

A woman with dark hair in a bun, wearing a coral-colored button-down shirt, is sitting at a desk in an office. She is smiling and looking at a computer monitor. The desk has a keyboard, a white mug, and some papers. In the background, there are office plants and large windows.

# Reverse Transfer: A National Solution

Michelle Blackwell, National Manager



# Student Mobility

A long-exposure photograph of a complex highway interchange at night. The image shows multiple levels of elevated roads and ramps, with light trails from cars creating a sense of motion. The scene is illuminated by streetlights and the headlights of vehicles, creating a vibrant, multi-colored display of light. The background shows some city buildings and trees.





Among all starting  
undergraduates in 2008  
(3.6M students)

37%

attended two or more institutions  
that's just  
within the  
first six  
years



**Among all students currently  
enrolled**



**Of enrollments at each institution at  
any given time are mobile  
(transferring in & out)**



## All bachelors degree recipients 2014/15 (1.5M graduates)

65%

attended two or more institutions

63%

of those who started at age 20 or  
younger





## All bachelors degree recipients 2014/15 (1.5M graduates)

40%

at least one stop  
out

## All associates degree recipients 2014/15 (0.5M graduates)

at least one  
stop-out

52%

A photograph of three diverse students (two men and one woman) looking intently at a laptop screen. The man on the left is wearing a brown jacket, the man in the middle is wearing a green scarf, and the woman on the right is wearing a red scarf. The image is split vertically down the middle.

# How Do We Know Reverse Transfer Increases Completion Rates?

**66% of students transfer  
before earning  
an associate's degree**

NATIONAL STUDENT CLEARINGHOUSE<sup>®</sup>  
**RESEARCH CENTER<sup>™</sup>**

# How Does Reverse Transfer Relate to Retention and Bachelor's Degree Completion?



## CWID DATA NOTE

Reverse Credit Transfer and the Associate's Degree Advantage

by Jason L. Taylor and Sheena A. Kauppila

DATA NOTE NO. 10

AUGUST 2017

### Introduction and Context

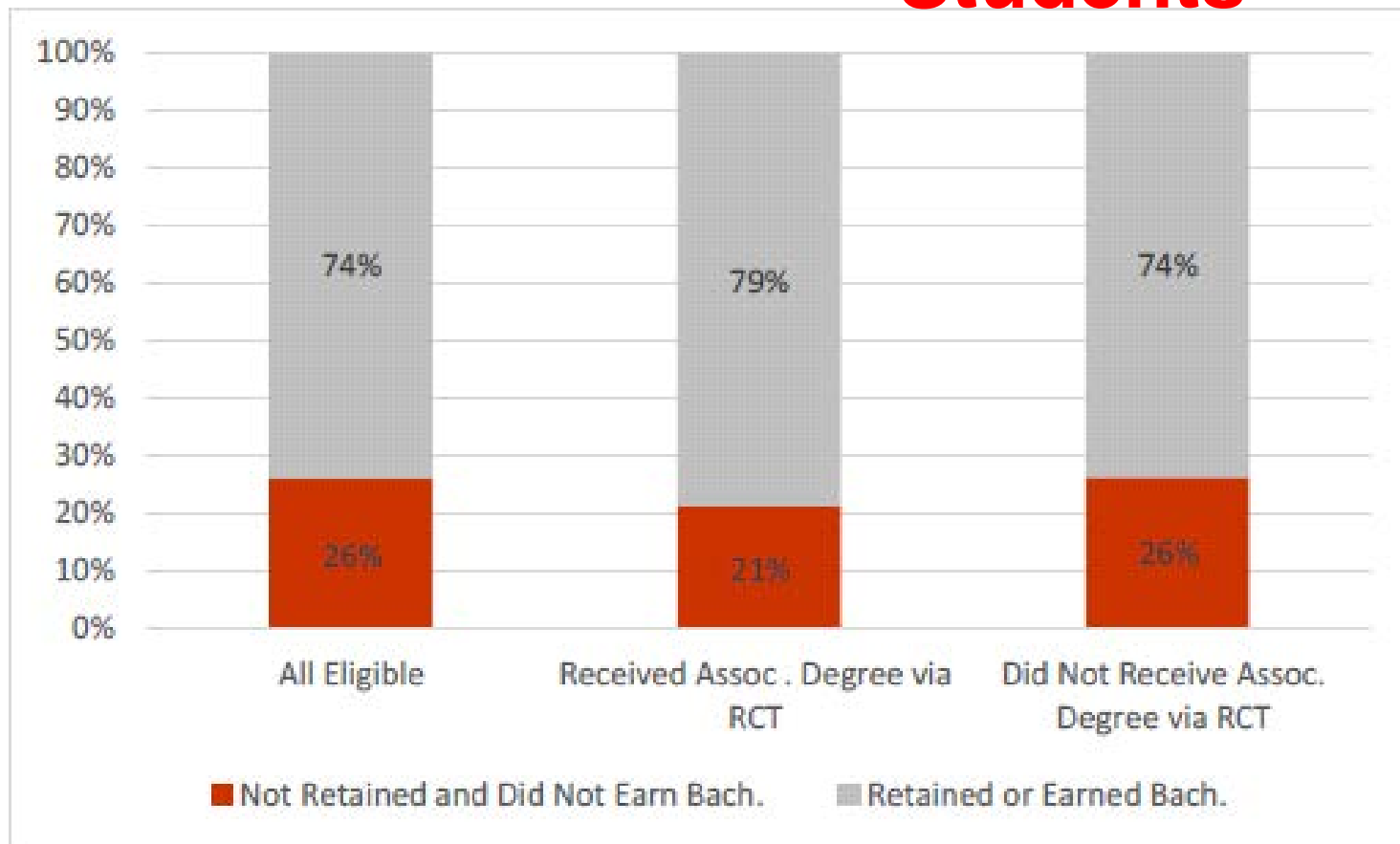
This Data Note is the tenth in a series of publications that share results from research associated with the Credit When It's Due (CWID) initiative. CWID is a multi-state initiative that supports the development and implementation of reverse credit transfer

