



NEWS RELEASE

EMBARGOED

For Release

November 14, 2023 [12:01 A.M., EST]

Contact:

Linda García

Executive Director

Office: 512-232-8428

Cell: 512-541-8365

linda.garcia@cccse.org

Alternate Contact:

Courtney Adkins

Associate Director of Publications

Office: 512-475-6142

adkins@cccse.org

What Helps Community College Students With Transfer

AUSTIN, TX –

A new report released by CCCSE, *Helping Community College Students Climb the Transfer Ladder*, highlights factors that help students have clearer plans regarding transfer, as well as areas in which they may need more guidance.

Eighty-three percent of students responding to the 2022 Survey of Entering Student Engagement (*SENSE*) indicated they intend to transfer. But according to the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, only 32 percent of community college students transfer—and of those who do, only about half earn a bachelor's degree within six years.*

The data collection this report is based on revealed that students likely need more guidance regarding decisions around transfer. When students who reported intent to transfer were asked who they were most likely to rely on for this type of support, well over a quarter (29 percent) of respondents said *friends, family, or other students*. Additionally, 38 percent of students who

indicated they intend to transfer said they were not aware of any information about how to transfer on their college's website.

The *SENSE* data collection also uncovered several factors that help students have clearer plans about their future educational paths. For instance,

- 35 percent of respondents said they knew where they wanted to transfer and what they wanted to study when they got there;
- 93 percent of the students who said they knew where they wanted to transfer and what they wanted to study had decided on a program, major, or pathway of study at their community college; and
- 66 percent of the students who said they knew where they wanted to transfer and what they wanted to study found the information about transfer on their college's website useful.

“Certain factors correlate with whether students who intend to transfer know where they want to go and what they want to study,” said Linda García, CCCSE executive director. “But what we can't know from these data is whether the transfer plans students have are realistic,” continued García. “We will only be able to know that by talking to students early and often.”

This report contains data from 8,836 entering students across 40 community colleges who responded to *SENSE* in fall 2022.

CCCSE is a service and research initiative of the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy in the College of Education at The University of Texas at Austin.

[*Helping Community College Students Climb the Transfer Ladder*](#) will be available publicly on November 14, 2023.

* National Student Clearinghouse Research Center. (September 20, 2022). *Tracking transfer*. <https://nscresearchcenter.org/tracking-transfer/>