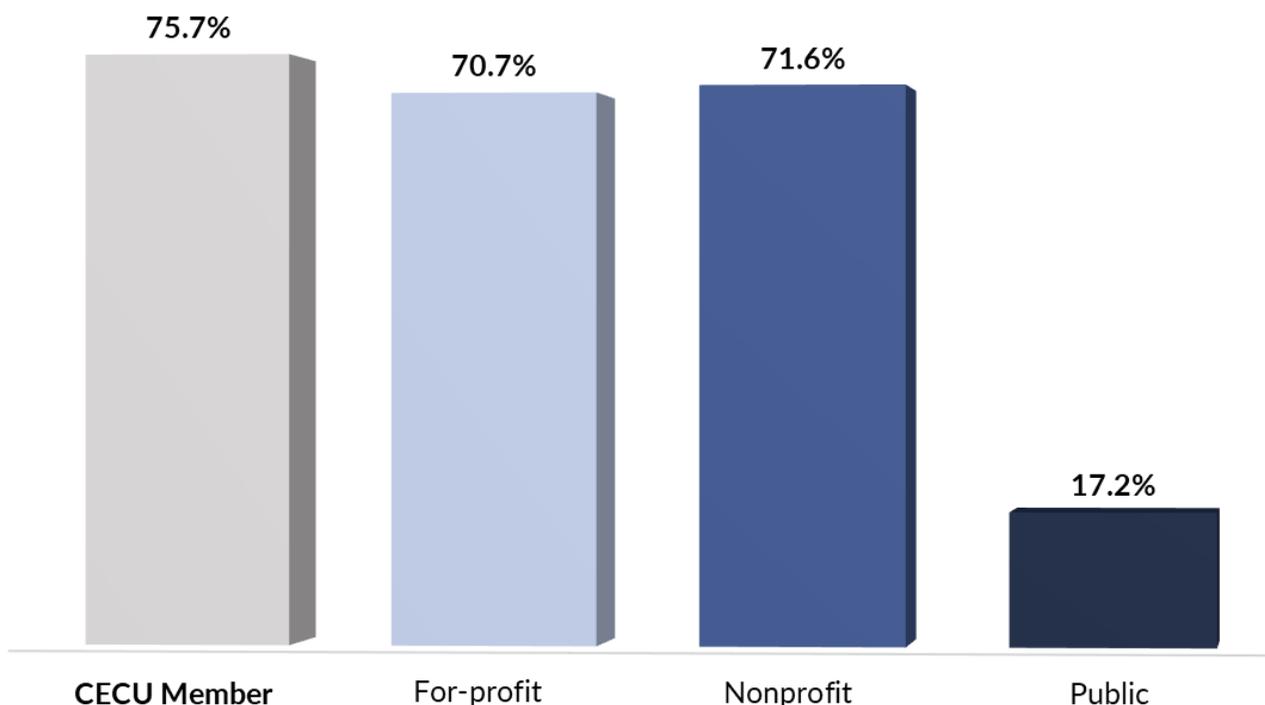
# Diverse Populations Served: Adult Learners

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Adults aged 25+ are another key population served by for-profit colleges in Utah as schools in this sector aim to adapt to the needs of older, more experienced learners that may have competing priorities as they've gotten older.

**25+**

For-profit colleges showed the second-highest enrollment of adult learners in the 2022-23 school year (71%). CECU member schools in Utah showed an enrollment of 76% adult learners.

