



How To Guide:

How many people are completing programs in neighboring colleges?

All institutions of higher education submit information about their completers to the US Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). These data are then compiled into NCES’ Integrated Post-secondary Education Data System (IPEDS). You can access IPEDS data through NCES’ College Navigator Tool. One of the many things this tool can do is help college staff determine the output of college programs at their neighboring schools. This will allow them to quickly assess the capacity and output of their neighboring or competing colleges. For this example, we are going to look at the number of students completing welding degrees or certificates in the Danville, VA region.

1. Go to <http://nces.ed.gov/>
2. Under the Data & Tools tab at the top of the page, click on Search Tools.
3. On the Search Tools page, click on the “College Navigator”. This will take you to the College Navigator Search Tool.
4. Begin by adding some information into the filters.
 - a. First enter the Zip Code for Danville Community College (24541) into the Zip Code box, and then select the radius around which you want to search (25 miles).
 - b. Second, click on the button that says “Browse for Programs”. A box will appear. In the middle of this box you will see a Programs/Majors search box. Type Welding into the box. After you do this you will see those programs that contain welding in the title. Use the +add button to add “Welding Technology/Welding”. After you have done this close the pop up box.
5. Once you have set these filters press the Show Results button at the bottom of the left column.
6. In this example, two colleges appear—Danville Community College and Rockingham Community College in North Carolina that is approximately 21 miles away from our selected Zip Code.
7. Click on the Danville Community College link, once you have done that click on the option for PROGRAMS/MAJORS. This will show all the completers by degree level. If you scroll to the bottom of that list you will see Welding/Welding Technology highlighted in Yellow. It shows that in 2013-2014, 15 people completed certificates of less than one year and 13 people completed certificates of longer than one year, but less than 2 years.
8. Now hit the back button to the results page with the links to Danville CC and Rockingham CC. Click on the link for Rockingham Community College, and after doing so again click on the PROGRAMS/MAJORS link. Again scroll to the bottom of the page where Welding/Welding Technology is highlighted in Yellow. Here you will see that 17 people completed certificates of less than 1 year in this field.



Multi-State Advanced Manufacturing Consortium
US DOL SPONSORED TAACCCT GRANT: TC23767

RELEASE DATE 09/01/2015
VERSION v 001
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