examined differences in retention and bachelor's degree completion for students who did and did not complete an associate's degree via reverse credit transfer. The sample included 3,604 transfer students in Hawaii, 10,021 transfer students in Minnesota, and 21,133 transfer students in Ohio.



# Ohio Data

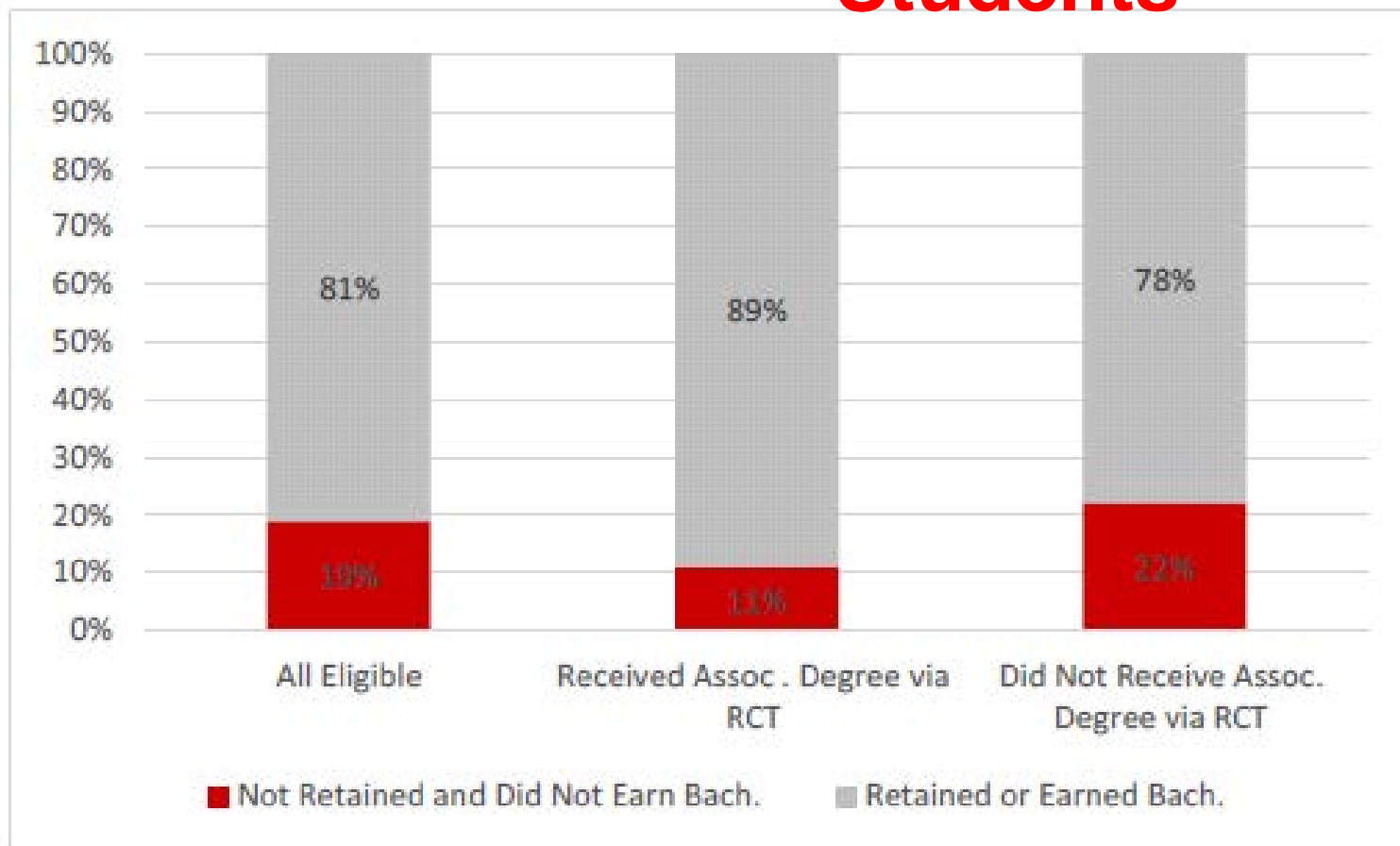
**5% Higher for RT Students**



**Figure 3. Retention or bachelor's degree completion within 3 to 4 years of implementation (Ohio)**

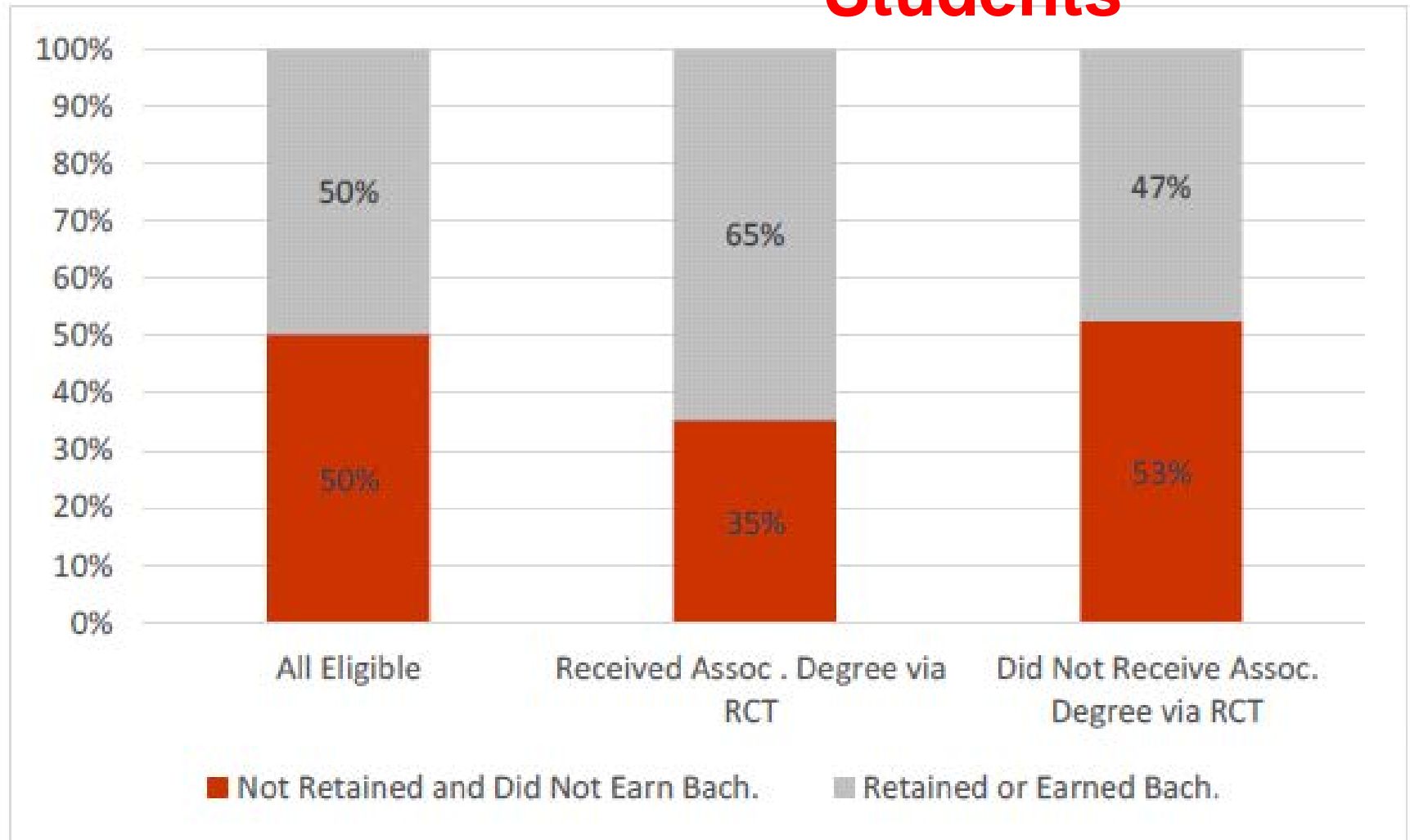
# Hawaii

## 11% Higher for RT Students



**Figure 1. Retention or bachelor's degree completion within 1.5 to 2.5 years of implementation (Hawaii)**

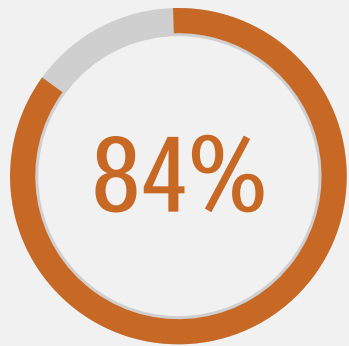
# Minnesota Data **18% Higher for RT Students**



**Figure 2. Retention or bachelor's degree completion within 0.5 to 1.5 years of implementation (Minnesota)**



# University of Texas El Paso & El Paso Community College



“Looking at **student outcomes** once students earned their associate’s degree, a substantial portion of the sample **completed their bachelor’s degree** as of Spring 2014 (n = 1,740; 84%).

