



Clark College Transfer Report

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OFFICE OF PLANNING
AND EFFECTIVENESS

Introduction

Approximately 40% of students at Clark College intend to transfer to a four-year institution. As such, an accurate measure of whether or not these students achieve this goal is imperative to the college achieving its goals and fulfilling its mission. In an attempt to make the results as accurate as possible, Planning and Effectiveness has defined as transfer-ready those students who graduated with Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degrees during 2007-08 (i.e. graduates), and those students who had a 2.0 cumulative college-level GPA, at least 45 college-level credits in the period from summer 2005 to spring 2008, who declared an intent to transfer and who did not attend Clark College during the 2008-09 academic year (transfer-ready leavers).

Planning and Effectiveness conducts a review of transfer students who left Clark College during the previous year annually. These students are tracked to determine factors that influence whether or not they transfer to a four-year institution in the next year.

Methodology

Staff in Planning and Effectiveness selected all students who graduated with Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degrees during 2007-08, and those students who had a 2.0 cumulative college-level GPA, at least 45 college-level credits in the period from summer 2005 to spring 2008, who declared an intent to transfer and who did not attend Clark College during the 2008-09 academic year. Planning and Effectiveness then submitted the names and dates of birth for these students to the National Student Clearinghouse, which returned enrollment records for the students.

Planning and Effectiveness then matched the enrollment records with student demographic data, and performed a logistic regression to determine which demographic factors most influence a student's likelihood to transfer.

Results

Overall, 56.6% of transfer-ready students who left Clark College during the 2007-08 academic year transferred to a four-year university within one year of leaving Clark College. This is an increase from the 2006-07 academic year, when 51% transferred to four-year universities within

one year. These students can be divided into two groups: graduates and transfer-ready leavers. There was a statistically significant difference in the proportion of graduates who transferred (64.0%) and the proportion of transfer-ready leavers who transferred (45.9%), with graduates being 2.3 times more likely to transfer than transfer-ready leavers ($p < .001$).

Additionally, specific student characteristics increased the odds that students transferred:

- Male students were 1.6 times more likely to transfer than female students ($p < .001$).
- Students who did not start their college careers at Clark College (i.e. nonnative students) were 1.5 times more likely to transfer than those who began their college career at Clark College (i.e. native, $p < .01$).
- Running Start students were 2.9 times more likely to transfer than other students ($p < .001$).
- No statistically significant relationship existed between race, disability status, or age and transfer rate.