



WEST HILLS

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Priority Registration for High School Seniors

Prepared by the WHCCD Office of Institutional Effectiveness
Updated on Monday, November 14, 2011

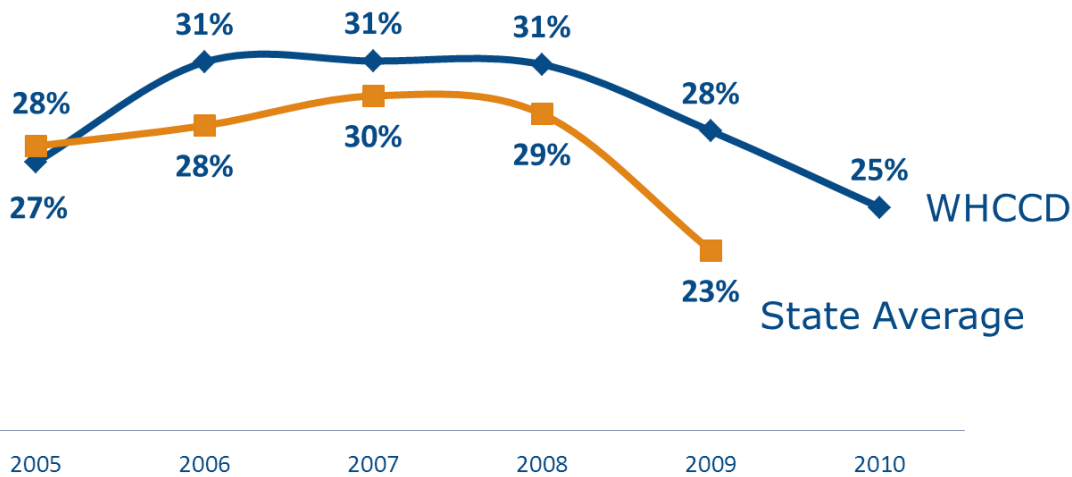
Background

In an effort to improve the registration process for students, West Hills Community College District (WHCCD) implemented a priority registration process in 2010. The original priority registration process provided early registration dates to students who were part of a categorical program or continuing students who successfully completed 12 to 70 units in prior semesters. The priority registration process improved student's registration experience by reducing load from the registration system thus improving the system's processing speed. Also, workload for student services staff was spread out over a three week priority registration period.

The priority registration process, as it was originally designed in 2010, did not provide early registration for high school seniors. Furthermore, due to state budget cuts, course sections were reduced which limited the availability of courses for all students. The district and its colleges were concerned that feeder high school seniors, who were not included as part of its priority registration process, would be negatively impacted.

West Hills Community College District, as part of its performance indicators, closely monitors enrollment rates of feeder high school seniors into its system. Recent California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC) data demonstrates a 6% decline in statewide community college going rates for high school graduates. College going rates for feeder high school graduates into WHCCD are also following a declining trend. This data supported earlier concerns on the negative impact the reduction of sections would have on high school graduates who were trying to enter community colleges.

College Going Rates of High School Graduates to CA Community Colleges



Source: California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC); WHCCD Data Warehouse

High School Seniors Priority Registration Process

In an effort to increase college going rates of feeder high school graduates, the district and its colleges decided to include feeder high school seniors as part of its priority registration process. Additionally, it was decided that, in order for high school seniors to receive priority registration, they would have to meet five matriculation requirements. These requirements would ease their transition from high school to WHCCD and provide students with tools to increase their success as college students.

High School Senior Priority Registration Requirements

1. Complete the admissions application
2. Complete the financial aid or AB540 application
3. Complete orientation for new students
4. Receive an educational plan from a counselor or advisor
5. Take math and English placement tests

The high school priority registration process was implemented during the summer and fall 2011 registration period and it required a high level of pre-planning, coordination, and communication between outreach, student services, the registrar, and enrollment management office. The colleges modified outreach strategies, focused on promoting the benefits of priority registration to high school seniors, and worked diligently to ensure all feeder high school seniors were provided the necessary services to meet priority registration requirements. Outreach staff updated the student system to reflect the completion of orientation and education plans for each student served. Students’ admissions application, placement tests, and financial aid data was automatically uploaded into the system upon completion.