Very few (less than one percent) are still persisting toward their four year degree, and only 16 percent (283 students) left without completing their degree at UTEP.”

*Reverse Transfer and Degree Awarding Agreements  
to Help Transfers earn their Associates at a Four Year School,  
R. Boren, D. Ekal, A. Vasquez, C. Westman, D. Hendry*

# How Do We Know Reverse Transfer Increases Completion Rates?

- Incentivizes students to complete a bachelor's degree
- Provides a milestone for degree attainment
- Makes a seemingly insurmountable goal more achievable
- Gives a feeling of accomplishment
- Provides positive momentum towards a bachelor's degree
- Increases student income while in college and their lifetime earnings
- Increases chance of accomplishing goals



# Students Increased Income

“**For associate degrees**, this review affirms that completing an associate degree **yields strongly positive, persistent, and consistent earnings gains**: studies show that completing an associate degree yields on **average approximately**

**\$4,640–\$7,160 per annum in extra earnings** compared to entering college but not completing an award.”



# ← REVERSE TRANSFER →

- The **ONLY** national solution that enables the exchange of course and grade data for awarding degrees
- **Supports your student success** initiatives by helping to increase both associate and bachelor degree attainment
- **Alleviates the workload** for community colleges and universities in the reverse transfer process





# Why a National Solution?

- Most students are mobile
  - 54% of enrollments (transfer ins and outs) at a typical institution are mobile at any given time, on average
- Transfer patterns are complex
  - 25% of all transfers move between states

**Reverse transfer can make the difference!**

# Potential Completers Washington

Destination state for potential completers who started enrollment in Washington	Potential completers #	Potential completers %
Starting cohort**	73,630	100.0%
WA	62,250	84.5%
MULTI-STATE	2,911	4.0%
OR	1,631	2.2%
CA	1,259	1.7%
ID	696	0.9%
UT	636	0.9%
AZ	474	0.6%
TX	349	0.5%



