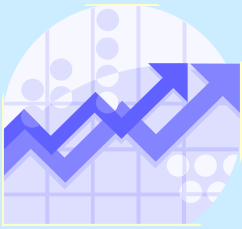


Institutional Research News

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How do basic skills students do in transfer level courses?



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The Basic Skills Initiative (BSI) is a “multi-year effort to improve curriculum, instruction, student services, assessment, program practices and campus culture in the areas of ESL and basic skills across the state.” One part of the BSI project is a series of data-based questions that requires a college (or district) to establish a baseline so that efforts the college makes could be measured to see what impact these efforts had over time.

The BSI identifies a college’s basic skills need based on placement. In Fall 2006, there were 6,372 first-time college students (FTCS) enrolled in the district. Of these, more than two-thirds

were recommended into at least one basic skills course (4,407 or 69.2%). However, only about half of these students actually enrolled in a basic skills course (2,272 or 51.6%).

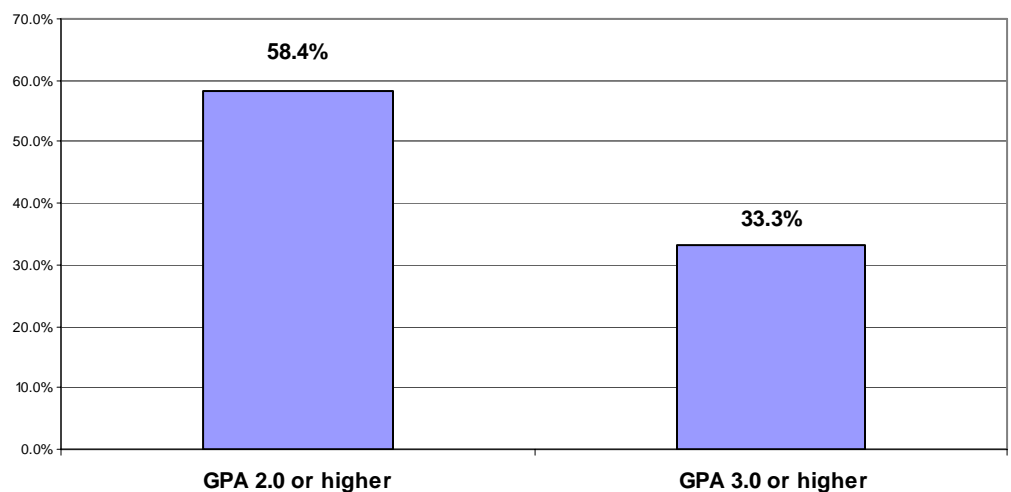
So if students are recommended into a basic skills course but they don’t follow that advice, what courses do these students take and how well do they do?

Three out of four (1,632 or 76.4%) FTCS recommended for basic skills who did not enroll in a transfer-level course (not including PHP courses). Of these students, 58.4% (953) attained a GPA of

2.0 (average grade of “C”) or better in their first semester, Fall 2006. One third of them (544 or 33.3%) attained a GPA of 3.0 (average grade of “B”) or better.

This information is in the process of being updated for the three colleges as well as looking at the same data over several semesters.

GPA of First-time College Students Recommended for Basic Skills Enrolled in Transfer Courses, Fall 2006



Contact Dr. Daniel Martinez at 8148 regarding this report.