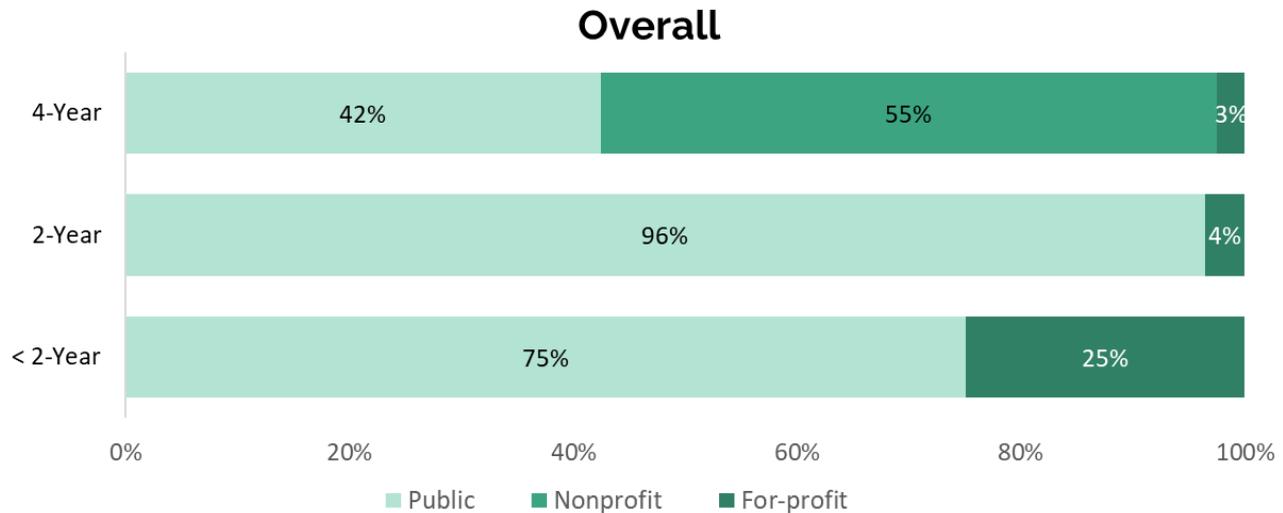


# **STUDENT OUTCOMES AND PREPARATION FOR THE WORKFORCE**

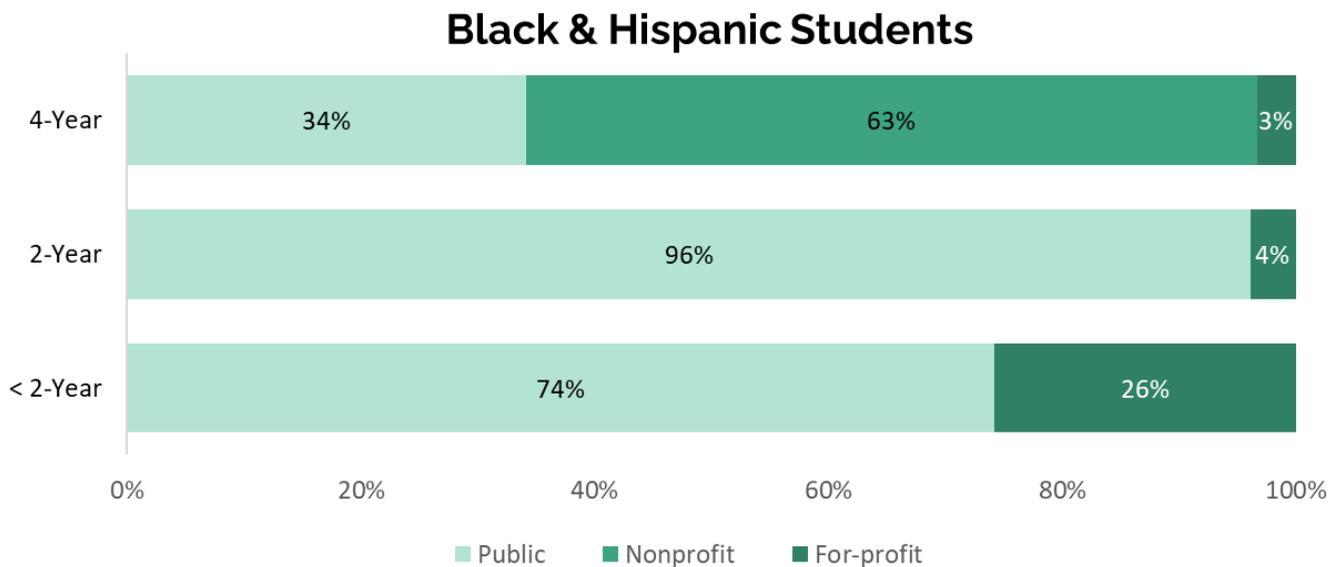
# Degrees Awarded in Utah

Academic year 2021–22

For-profit colleges conferred 25% of less-than-two-year degrees/certificates across sectors in the 2021-22 school year. They also conferred 4% of two-year degrees/certificates and 3% of four-year degrees/certificates.



Among Black and Hispanic students, for-profit colleges conferred 26% of less-than-two-year degrees/certificates. They also accounted for 4% of two-year degrees/certificates and 3% of four-year degrees/certificates conferred to Black and Hispanic students.