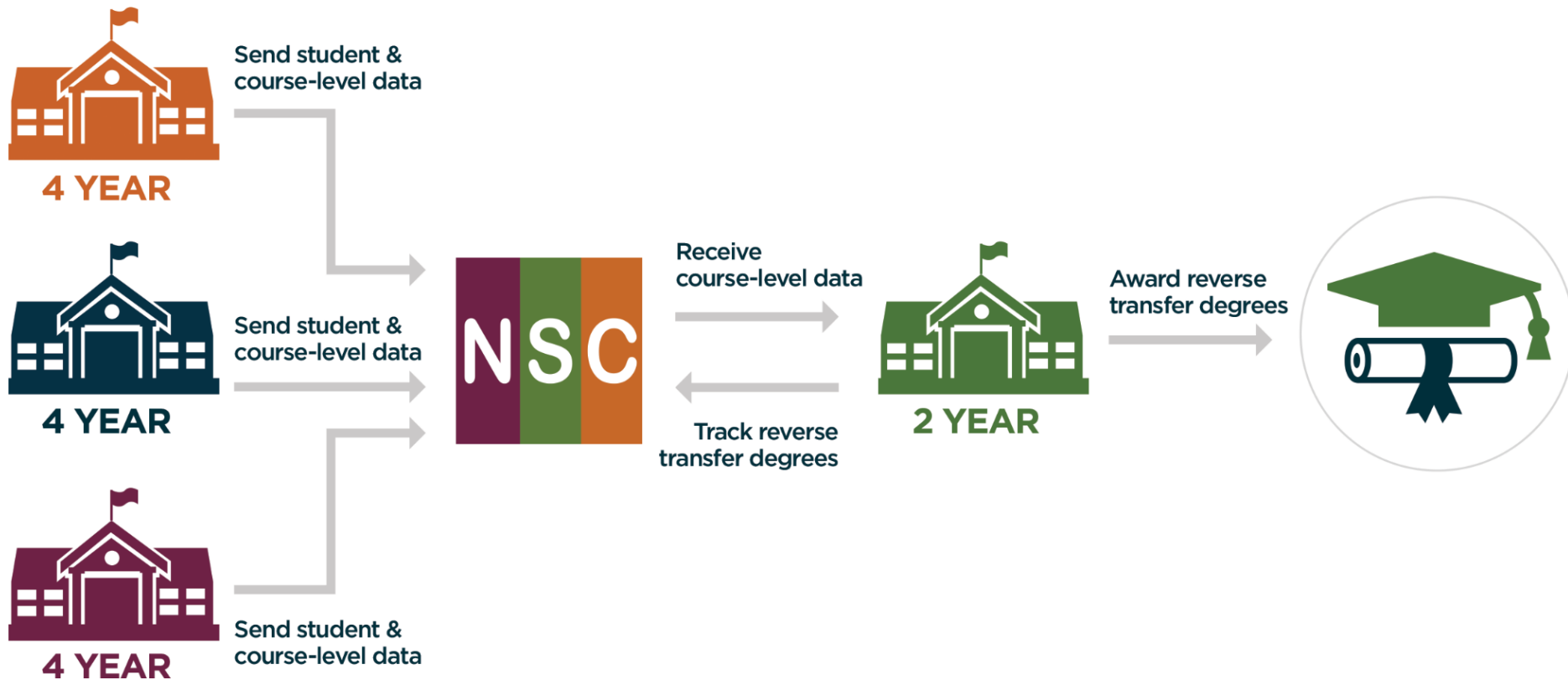
# Potential Completers Washington

Origin state for potential completers who subsequently enrolled in Washington	Potential completers #	Potential completers %
TOTAL	8,035	100.0%
CA	1,606	20.0%
OR	1,270	15.8%
AZ	766	9.5%
ID	570	7.1%
TX	343	4.3%
MT	251	3.1%



**The **most**  
important reason  
is the student  
receives a  
credential in  
which they have  
earned!**

# How does Reverse Transfer work?





# Pipe Delimited File

Example of a body record:

```
RTD1|7100003|123456789||John|S|Smith|Sr|19850814|12345 Somewhere  
Dr.||Someplace|VA|77396|US|703 999 9999|Someone@hometown.edu|Y||||CHEM|1405|Intro  
Chemistry|Fall 2014|20140825|20141214|B|20141214|3|Regular  
Enrollment|y|Math|025|||888888|12131415||||
```

# ← REVERSE TRANSFER →

Includes . . .

