

College Credit Registration Survey Results

As part of the Clackamas Promise Grant, the College Credit Registration Survey was conducted during spring term of 2018 to identify possible barriers for student registration in Advanced College Credit (ACC) classes offered in area high schools. Surveys of registered ACC students are conducted quarterly; however, those surveys do not capture information from students who choose not to register for college-credit. One of the goals of the Clackamas Promise Grant is to increase participation in accelerated learning.

Paper surveys were mailed directly to at least one ACC instructor in each Clackamas County high school that articulates ACC courses with Clackamas Community College. Surveys were mailed to 22 high schools and 28 high school ACC instructors. ACC courses surveyed included lower division transfer courses such as WR-121 English Composition and career and technical education courses like MFG-111 Machine Tool Fundamentals I. High school ACC instructors administered the paper survey and returned them using a provided prepaid envelope.

A total of 471 surveys were returned from 17 participating high schools:

- 353 (75%) of respondents were enrolled in either 11th or 12th grade
- Students were more likely to register for college-credit as they progressed from 9th to 12th grade
- 334 (71%) of respondents had registered for college-credit
- 137 (29%) of respondents had not registered for college-credit

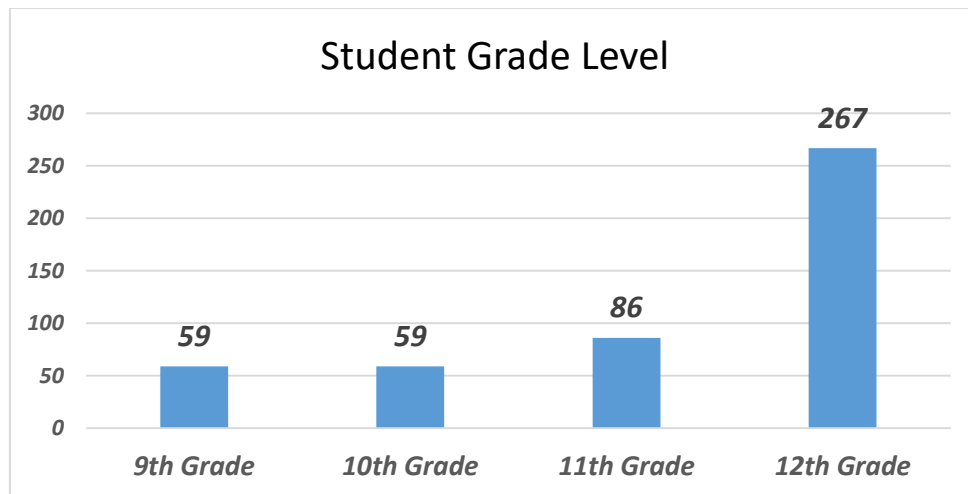


Figure 1 – High school grade level of survey respondents.

The purpose of the survey was to capture student registration into ACC college-credit courses, reasons why students chose to register or not, and what would enable them to register in future courses. Based on survey responses, the main reason students registered for credit was the draw of being able to earn college credit. As evidenced by Table 1, having a teacher or parent/guardian encourage a student to register was another factor that enabled participation, showing the importance of adult/mentor encouragement to register for college credit.



Respondents were provided the option of multiple responses as to why they registered for college-credit:

- 317 respondents listed earning college credit
- 141 respondents listed encouragement from a teacher
- 126 respondents listed encouragement from a parent/guardian

Table 1 – Number of students who registered for college-credit and why.

Number of students that DID register for college-credit- 334

If Yes, why? (provided option of multiple responses)	Responses
I could earn college credit	317
I wanted to be challenged	89
My parent/guardian encouraged me to register	126
My teacher encouraged me to register	141

The reason why students did not register for credit was more varied. As evidenced by Table 2, the main reason students did not register was because they did not understand how to register, closely followed by not understanding the benefits of registering. This outlines the need for clear, accessible instructions on registration, as well as the importance of marketing materials that outline the benefits of registering. It also points to the need for the high school instructors/counselors to serve as a resource for students, both in helping them understand the registration process as well as the benefits of registration.

