

ARCC 2008 Report: College Self-Assessment

On five of the seven accountability indicators, Ohlone College is above its peer group average, and six of the seven indicators for 2006-07 are above or at 2005-06 rates.

1. Student Progress and Achievement: Degree/Certificate/Transfer

Ohlone College's Degree/Certificate/Transfer rate has stabilized after two previous years of decline. The recent innovations enabled through the Title III and NSF grants, the development of learning communities, 14 new transfer-oriented degrees, and the move to a learning college model should bolster the already strong rate, and the effects of those innovations are also evident in the following indicators.

2. Percent of Students Who Earned at Least 30 Units

The successes of innovations to strengthen degree/certificate/transfer rates are more quickly captured in this 30 unit measure. The number of students who could be half way to a degree has increased by almost 4% in just two years, and in this area Ohlone is again above the peer average.

3. Persistence Rate

An almost 7% increase in persistence for the past two years reverses a previous decline and also highlights the effects of innovations aimed at fostering retention and completion. Significant enrollment gains in the past two years are both cause and effect of increasing persistence rates, which remain above the peer average.

4. Annual Successful Course Completion Rate for Credit Vocational Courses

Vocational course completion rates have remained strong at Ohlone College, and the opening of the new, vocationally-oriented Newark Center for Health Sciences and Technology in Spring 2008 should further strengthen these rates and keep the college above the peer average.

5. Annual Successful Course Completion Rates for Credit Basic Skills Courses

Although the college has had consistently strong rates in vocational and general education indicators, it has not been at the peer average in Basic Skills. It is anticipated that the good effects of the Basic Skills Initiative and the Title III grant—which includes improved placement testing and tracking, as well as innovations in tutoring and supplemental learning—will soon provoke higher rates within the Basic Skills areas.

6. Improvement Rates for ESL

A complete renewal of the ESL curriculum has produced noticeable gains over the past two years in the ESL improvement rate, but the college remains below the peer average. As the successes of more recent cohorts, who have the benefit of the curricular innovations, are captured in the data, the ESL improvement rate should show further improvement.

7. Basic Skills Improvement Rate

The college is above the peer average for Basic Skills improvement, indicating that those students who are completing the Basic Skills courses are successfully moving on to, and completing, the higher level courses. As improvements are made in the completion rates, this indicator could also increase.