- Trusted **central location** for storing and receiving data
- Crosses **public, private and state lines**
- **Free and unlimited course and grade data exchanges** with multiple partners. This is course/grade data exchange, not transcript exchange
- The ability for hosts to send all reverse transfer data, for all degree granting institutions, in **one file submission**
- The ability for Degree Granting Institutions to **download their data** from all hosts in **one location**

# ← REVERSE TRANSFER →

Includes . . .

- **Increased data quality** from for everyone because of automatic data validation.
- **Current student contact information** to ensure diplomas are sent to the right address.
- Ability to identify files meant for the reverse transfer process versus receiving transcripts that are not identified as reverse transfer.



# ← REVERSE TRANSFER →

Includes . . .

- **Searchable by student** for the degree granting institutions
- Reports for both sides to **track the number of degrees awarded**, the data sent and received
- **Identification** of courses as “**core**” courses that are part of **general education** requirements
- A **flag to indicate** a student has completed the core courses

# ← REVERSE TRANSFER →

Includes . . .

- **Filter for associate degrees** before sending to 2 year institutions.
- **Download** cumulative student data **when the 2 year is ready** to evaluate for the semester and receive student data when based on a **threshold of total earned hours**.

# ← REVERSE TRANSFER →

Includes . . .

- Ability to send and receive at the **state/system** level.
- **Implementation guide** to walk you through the process



## Data Fields

R=  
required

O=  
Optional

Host OPEID	R	Student Email Address	R	Course End	R
Host Student ID	R	DGI OPEID	R	Date Grade	R
ITIN – IRS identifier	R	DGI Student ID (if available)	O	Grade Scale	R
SSN	O	Core Competency Complete Flag	O	Grade Effective Date	O
First, Middle, Last Name	R	Course Name	R	Number of Credits	R
Suffix	R	Course Number	R	Credit Description	O
DOB	R	Course Description	R	Core Course Flag	O
Street Address	O	Course Semester Session	R	Core Course Type	O
Student Phone #	O	Course Begin Date	R		

# File Submission Summary

## File Submission Summary

### Search

Match ☒ All ☐ Any

Submission Number

File Received Date

Validation Status

Client File ID

Search

Reset

Resources

Reports

View

Client File ID	Submission Number	Validation Status	Organization Name	File Name	No. of Records	File Received Date
	<a href="#">22</a>	FAILED	Hometown University	Email_Validation.txt		5/21/2015
clientFileID1	<a href="#">3</a>	FAILED	Hometown University	host1_courseFile26.txt	4	5/21/2015
test123	21	PASSED	Hometown University	host1_courseFile_full.txt	4	5/19/2015
clientFileID1	<a href="#">2</a>	FAILED	Hometown University	host1_courseFile26.txt	4	5/19/2015
clientFileID1	<a href="#">1</a>	FAILED	Hometown University	host1_courseFile26.txt	4	5/19/2015
	102	PASSED	Hometown University	host1_courseFile26_2dgi_rec2.txt	3	3/9/2015
	101	PASSED	Hometown University	host1_courseFile26_2dgi_rec1.txt	3	3/9/2015

# Validation Errors Detail Page

[File Submission Summary](#) > Validation Errors Detail Page for Submission Number: 548

## Validation Errors Log

**Organization Name:** Hometown University  
**Service Account Number:** 10999999  
**File Name:** Scenario\_2\_Field\_Validation\_Fail.txt  
**Client File ID:** FieldFail2

### Resources

 [File Submission Summary](#)

