



Wisconsin Technical College Students Transferring Credit from University of Wisconsin System and Other Postsecondary Institutions 2007-08

Summary

During the 2007-08 academic year, 8,641 WTCS students successfully transferred 112,099 credits from other accredited postsecondary institutions. These included students transferring from UW System institutions, Wisconsin independent colleges and universities, and other in-state and out-of-state institutions.

The most significant finding of this report is the continued long-term growth in the overall number of WTCS students successfully transferring credits into and within Wisconsin technical colleges and the number of credits they transferred:

- The overall number of WTCS transfer students has grown from 6,003 in 1997-98 to 8,641 in the 2007-08 academic year or an increase of 44%.
- Comparable data on growth in the overall number of credits transferred is available beginning in the 1997-98 academic year. Since then, the total number of credits transferred to the WTCS increased 74% from 64,351 to 112,099, while the overall number of UW transfer students increased over the same time period by only 30%.

Much of the data presented in this report has focused on WTCS students who transferred credits from UW System institutions, the largest single source of WTCS transfer students. Data for these former UW System students indicated a similar pattern of long-term growth in the overall number of WTCS students successfully transferring credits earned at a UW System institution to be applied towards their completion of degree or diploma programs at a Wisconsin technical college:

- Over the last decade, the number of WTCS transfer students from the UW System has grown from 2,962 in 1997-98 to 3,850 in the 2007-08 academic year or an increase of 30%.
- Comparable data on growth in the number of credits transferred from the UW System is available beginning in the 1996-97 academic year. Since then, the total number of credits transferred from the UW System to the WTCS increased 63% from 29,858 to 48,795, while the number of WTCS students transferring credits from the all postsecondary institutions over the same period increased by 44%.
- In addition, the average number of credits transferred from the UW System by WTCS students has increased from 10.0 to 12.7 in the 2007-08 academic year.

In addition, the data reported for WTCS transfer students from UW System institutions during the 2007-08 academic year indicated that:

- Milwaukee Area and Madison Area Technical Colleges remain the most likely destination for WTCS transfer students from the UW System.
- Students from UW Colleges (932), UW-Milwaukee (674), and UW-Oshkosh (403) constitute the largest groups of UW System students transferring credits to Wisconsin technical colleges.
- Former UW System students transferred on average 12.7 credits or about one semester's course work upon entering a WTCS degree or diploma program; 40% of these students successfully transferred 13 or more credits from the UW System.
- About 90% of the credits transferred to the WTCS from the UW System were in general education.
- About 58% of these students were under 25 years of age or of traditional college age; the ten-year trend indicates that there was some growth in the number of transfers who were over 45, but that this increase has slowed in recent years.
- About two-thirds of these students were female, a relatively stable percentage given recent trends towards higher rates of college enrollment by female students overall.
- Only about 7% of these students identified themselves as belonging to a racial or ethnic minority group. Although there has been some growth in students who self-identify as Asian, Hispanic, and African American, the overall percentage of minority students fluctuates around 10% over the last ten years.
- About 19% of these students report having completed 16 or more years of schooling. Students with 17 or more years of education transferring credits from the UW System to WTCS institutions continues to increase steadily over the ten-year time span. The number not reported is also growing.