

Determinants of Lateral Transferring Behavior of Baccalaureate College Students

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Background

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- The amount of overall transfer is known but lateral transfer is understudied
 - One third of all college students transfer at least once within five years of enrollment and the rates have been growing (NSC,2012)
- The definition of college student success needs to be expanded
 - CUNY institutional data combined with National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) data give us an unparalleled data source to model a full set of outcomes (drop out, continued enrollment, graduation, and transfer)
- The time frame of analysis needs to be extended
 - Previous research suggests that longer time frame and data on transfer are necessary to fully model student outcomes

Typology of College Outcomes

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Research Questions

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- What are the determinants of earning a BA from a school of entry versus a school transferred into?
 - $Ln\Omega_{m|b}(x) = \ln \frac{\Pr(y=m|X)}{\Pr(y=b|X)} = \mathbf{x}\beta_{m|b}$ (b: BA entry; m: BA transfer)

- What are the determinants of dropping out relative to completing a degree at school of entry?
 - $Ln\Omega_{m|b}(x) = \ln \frac{\Pr(y=m|X)}{\Pr(y=b|X)} = \mathbf{x}\beta_{m|b}$ (b: BA entry; m: Dropouts)

Research Model: Independent Variables

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	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
GED	43,892	0.016	0.127	0	1
NYC Public High School	43,892	0.675	0.468	0	1
NYC Private High School	43,892	0.152	0.359	0	1
NYS High School	43,892	0.069	0.253	0	1
US High School	43,892	0.037	0.188	0	1
Foreign High School	43,892	0.051	0.219	0	1
CPI Units	43,986	18.256	4	0	41
CAA Total	43,738	81.831	6.454	60	99
Regent Math	37,163	81.252	13.729	0	100
Regent English	35,018	75.033	10.203	0	100
No-delay in Entry to CUNY	45,225	0.888	0.316	0	1
First-Choice College	45,686	0.714	0.452	0	1

Research Model: Independent Variables

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	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
SEEK	45,686	0.18	0.384	0	1
First-Term GPA	44,632	2.589	0.956	0	4
Credit Completion Ratio	45,686	85.776	28.004	0	100
Withdrawal Count	45,686	0.914	2.474	0	19
Gateway Math Pass	45,686	0.18	0.384	0	1
Gateway Engl Pass	45,686	0.651	0.477	0	1
Ever Change Major	45,686	0.328	0.469	0	1
No-Delay in Major Declare	45,686	0.313	0.464	0	1
Female	45,686	0.592	0.491	0	1
Dependent	45,686	0.176	0.381	0	1
Black	45,686	0.217	0.412	0	1
Hispanic	45,686	0.246	0.43	0	1
Asian	45,686	0.195	0.396	0	1
Pell Eligibility	45,674	0.518	0.5	0	1

Predicting Transfer (1)

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	b	z	P>z	%	%StdX
GED	-0.191	-2.167	0.030	-17.4	-2.4
NYC Private High School	0.025	0.798	0.425	2.6	0.9
NYS High School	0.322	7.594	0.000	38.0	8.3
US High School	0.510	8.933	0.000	66.6	9.9
Foreign High School	0.055	0.937	0.349	5.7	1.2
CPI Units	-0.010	-3.124	0.002	-1.0	-4.0
CAA Total	-0.043	-20.817	0.000	-4.2	-23.8
Regent Math	0.002	1.560	0.119	0.2	1.9
Regent English	0.003	2.602	0.009	0.3	3.2
No Delay in Entry	0.008	0.203	0.839	0.8	0.3
First-Choice College	-0.203	-9.065	0.000	-18.3	-8.8

Predicting Transfer (2)

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	b	z	P>z	%	%StdX
SEEK	-0.147	-4.755	0.000	-13.7	-5.5
First-Term GPA	-0.325	-18.297	0.000	-27.8	-26.4
Credit Completion Ratio	0.000	0.096	0.924	0.0	0.2
Withdrawal Count	0.034	7.086	0.000	3.5	8.8
Gateway Math Pass	-0.016	-0.606	0.544	-1.6	-0.6
Gateway Engl Pass	-0.146	-6.189	0.000	-13.6	-6.7
Ever Change Major	0.298	13.454	0.000	34.7	15.0
No-Delay in Major Declare	-0.180	-7.705	0.000	-16.5	-8.0
Female	-0.023	-1.123	0.262	-2.3	-1.1
Dependent	0.020	0.720	0.471	2.0	0.8
Black	0.273	9.329	0.000	31.4	11.9
Hispanic	0.235	8.333	0.000	26.5	10.6
Asian	0.035	1.151	0.250	3.5	1.4
Pell Eligibility	0.019	0.817	0.414	1.9	0.9

The Effects of Transfer on Completion

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- Including the controls in the model above, transferring from college of entry has a negative effect on completing a baccalaureate degree
 - Students who transfer are 67% less likely to complete their degree
- This points to the need for efforts to retain students who are potential transfers and to support those students who do transfer.

Multinomial Logit predicting Earning a Baccalaureate (1)

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	BA from other CUNY	Non-CUNY BA	Did not earn a BA
GED	1.194	0.802	1.283**
NYC Private High School	0.859**	1.132*	1.132***
NYS High School	0.742***	1.964***	0.996
US High School	0.697**	2.854***	1.256***
Foreign High School	1.675***	0.912	0.745***
CPI Units	0.986*	1.001	0.957***
CAA Total	0.974***	0.962***	0.944***
Regent Math	1.003	1.000	0.997**
Regent English	0.998	1.001	1.002
No Delay in Entry	0.971	0.878	0.478***
First-Choice College	0.495***	0.820***	0.814***
SEEK	0.660***	0.802***	0.891***

Multinomial Logit predicting Earning a Baccalaureate (2)

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	BA from other CUNY	Non-CUNY BA	Did not earn a BA
First-Term GPA	0.742***	0.836***	0.506***
Credit Completion Ratio	0.994***	0.989***	0.992***
Withdrawn Credit Count	1.091***	1.107***	1.122***
Gateway Math Pass	1.167***	1.068	0.897***
Gateway Engl. Pass	0.906*	0.814***	0.681***
Ever Changed Major	3.371***	0.110***	0.403***
No Delay in Major Declaration	0.645***	1.247***	1.242***
Female	0.873***	1.004	0.734***
Dependent	1.176***	0.909*	1.066**
Black	0.931	1.080	1.294***
Hispanic	1.037	0.815***	1.488***
Asian	1.126*	1.010	0.854***
Pell Eligibility	0.927	0.994	0.871***

Policy Implications

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- The importance of early momentum
- Major advising
- Expand SEEK
- Increase high school outreach

Conclusions

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- Students who transfer from college of entry are less likely to earn a degree
- Focusing on baccalaureate transfers can help improve student outcomes
- Early momentum and focus on major correlate with successful completion
- Students who leave CUNY are not necessarily leaving higher education altogether

Question?

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Thank you!