

Transfer Center

Although some aspects of the transfer center operations were in place prior, the formal transfer center was implemented in the fall of 2007.

Prior to full implementation of the program two student surveys were conducted. The first survey asked recent graduates about their transfer experiences and factors that lead to difficult or smooth transitions. The second survey involved students who were within 15 hours or less of graduation about their concerns and needs regarding transfer to a senior institution. This data has provided insight into student needs that has aided both OCCC and four-year institutions to adapt their programs appropriately.

OCCC celebrates with approximately 1,100 graduates annually. Approximately half of all graduates each year graduate with an associate's of arts or science degree, which are considered university parallel or transfer degree programs. In addition to specifically targeting these graduates, the Transfer Center also focuses its outreach efforts on currently enrolled students with 45 or more hours, or those students who will likely graduate in the upcoming year. Thus, the target population for the Center is around 3,000 students.

The Transfer Center offers many services to OCCC students.

Campus Visits: Four-year institutions have the opportunity to come to our campus to recruit students. They sign up through the Coordinator's office and a calendar is placed on the website and in front of the Academic Advising Office. Each university sets up at the Transfer Center and is encouraged to leave their college's material behind for students to pick up later.

Campus Tours: The Transfer Center takes groups of students from OCCC campus to the campus of a four-year institution. While on campus, the students receive a tour, information on application and scholarship deadlines, and in some instances, are able to talk with an academic advisor from their field. The tours are generally four hours long.

Transfer Fairs: Each semester four-year institutions are invited to participate in the OCCC Transfer Fair. At the Transfer Fair, all universities are invited to set up and recruit in one room. There are consistently about 25-30 campuses represented. The Fair is from 10-2 allowing maximum exposure for the students.

Transfer Center Website: The website is www.occc.edu/transfercenter: it has many valuable resources available for our students. The website contains the calendar for Campus Visits and Campus Tours, some tips and questions to ask while researching transfer institutions and transfer equivalency guides for many of the surrounding four-year institutions.

Transfer Guide: This book was put together as a resource for students to work through as they research and choose their transfer institution. It has workbook types of pages for students to keep track of information they collect. It also has questions that they should consider asking university representatives, contact information for recruiters at each university and scholarship information for many of the surrounding institutions.