

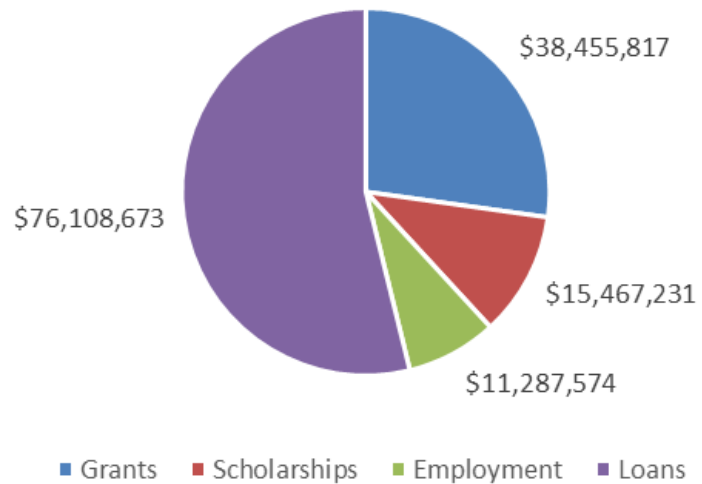


Financial Aid Department

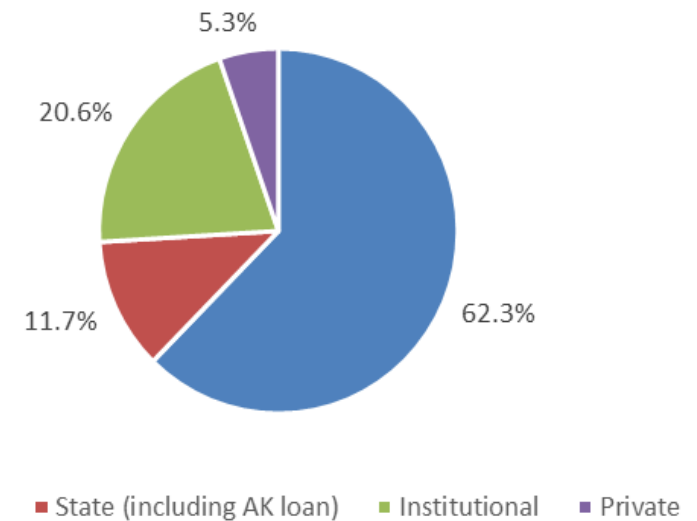
The Financial Aid team of 26 permanent staff and 25 student staff is committed to our mission of striving to reduce financial barriers to learning by providing students with financial assistance to help pay for their educational expenses.

During 2014-2015 Western's Financial Aid team administered \$141M in aid to 10,000 students through multiple financial aid and employment programs.

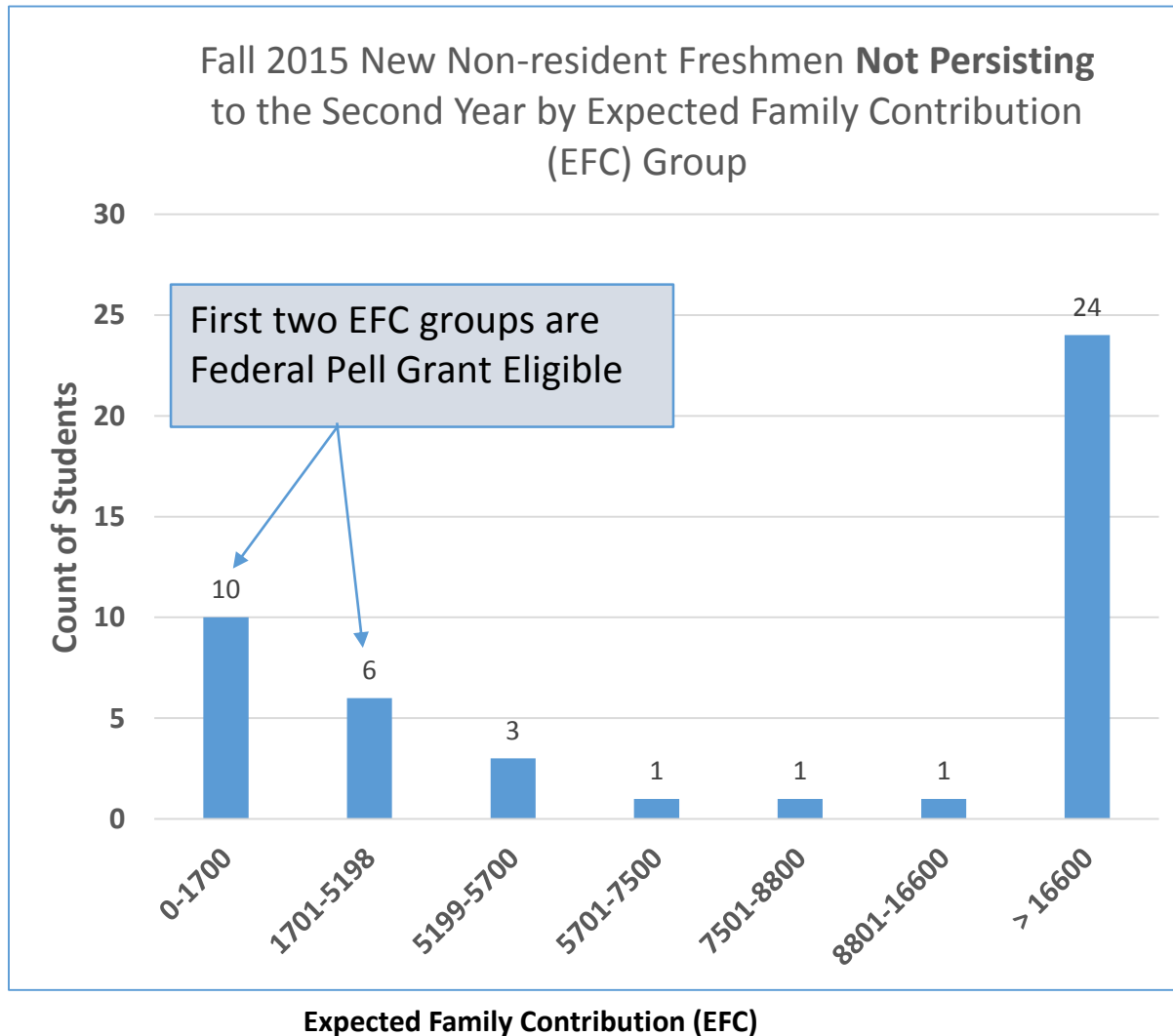
2014-2015 Disbursements by Type of Aid



2014-2015 Disbursements by Source of Aid



Are Non-Resident Students with High Financial Need Less Likely to Persist To a Second Year?



The Question: Financial Aid counselor anecdotal evidence suggests that the higher cost of attendance for non-resident students coupled with a lack of grant and tuition waiver aid leads to that heart-broken question, “You mean I can’t attend Western this fall?”

While the individual student stories are compelling, is there a systemic affordability problem causing a lower persistence rate?

Data Results on Persistence to Second Year:

82.5% -- **resident** freshmen

78.5% -- **non-resident** freshmen

81.5% -- **non-resident** freshmen receiving financial aid. This result is higher than the non-resident freshmen population (3%) and is very close (1.0%) to resident freshmen persistence.

Surprisingly, most non-resident students receiving financial aid who are not persisting to the second year are in the highest EFC group (see chart).

Action:

The data indicate that financial need is not a strong indicator of non-persistence. The data does not support the need for a major shift in our procedures or practices.