



Student Migration from Noncredit to Credit Highlight of the Findings

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Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide information for developing strategies for recruiting and matriculating noncredit students into college credit courses. In this report student demographics and outcomes are given for Fall 2008. Also, enrollments and course taking patterns are reported for the past five years.

Target Population

Prior Noncredit students are students who first enrolled at Continuing Education and later enrolled at City, Mesa, or Miramar College.

Research Questions

- Who are First-time Prior Noncredit students? How do First-time Prior Noncredit students compare to the General College Population and the General Noncredit Population?
- How does the performance of First-time Prior Noncredit students compare to the General College Population?
- What is the course enrollment pattern of Prior Noncredit students compared to the General College Population?

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Highlight of the Findings

Student Profile

- The average age of First-time Prior Noncredit students in Fall 2008 was higher than the General College population and lower than the General Noncredit population (34, 27, 46 respectively). Over the past five years the average age of First-time Prior Noncredit students and the General College population has remained consistent. The average age of the General Noncredit Population has increased from 43 in Fall 2004 to 46 in Fall 2008.
- In Fall 2008, there was a higher percentage of female First-time Prior Noncredit students (53%) compared to male First-time Prior Noncredit students (47%), similar to both the General College and Noncredit populations. This pattern has remained consistent for the past five years.
- There was a similar distribution of ethnicity for First-time Prior Noncredit students and the General College population with slight variation in the African American and White populations. A similar distribution of ethnicity was found over the past five fall terms.
- The top three reported educational goals among First-time Prior Noncredit students and the General College population were: 'Transfer with or without AA', 'Undecided', and 'Formulate Career Plans/Goals.' The four previous fall terms the top three reported educational goals were: 'Transfer with or without AA', 'Formulate Career Plans/Goals' and 'Undecided.'

Student Outcomes

- The General College population has a slightly higher overall mean unit completion rate (71%) than the First-time Prior Noncredit population (69%). Over the previous four fall terms the mean unit completion rate has varied.
- Mesa and Miramar College First-time Prior Noncredit students had a higher percentage of units completed (72% and 81%) compared to the respective General College Population students (71% and 75%). Over the previous four fall terms the mean unit completion rate has varied for Mesa College, but Miramar College First-time Prior Noncredit students had a higher rate of units completed compared to the General College Population.
- The overall success rate of First-time Prior Noncredit students was lower (62%) when compared to the General College population (67%). This pattern has remained the same from Fall 2004 to Fall 2008.
- Miramar College First-time Prior Noncredit students had a higher success rate (75%) compared to the General College population (72%). The success rate of First-time Prior Noncredit students at Miramar College was higher compared to the General College Population for the past five years. During Fall 2008, Mesa College First-time Prior Noncredit students had the same success rate (67%) as the General College population. At Mesa College from Fall 2005 to Fall 2007, the General College Population had higher success rates compared to First-time Prior Noncredit students. The success rate for City College First-time Prior Noncredit students was lower than the General College Population from Fall 2004 to Fall 2008.
- Successful course completion for First-time Prior Noncredit Asian/Pacific Islander students was the highest (80%) and the success rate for First-time Prior Noncredit American Indian students was lowest (40%) in Fall 2008. The success rate of First-time Prior Noncredit Asian/Pacific Islander students was the highest over the past five fall terms except for Fall 2005 when

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American Indian students had the highest success rate. The lowest success rate for First-time Prior Noncredit students has alternated between African American and American Indian students over the past five fall terms.

- The overall retention rate for First-time Prior Noncredit students was the same as the retention rate of the General College population (84%) for Fall 2008. The retention rate of First-time Prior Noncredit students compared to the General College Population was the same except for Fall 2005 when the General College Population was higher.
- Both Mesa and Miramar College First-time Prior Noncredit students had higher retention rates (87% and 89%) compared to the respective General College population (83% and 86%) in Fall 2008. At Mesa College over the previous four fall terms, the retention rates for First-time Prior Noncredit students was the same or higher than the General College population. For Miramar College, First-time Prior Noncredit students had higher retention rates compared to the General College population.
- Among ethnic groups, Asian/Pacific Islander and Filipino students had the highest retention rates (92% and 87%) for Fall 2008. African-American and American Indian students had the lowest retention rates (80% and 82%). From Fall 2004 to Fall 2007, First-time Prior Noncredit Asian/Pacific Islander students have had the highest retention rates among ethnic groups. The ethnic group with lowest retention rate has alternated between African American and American Indian students from Fall 2004 to Fall 2007.

Enrollment

- Unduplicated headcount of First-time Prior Noncredit Students in the college program has increased by 10% from the previous year. Headcount of the General Noncredit population has decreased by 1% from the previous year.
- Over the last 5 years, an average of 2,170 Prior Noncredit students each year took their first college credit class at City, Mesa or Miramar College.
- The likely potential yield rate of noncredit student population to credit college courses is about 3%.
- Among noncredit courses taken by Prior Noncredit students, Office Systems was chosen most frequently (30%), followed by English as a Second Language (27%), the High School Diploma Program (15%), Adult Basic Education (4%), and Communications (4%). Last year English as a Second Language was the top noncredit course selected by Prior Noncredit students.
- Among Noncredit courses taken by the General Noncredit population, English as a Second Language was again chosen most frequently (30%), followed by Office Systems (21%), Physical Education (6%), the High School Diploma Program (5%), and Human Development (4%).
- Among Credit courses taken by Prior Noncredit students, Mathematics was chosen most frequently (11%), followed by English (9%), Physical Education (7%), English as a Second Language (5%), and Computer Business Technology (4%). Last year English as a Second Language was selected more than Physical Education. The other subjects haven't changed from last year.

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- Among Credit courses taken by the General College population, Mathematics was chosen most frequently (13%), followed by English (9%), Physical Education (6%), Chemistry (4%), and Biological Sciences (4%).

FTES

- In the 2008-09 academic year, all Prior Noncredit Students generated 3,144.51 resident FTES.
- The resident FTES generated by all Prior Noncredit Students has increased by 9% from last year to this year. Overall FTES generated by all Prior Noncredit students has decreased by 11% in the past five years.
- City College Prior Noncredit Students earned the largest amount of FTES followed by Mesa, and Miramar College (1,569.42, 1,034.34, and 540.75).