



Transfer – 2-year Transition

2-year Transition

The Montana University System is committed to providing seamless transfer for students who begin their education in a 2-year program or college and choose to continue on in pursuit of a 4-year degree. Measuring the continuation rate of 2-year “transfer” degree completers is one method of gauging the degree to which MUS students transfer from 2 to 4 year institutions.

Nationwide, 63% of students entering college at 2-year institutions report *transfer* as their primary educational goal. The educational intent of students attending colleges of technology (COT’s) in Montana does not reflect trends found in 2-year institutions nationwide. Over 80% of the degrees conferred at MUS COT’s are associate of applied science degrees designed to prepare students for entering into specific occupations in the workforce.

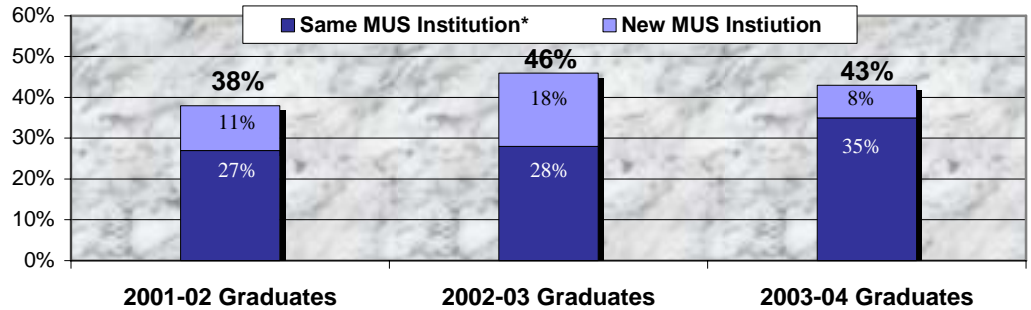
In Fall 2005, more than 16,000 students or 45% of the total enrollment system-wide was identified as having enrolled in multiple post secondary institutions. Students who had once enrolled in a MUS “stand alone” 2-year institution comprised 8% (1,336 students) of this population.

MEASURE

Percent of students earning “transfer” associate degrees who continue enrollment in the MUS after receiving a degree.

Continuation Rate of 2-year Degree Completers

Percent of Associate of Arts and Associate of Science Degree Completers Continuing Enrollment After Receiving a Degree (enrollment occurring through Spring 2006)



Graduating Class	# of Graduates (AA & AS Recipients)	# Continuing in the MUS (thru Spr. 2006)		
		Continuing at New Institution	Continuing at Same Institution	Total
2001-02 Graduates	142	15	38	53
2002-03 Graduates	192	34	53	87
2003-04 Graduates	203	16	72	88

source: System Data Warehouse

Note: Due to data warehouse limitations in this research, FVCC, DCC, & MCC are not included in MUS statistics.

*generally MSU-Northern/UM-Western 2-year degree recipients continuing for 4-year degrees

- Between 38 and 46 percent of students earning Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees continued to further their education in the MUS. (i.e. enrolled in at least one semester after graduating)
- The majority of students continuing their education after receiving an associate’s degree re-enrolled at the same institution where they earned their degree.

Semester Snapshot

Enrollment of students in 4-year institutions that had once enrolled at a “stand alone” 2-year institution, Fall 2002 – Fall 2005

2-year Institutions	Fall 2002	Fall 2003	Fall 2004	Fall 2005
Dawson Community College	146	158	155	143
Flathead Valley Comm College	504	540	572	558
Miles Community College	190	202	202	220
MSU Great Falls - COT	213	236	250	279
UM Helena - COT	102	108	125	136
Total	1,155	1,244	1,304	1,336

source: System Data Warehouse

- The number of students enrolled at 4-year institutions that had once taken classes at a “stand alone” 2-year institution has steadily increased since Fall 2002.