Respondents were provided the option of multiple responses as to why they did not register for college-credit:

- 33 respondents did not know how to register
- 26 did not understand the benefits
- 20 did not know about it

Table 2 – Number of students who did not register for college-credit and why.

Number of students that DID NOT register for college-credit- 137

If No, why not? (provided option of multiple responses)	Responses
Counselor/ teacher discouraged me from registering	2
Grade was too low	16
I could not afford it	13
I did not know about it	20
I did not know how to register	33
I did not understand the benefits	26
Parent/guardian did not want me to register	10



As seen in Figure 2, the top two factors that would have helped or did help students make the decision to register for credit is clear information on the benefits and drawbacks, as well as a list of college level courses available at their school.

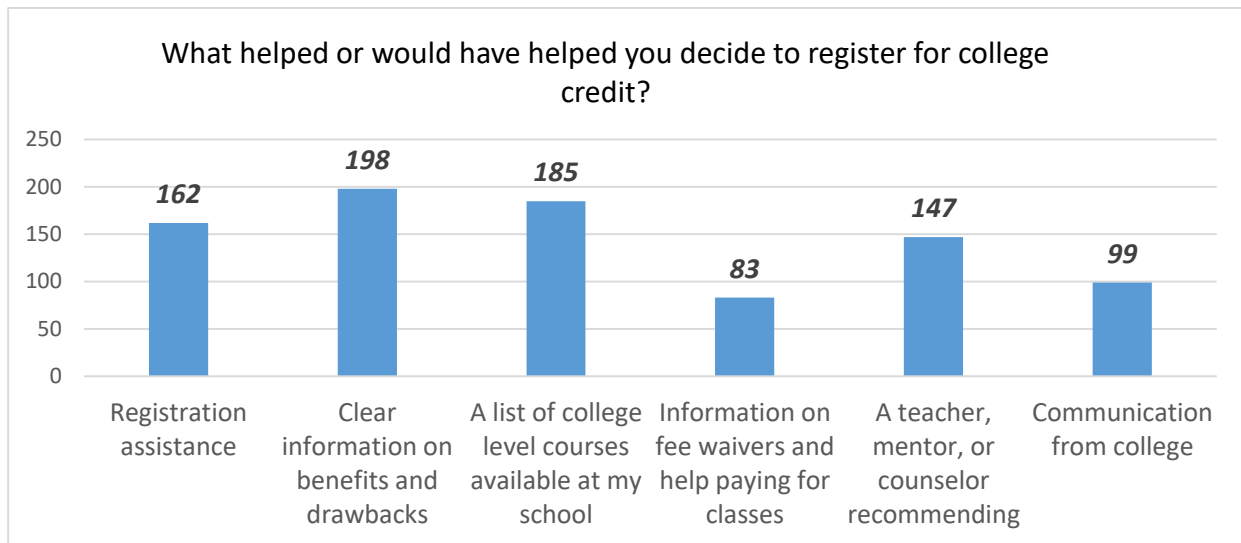


Figure 2 - Factors that helped/would have helped students to decide to register for college-credit.

While this information is disseminated through the High School Connections (HSC) website, information will be made more accessible through website improvements and additional high school specific materials. The survey results indicate a need for students to receive additional assistance from their high school counselors as well as the Academic & Career Coach at CCC for information on registration and what to register for. The third highest need was for registration assistance. While the HSC team goes out to high schools annually for on-site registration assistance, students would benefit from improved registration instruction and more frequent visits to help students register for their classes.

The 17 high schools that participated in the survey:

- Canby High School
- Clackamas Academy of Industrial Sciences
- Clackamas High School
- Clackamas Middle College
- Colton High School
- Country Christian School
- Estacada High School
- Gladstone High School
- Lake Oswego High School
- Lakeridge High School
- Molalla High School
- North Clackamas Christian High School
- Oregon City High School
- Rex Putnam High School
- Sandy High School
- West Linn High School
- Wilsonville High School