

2018 New Student Survey Executive Summary

The Evergreen New Student Survey (NSS) is administered to all new First-time, First-year (FTFY) and new Transfer Students. 191 FTFYs (62%) and 189 of Olympia Campus Transfers (52%) responded to the survey.

84% of FTFYs and 95% of Transfers plan to earn their Bachelor's from Evergreen. The remaining 5% of Transfers and 16% of First-time, First-years are unsure/do not want an Evergreen Bachelor's. Around 40% of students do not have a parent who earned a 4-year college degree.

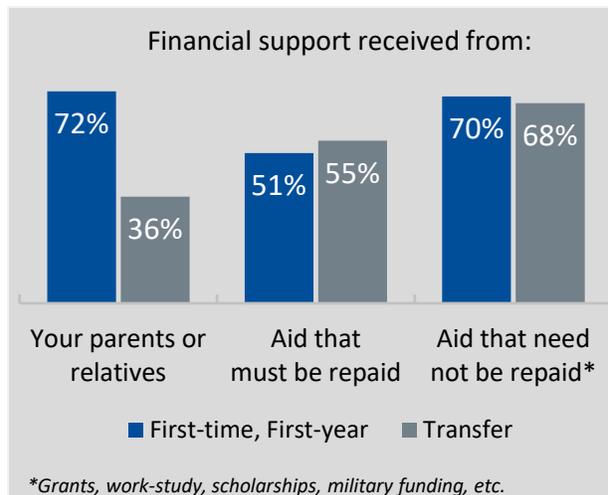
Paying for college is a hurdle for new students

20% of both FTFYs and Transfers are not at all or a little confident that they will have the funding to complete their studies at Evergreen. Only about 60% of students are quite or very confident that they will be able to manage any debt that they incur in completing their education.

17% of Transfers have dependent children who live with them. 10% of Transfers are veterans.

Half of all students are planning to work. Of those who plan to work - 20% of FTFYs and 30% of Transfers plan to work over 30 hours a week.

About half of students get financial aid that must be repaid (student loans). 72% of FTFYs and 36% of transfers get financial support from their parents or relatives. Around 70% of students receive aid that need not be repaid. *



The most important goals for college for students are (in order):

1. Personal growth and development
2. Gaining depth or expertise in a particular field
3. FTFY: Developing creative and effective communication skills
Transfer: Getting a job of your choice or making a career change

35% of FTFYs and 26% of Transfers rated their incoming skills in Math, Statistics, and Quantitative Reasoning as below "Introductory" in the category "Need extra help."

FIELD OF STUDY

73% of FTFYs and 84% of Transfers plan to focus on a particular field or fields of study at Evergreen. The most popular fields for students are:

- **Environmental Studies**
- **Psychology**

Of the five broad divisional areas of study (Arts, Humanities, Math/Computer Science, Natural & Physical Science, and Social Science) the highest level of student interest is in Social Science – 62% of FTFYs and 48% of Transfers plan to study in at least one area within this division. However, 49% of FTFYs and 42% of Transfers have interests which span more than one division.

"I plan on being a homeless youth liaison once I graduate with my Bachelors. With that being said I plan on focusing on Psychology and Community Building."

16% of FTFYs and 19% of Transfers think that Evergreen's Reputation was a negative factor in their decision to attend.

"With regards to the question of whether Evergreen's reputation affected my decision to apply, I will admit that it was more complicated than a pro or con. The reputation as a free thinking, liberal haven appealed to me. As a queer person, Evergreen's reputation as an inclusive community that celebrates diversity was very important to me... But, I also had relatives and family friends cautioning me away from Evergreen... So it's not all one way. There were pros AND cons to your reputation as a school. But... I'm really excited to go here. Like, over the moon excited. I'm thrilled to be an Evergreen student."

Highest rated factors in students' decision to attend Evergreen

FTFYs	Natural surroundings/campus environment	Transfers	Ability to study in a specific field of my choice
	Opportunity to design my own education		Opportunity to design my own education
	Ability to take integrated programs instead of individual classes		Close contact with faculty/student-to-faculty ratio

Students report high levels of independence

Both Transfers and FTFYs are most comfortable learning independently and completing projects on their own. FTFYs are also very comfortable giving and receiving peer critique and working with other students on class projects. Transfers are less comfortable than FTFYs working with other students on projects, but are more comfortable asking faculty for extra help or advice.

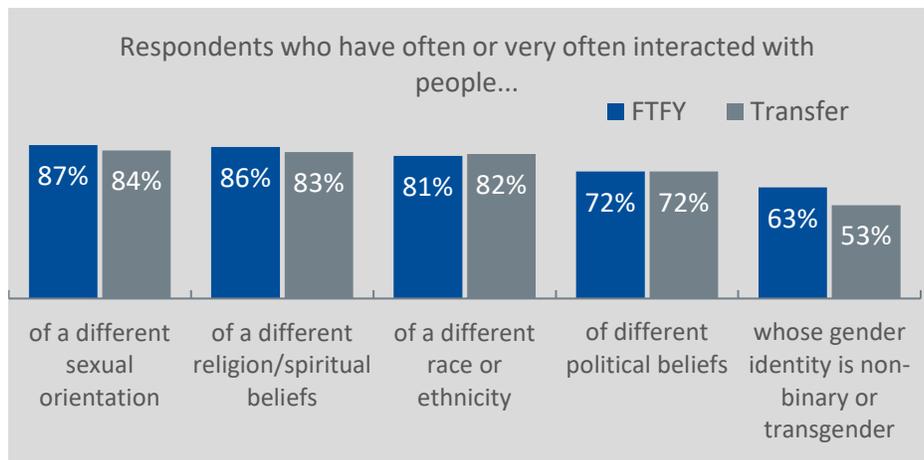
Students are most confident that they:

- Have the skills and abilities to succeed at Evergreen
- Will develop skills and expertise in a specific field
- Will be able to use their education to meet life-long goals

Along with the financial aspects of education mentioned earlier, students are least confident in managing their time effectively and fitting in socially at Evergreen.

Interactions across differences occur often for most groups

Students are asked about how often they have interacted with different groups of people. Students have most often interacted with people of a different sexual orientation than theirs, and least often with people whose gender identity is non-binary or transgender. One reason that interactions with people of a different sexual orientation may be so high is that 60% of FTFYs and 40% of Transfers identify as Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Queer, or Unsure or Questioning.



For more detailed results, as well as the Tacoma Campus Report, visit:

www.evergreen.edu/institutionalresearch/nss2018results