Section	Field Name	Error Description	Proposed Solutions	Affected Line Numbers	Error Count
Body	STUDENT ID	Student ID is missing.	The State Student ID is required. Provide a valid State Student ID.	23, 35	2
Body	COURSE NAME	Course name is required	Course name cannot be null. Please enter course name and resubmit.	40	1
Body	COURSE NUMBER	Course number is required	Course number cannot be null. Please enter course number and resubmit.	51	1
Body	DATE OF BIRTH	Date of birth is malformed date	Date of birth of the student whose course information is being submitted must be in the following format: yyyyMMdd	27	1
Body	FIRST NAME	First name is required	First name of the student whose course information is being submitted must be provided	6	1
Body	LAST NAME	Last Name cannot contain special characters	Last Name cannot contain numeric values or special characters other than a dash or apostrophe. Remove any numeric values or special characters. If there is a suffix in this field, move it to the Name Suffix field.	70	1
Body	LAST NAME	Last name is required	Last name of the student whose course information is being submitted must be provided.	19	1
Body	SSN	SSN must be 9 digits only (length and digits only)	SSN is invalid. Please validate your SSN and resubmit.	13	1

# DGI Response Summary View

## DGI Response Summary

☐ Search



Match ☒ All ☐ Any

Host Name

File Received Date

Search

Reset

File Received Date	Host Name	File Name	No. of Records	
3/9/2015	Hometown University	rt_response_123456_888888_416_20150202_032...	1	 Geocode
3/9/2015	Hometown University	rt_response_123456_888888_416_20150202_032...	1	 Geocode



# DGI Response Summary View



## Summary

Any  
me    
ate  

Reset

Resour

 Report

	Host Name	File Name	No. of Records	
	Hometown University	rt_response_123456_888888_416_20150202_032...	1	 Generate
	Hometown University	rt_response_123456_888888_416_20150202_032...	1	 Generate

# Student Lookup

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

NATIONAL STUDENT  
CLEARINGHOUSE

 Accessibility  Help  Contact  Home

Welcome, SBAL

| [Log Out](#)

Student  
Reporting

Verification  
Services

Research  
Services

Transcript  
Services

Reverse  
Transfer

Student  
Look-Up

Members

Account  
Mgmt

Reverse Transfer

Select a school: AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SSN ☒ ITIN ☐ 756270775

Student Details: marc tanghe 3/13/1986 

First Name\*

Last Name\*

DOB\*

Search

Reset

## Resources

 File Submission Summary

 DGI Response Summary

 Reports

# Student Lookup

Select a school:

SSN ☒ ITIN ☐

Student Details:

First Name\* Last Name\* DOB\*

## Resources

- File Submission Summary
- DGI Response Summary
- Reports

Name: TINKU VERMA Address: 101

DOB: 1984-07-19

City: HERNDON

Last 4 Digits of SSN: 0005

State:

Last 4 Digits of ITIN:

Zip Code: 20171

DGI Student ID: 8111002

View

Host School	Host Student ID	Course Name	Course No.	Course Description	Course Begin Date	Course End Date	Grade	Grade Effective Date	CourseCrdtEarne	Credit Description
ALCORN STATE...	KK-1004	CIVI	PHU102	CIVICS 102	20130901	20170901	A	20130901	3	test
ALCORN STATE...	KK-1004	COMM	PHU102	COMMERCE 102	20130901	20170901	A	20130901	3	test
ALCORN STATE...	KK-1004	COMP	PHU102	COMPUTERS 102	20130901	20170901	A	20130901	3	test
ALCORN STATE...	KK-1004	STAT	PHU102	STATISTICS 102	20130901	20170901	A	20130901	3	test
ALCORN STATE...	KK-1004	ENG	PHU102	English 102	20130901	20170901	A	20130901	3	test
ALCORN STATE...	KK-1004	FINA	PHU102	FINANCE 102	20130901	20170901	A	20130901	3	test
ALCORN STATE...	KK-1004	PHY	PHU102	PHYSICS 102	20130901	20170901	A	20130901	3	test
ALCORN STATE...	KK-1004	ECON	PHU102	ECONOMICS 102	20130901	20170901	A	20130901	3	test

**1.**

Sign a  
participation  
agreement

**2**

Work with  
your partner  
institutions to  
participate

**3.**

Establish  
a Reverse  
Transfer  
account

**Best of All,  
Reverse  
Transfer  
Is Free!**

**Increase the degrees at your institution by  
Signing Up Today  
it is as Easy as 1,2,3**

**Must participate in Degree Verify and  
Enrollment Verify**





# For More Information:

**Contact your Regional Director  
Dannette Sullivan  
and Phil Smith**

**or**

**Michelle Blackwell,  
[mblackwell@studentclearinghouse.org](mailto:mblackwell@studentclearinghouse.org)**

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