

The Evergreen State College
Evergreen New Student Survey 2007
Tacoma Campus

Why New Transfer Students Left Previous Institution

On the Evergreen New Student Survey 2007, students were asked to respond to the question: "If you are a student transferring from another college or university, why did you choose to leave your previous institution?" The responses of students new to the Tacoma campus were grouped and analyzed by transfer from two-year institutions and from four-year institutions.¹ Themes are summarized in the table below.

Themes among transfer students

(Note: Some students had comments that fit within multiple categories; therefore, percentages add up to more than 100%.)

	Number Transfers from 2-year (N=19)*	Percent of Transfers from 2-year**	Number of Transfers from 4-year (N=4)*	Percent of Transfers from 4-year**
Transferred from 2-year institution, left to pursue four-year degree and/or completed degree	13	68.4%	1	25.0%
Cost/financial issues	2	10.5%	0	0.0%
General match/fit	1	5.3%	1	25.0%
Location	1	5.3%	1	25.0%
Drawn by academics at Evergreen and/or dissatisfaction with academics at other institution	1	5.3%	0	0.0%
Not applicable	2	10.5%	1	25.0%

*N refers to the number of students who responded to the question.

**Percentages exclude students who left question blank.

Transfers from two-year institutions

Thirteen of the transfer students who transferred from two-year institutions responded to the question simply by stating that they had graduated from or had earned a substantial amount of credit from their previous institution. Two students wrote about financial reasons for transferring; one wrote about the cost of tuition (although it is unclear whether they were referring to Evergreen or their previous institution) and the other wrote about difficulty with a financial aid office. One student wrote generally that "Evergreen has what I was looking for." Another student wrote "location." A student wrote that they transferred from their previous institution because they were not able to study what he/she wanted. Two students wrote that the question was "not applicable."

Transfers from four-year institutions

There were only four students from four-year institutions who responded to this question. One student wrote generally about coming to Evergreen to complete their BA. Another student commented that their previous institution did not "have what they need." One student wrote that they had relocated from another state. Another student wrote that due to work responsibilities they were unable focus on schoolwork, presumably at their previous institution.

¹ Data is from BANNER. It should be noted, that students sometimes "swirl" between two- and four-year institutions; therefore, there are some limitations in creating viewing students simply as two-year or four-year transfers.