Transfer Outcomes

The National Student Clearinghouse Research Center examined the postsecondary outcomes of students who transferred from two-year to four-year institutions in three different academic years. Results were very consistent across years. In each year studied, about 60 percent of all two-to-four transfer students graduated with a bachelor’s or higher degree within four years of transferring. In addition, 12 percent of all transfer students had not yet graduated, but were still enrolled at a four-year institution in the last year of analysis. In total, about 72 percent of students either graduated or persisted.

Graduation rates were highest for the students who transferred after receiving an associate’s degree. About 71 percent of these students earned their bachelor’s degree within four years, and nearly 80 percent either graduated or persisted at a four-year institution.