# Types of Degrees/Certificates Awarded in Utah

*By control of institution, 2021-22 academic year*

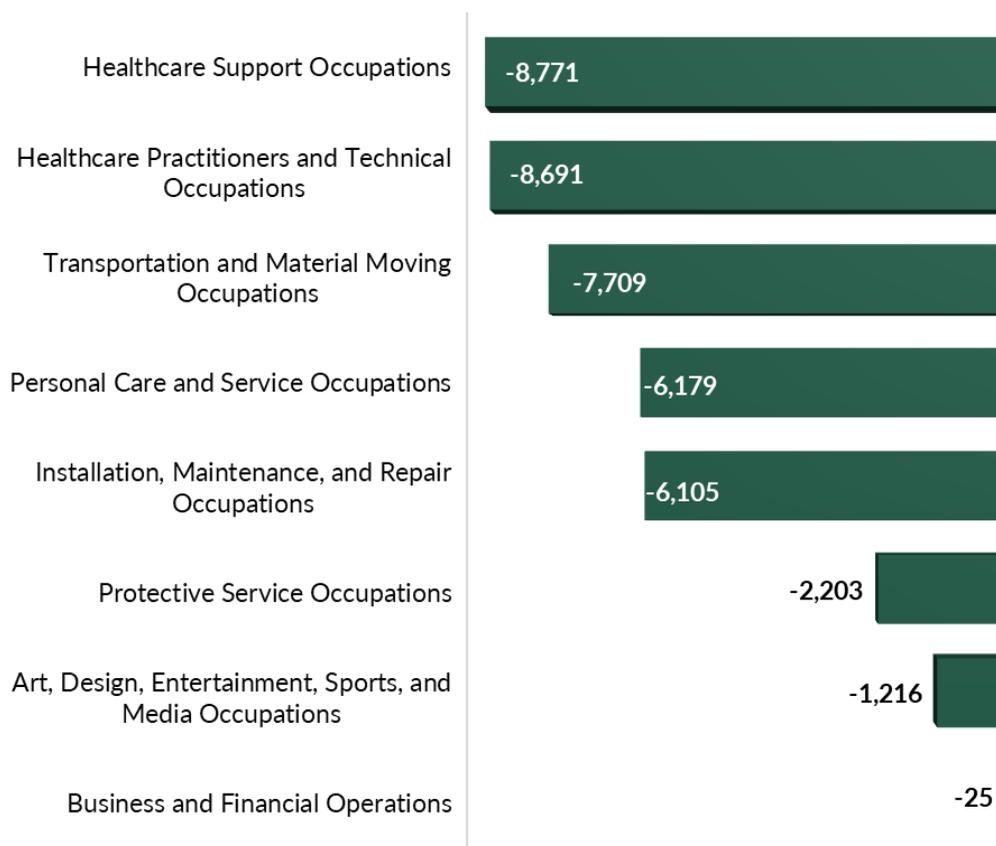
Profession	Public	Private, nonprofit	For-profit	Total	For-profit percentage
Massage Therapy/Therapeutic Massage	14	0	180	194	92.8%
Aesthetician/Esthetician and Skin Care Specialist	138	0	665	803	82.8%
Barbering/Barber	39	0	95	134	70.9%
Nail Technician/Specialist and Manicurist	295	0	470	765	61.4%
Cosmetology/Cosmetologist, General	424	0	667	1091	61.1%
Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation and Refrigeration Maintenance Technology/Technician (HAC, HACR, HVAC, HVACR)	64	0	50	114	43.9%
Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse	2174	7904	1841	11919	15.4%
Medical/Clinical Assistant	347	41	40	428	9.3%

For-profit colleges contribute significantly to the workforce in Utah, conferring over 70% of degrees/certificates in the following fields:

- Massage Therapy/Therapeutic Massage
- Aesthetician/Esthetician and Skin Care Specialist
- Barbering/Barber

# In-Demand Career Training in the US: Non-Degree

## Projected Shortage of Workers by Group



The degrees/certificates conferred by for-profit colleges in Utah align very well with the estimated annual nationwide worker shortages in occupations requiring some college or a postsecondary nondegree award. Healthcare is by far the occupation most in need of workers. In helping to meet this need, for-profit colleges confer 15% of degrees/certificates in registered nursing in Utah. They also confer 9% of degrees/certificates to medical/clinical assistants in Utah.

