Higher Education Coordinating Board

Intercollege Relations Commission Update

April 14, 2011
Jim West
Transfer policy initiatives

Policy Guiding Transfer

• HECB’s 1986 Policy on Intercollege Transfer and Articulation Among Washington Public Colleges and Universities

  Transfer is key to increasing bachelor’s degree production because a higher percent of public and private college students in Washington (49%) attend CTCs than in the U.S. in general (34%) and in the states most often compared with Washington (28% GCS without California and 43% GCS w/California)

2009-10 Transfer Initiatives

• Developed, published, distributed *Transfer Student Rights and Responsibilities.*

• Developed and published *Frequently Asked Questions Related to Transfer,* informing students in clear language about transfer processes.

• Created a new transfer degree: Biology Major Related Program (MRP).

• Worked collaboratively to improve policies and practices related to *Running Start, College in the High School,* and Early Learning professional development.
Washington has many potential transfer students

Transfer is key to increasing bachelor’s degree production because a higher percentage of students attend two-year colleges in Washington than in other states.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State/Region</th>
<th>% of students attending 2-year institutions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCS states without California</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCS states with California</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. in general</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System – IPEDS (U.S. Department of Education, Fall 2009)
Transfer Report

Do students transfer?
Do they transfer without loss of credit?
Are they successful after they transfer?

Transfer initiatives

HECB Transfer Webpage: www.hecb.wa.gov/go/transfer
Do students transfer?  *For the 5 year period 2005-06 to 2009-10*

- **13.0% increase in all vertical transfers; 16,768 to 18,946**
- **1.3% increase  CTC to public BI; 10,426 to 10,563**
- **36.9% increase CTC to private BI; 4,293 to 5,875**

Do students transfer without loss of credit?

Yes. 2009 Transfer in the Bachelor’s Degree study suggests specialized transfer degrees (AS-T, MRP Business) are effective.

Are students successful after they transfer?

- **8.0% increase in students who graduate within 3 years after transfer to public BI**

- **6.3% increase between 2007-08 and 2009-10 in AS-T and DTA (13,973). 41% increase in MRP transfers (1,514)**
How successful are transfer students?

The number of transfer students graduating within three years from public baccalaureates increased 8% from 1997-98 to 2008-09.

State Total Three-Year Graduation Rate, Associate Degree Transfer Students, Washington Public Universities

Transfer success increasing

Note: Baseline is defined as the annual average over the period from 1997-98 through 2001-02.
Source: HECB, compiled from data submitted by institutions.
Transfer numbers are increasing

Source: SBCTC Academic Year Report 2009-10
396 responses – 237 CTC, 159 BI

- 77% CTC familiar with MRP, majority 3 or fewer
- 55% BI familiar with MRP, majority 3 or fewer
- Business, Nursing, El Ed most frequently cited by both sectors
- Only 20 total responses for all other MRPs combined

Feedback

- **Communication:** Improve internal and external – with students, within institutions, between CTC and BI, and intra-sector

- **Advising:** Clear advising guides must be developed for students. Professional development targeting DTA/MRPs for advisors and faculty is needed.

- **Usefulness and Uniformity:** DTA is valuable - flexible, uniform, applicable across system. MRPs are seen as too complex, not all CTC sign on, too many provisos. More uniformity is needed to improve usefulness – CTC to CTC and CTC to BI.s
• Transfer is increasing—in all sectors.

• Future capacity for transfer students may be an issue.

• Because Washington’s 2-year college sector is so successful, transfer as a mechanism to increase bachelor’s degree production is even more important than in almost every other state in the U.S.

• Transfer agreements are working to help students save time and money.
Transfer Initiatives

Transfer Liaison for system-wide transfer issues

*Single point of contact for concerns and complaints to gather information and assist students. Initiated March 2011. Transferliaison@hecb.wa.gov*

Transfer Network – hecb.wa.gov/go/transfer

MRPs - *Business MRP; Communication and Math in the DTA*

Prior Learning Assessment – *PLA Washington*

Improve Transfer Metrics in Washington – *ERDC, NGA*

California - *Center for the Study of Community Colleges (CSCC)*

WICHE Report on Transfer - *Promising Practices in Statewide Articulation and Transfer Systems*
Developing data protocols

Working with the ERDC, SBCTC, and other partners, the HECB staff is making progress on establishing a longitudinal research agenda that includes:

• Developing a central database of approved degree programs in Washington using funds from the State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) grant recently received by OSPI and ERDC.

• A combined, comprehensive student mobility/transfer report

• A baccalaureate follow-up study that tracks graduates into the world of work

• A new regional analysis completed this spring, with a review of the methodology behind the report

• Including “high demand enrollments” in the 2010 updated Accountability Report and Education GMAP
Next Steps to maintain momentum

1. Continue to assess effectiveness of MRPs
2. Evaluate effectiveness of current proportionality agreements
3. Use Transfer Liaison to gather system-wide information on effectiveness of transfer
4. Develop the Washington Transfer Network
5. Improve Transfer Metrics in Washington
   • With education partners, work with NGA “Complete to Complete” initiative to use common metrics to measure success in transfer
6. Establish longitudinal transfer policy and research agenda
7. Convene Prior Learning Assessment Work Group – implement recommendations
8. Develop strategies to encourage students with some college to return and finish (Transfer Network)
9. Combine Transfer Report and Mobility Report
www.hecb.wa.gov/go/transfer

Transfer Resources for Students, Faculty, Advisors

- Rights and Responsibilities, Transfer FAQ, Transfer Issues, DTA, AST, MRP, Links to public BI transfer websites, Credit limits for public BI

Transfer Resources for Administrators

- Transfer Liaison, Transfer Report, Role of Transfer in Bachelor’s degree, Transfer Network, Mobility, Board reports

Transfer Statutes, Policies, and Agreements

- Umbrella Policy, 1994 Transfer Agreement, ICAO Transfer Agreement, Advanced Placement Credit Agreement