

2025 GRADUATING CLASS REPORT

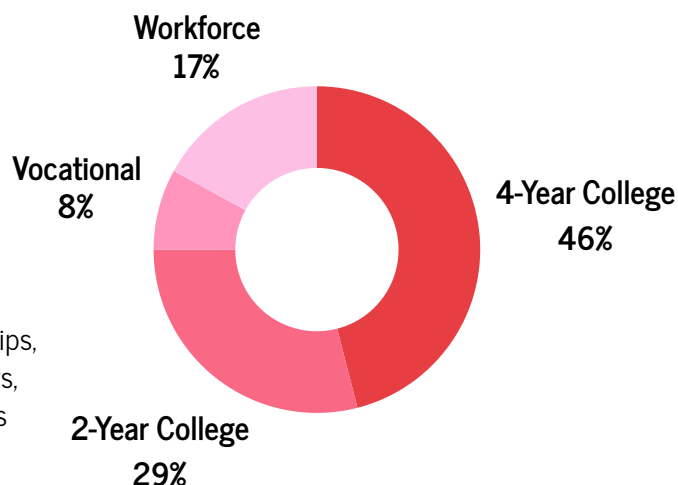
98% of First Star Seniors Graduated from High School!

POST-SECONDARY PATHWAYS

Of the 98% of scholars who graduated from high school in June of 2025, **83% enrolled in post-secondary education**. Post-secondary education includes 4-year colleges and universities, 2-year community colleges, as well as trade and vocational school pathways.

WORKFORCE PATHWAYS

Of the 98% of scholars who graduated in June of 2025, **17% joined the workforce**, which includes full- and part-time employment, apprenticeships, and the military. This reflects a growing shift toward workforce pathways, with more students intentionally seeking immediate career opportunities and hands-on training as an alternative to traditional higher education.



Leading the Way: First Star Scholars Compared to National Outcomes

98% graduated from high school in June 2025 compared to 50% of youth in care nationwide

83% are pursuing higher education compared to 10% of youth in care nationwide

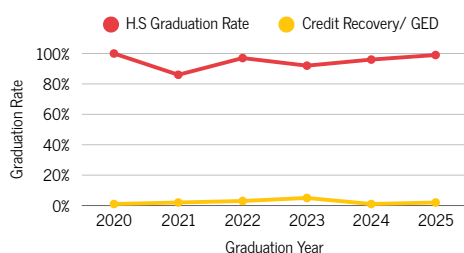
46% are pursuing higher education by enrolling in four year colleges

Source: National Foster Youth Institute, Higher Education for Foster Youth and Trends analysis of data from the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), made available through the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect.

CELEBRATING GROWTH: GRADUATION TRENDS FROM 2020 TO 2025

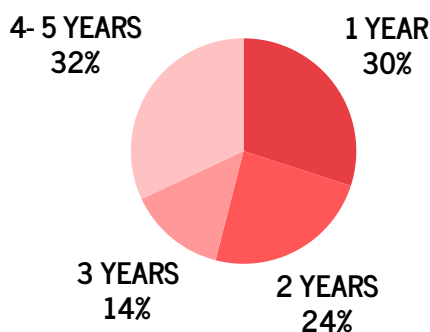
Each year, **First Star** tracks and compares scholar graduation data to evaluate progress, celebrate achievements, and uncover opportunities for improvement. This ongoing analysis ensures that we remain responsive to the evolving needs of our scholars and continually strengthen our support to help every youth reach their full potential.

Graduation Outcomes: 2020–2025 Comparative Analysis



Over 95% high school graduation rate since 2020, compared to just 50% nationally.

Class of 2025 Scholar Engagement and Retention



Over 70% of First Star seniors remained engaged in their academy program for more than two years!

KEY INSIGHTS

- Maintained a consistent high school graduation rate average of over **95%** for the past five years
- **3%** increase in community college enrollment
- **1%** increase in vocational school enrollment
- **21%** of graduating First Star scholars are attending their Academy's host university in the fall of 2025, including Arizona State University, California State University, Sacramento, and the University of Utah
- **100%** of the 2025 graduating class enrolled in the First Star Alumni Program for continued support

First Star uses a long-term case management system to support the work First Star does to achieve the results listed, as well as supports scholars in enrolling into the Alumni program for additional supports after they graduate

First Star Alumni Program

The First Star Alumni Program is designed to maintain strong connections with alumni, ensuring they have access to essential resources and the First Star network as they transition into adulthood, careers, and higher education.

Contact Jennyann Gallo to learn more at jennyann.gallo@firststar.org

