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Colleges Scotland comment on the increase in number of students articulating from college to university.

Today the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) published the statistical report: *Learning for All: A Measure of Success*.

A key highlight from the report is that the number of students articulating from college to university into second year increased from 3,489 in 2012-13 to 3,788 in 2013-14, marking an increase of 8.6%.

Shona Struthers, chief executive of Colleges Scotland, said: "This increase is very good news for colleges and students.

A high proportion of people studying in colleges start with no qualifications at all, so the rising level of those articulating to university is most welcome for individuals. This also brings benefit to the Scottish economy as previous studies have shown that gaining qualifications boosts earnings significantly.

The figures show that colleges give students increased opportunities . and can play a key role in line with the aims of the recently launched Widening Access Commission to ensure more students from disadvantaged backgrounds in Scotland can succeed at university.

The SFC also today published another report: "Higher Education Students and Qualifiers 2013-14."

One highlight in that report is that entrants to HNC/HND courses in Scottish colleges increased by 485 to 26,020 in 2013-14.

Shona Struthers added: "Entrants to HNC/HND courses have been relatively steady at between 25,000 . 27,000 across a number of years during which the sector was undergoing restructuring.

This underlines the resilience of the college sector in terms of the service it provides, even in the midst of major reform and financial pressures.

ENDS

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