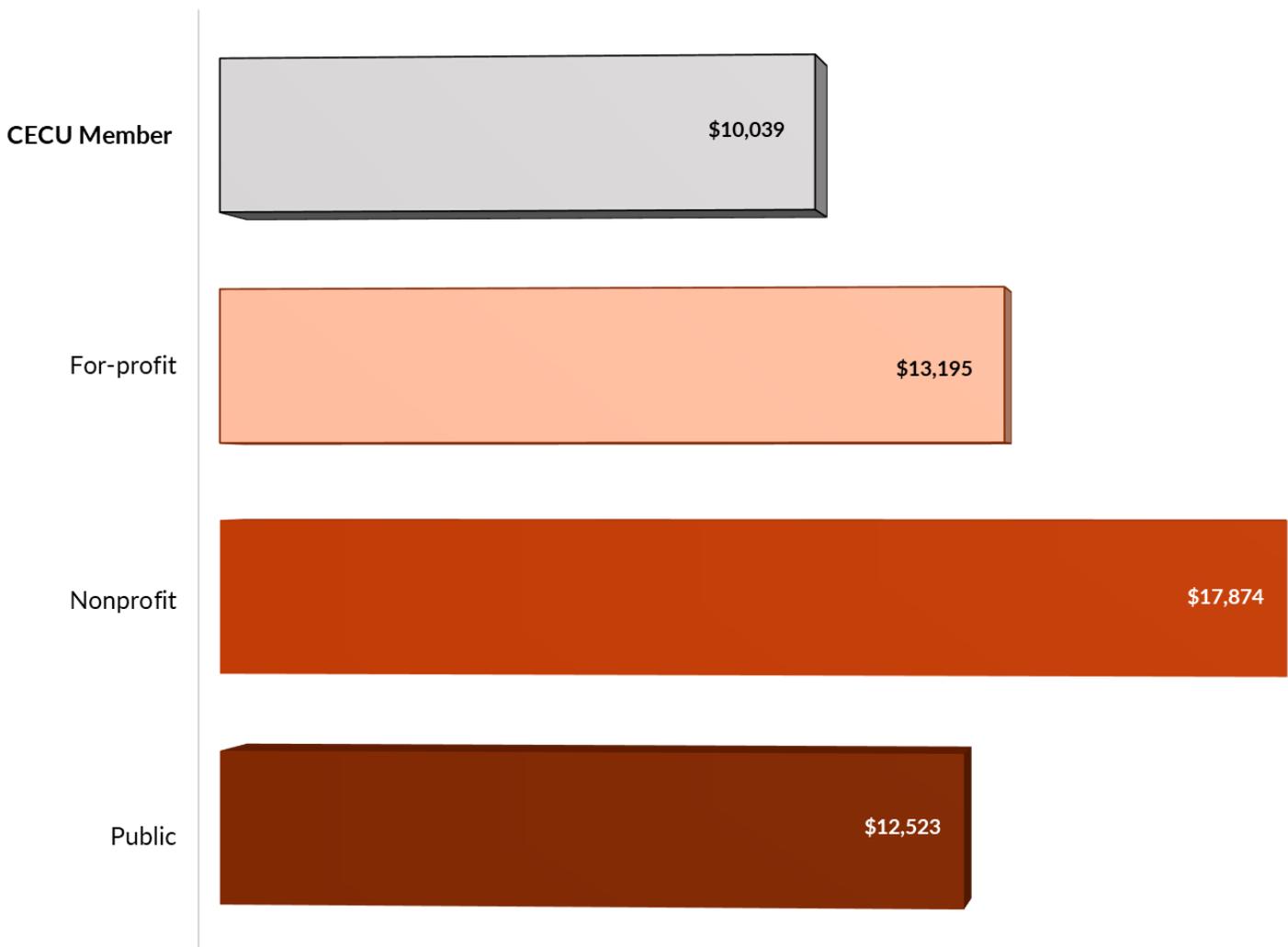
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations are also in need of workers. Utah for-profit schools provide a large percentage of degrees/certificates for HVACR Technology/Technician (44%) to meet that need.

# Student Debt in Utah

Academic year 2021–22

Not only do for-profit colleges in Utah confer valuable degrees to fill gaps in the labor market, but they do so in a way that minimizes student debt. Across all institutional levels, for-profit college graduates had an average student debt of \$13,195, lower than the average student debt at private nonprofit schools (\$17,874).

CECU member schools in Utah had an average student debt of \$10,039 across all institutional levels.



# Notes

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- The data presented in this report includes only Title IV accredited institutions.
- Data for “CECU Member” includes all institutions listed in the member data file provided by CECU, cross-referenced with IPEDS and College Scorecard data by OPEID.
- IPEDS data is not available for private nonprofit schools at the two-year and less-than-two-year levels. College Scorecard data is not available for less-than-two-year private nonprofit for-profit schools. These data have been suppressed for privacy reasons.