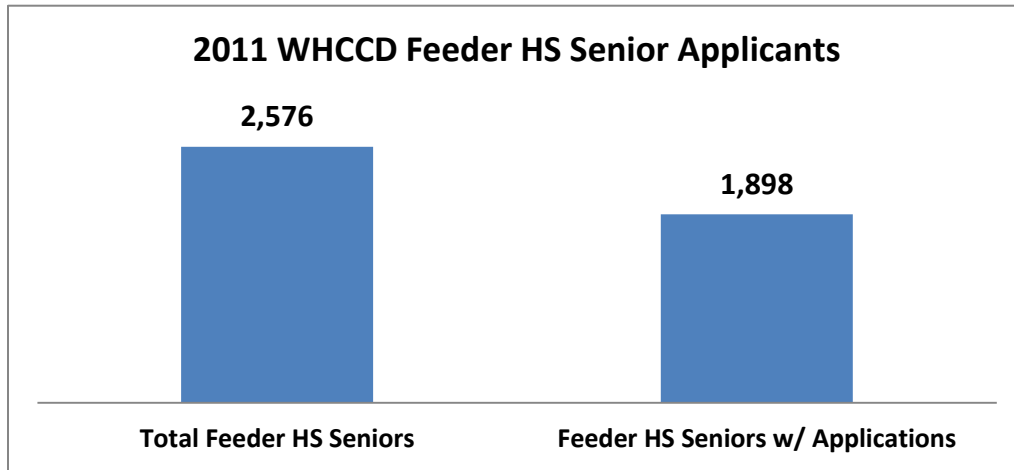
The district registrar developed a tracking report for all feeder high school seniors that applied for the summer or fall 2011 terms. The report provided a headcount of applicants by high school and displayed the number of students at each high school that met each of the priority registration requirements. The report was an important part of the process as it allowed outreach staff to drill down and identify student applicants who were missing requirements. Outreach staff scheduled follow up visits and targeted specific students who were missing priority registration requirements. The registrar and the enrollment management office developed a process to identify and grant all feeder high school applicants who met the requirements with priority registration.

| Feeder High Schools | Applied | Financial Aid | ORIENTATION | EDPLAN | READING TEST | WRITING TEST | MATH TEST |
|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| AVENAL HIGH SCHOOL | 136 | 80 | 130 | 91 | 102 | 102 | 103 |
| CARUTHERS UNION HIGH SCHOOL | 45 | 23 | 34 | 30 | 31 | 31 | 31 |
| COALINGA HIGH SCHOOL | 198 | 125 | 190 | 136 | 148 | 148 | 147 |
| CORCORAN HIGH SCHOOL | 145 | 39 | 48 | 33 | 55 | 55 | 56 |
| FAITH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY | 11 | 7 | 11 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| FIREBAUGH HIGH SCHOOL | 157 | 85 | 156 | 56 | 78 | 82 | 80 |
| HANFORD HIGH SCHOOL | 178 | 87 | 86 | 79 | 100 | 101 | 104 |
| HANFORD WEST HIGH SCHOOL | 260 | 83 | 74 | 78 | 105 | 106 | 113 |
| KINGS CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL | 10 | 3 | | 1 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| LATON HIGH SCHOOL | 45 | 32 | 32 | 33 | 39 | 39 | 39 |
| LEMOORE MIDDLE COLLEGE | 25 | 12 | 20 | 20 | 24 | 24 | 24 |
| LEMOORE UNION HIGH SCHOOL | 347 | 128 | 112 | 114 | 202 | 202 | 200 |
| MENDOTA HIGH SCHOOL | 104 | 51 | 96 | 47 | 65 | 69 | 65 |
| RIVERDALE JT UNION HIGH SCHOOL | 119 | 47 | 60 | 59 | 56 | 56 | 54 |
| TRANQUILLITY UNION HIGH SCHOOL | 118 | 56 | 111 | 60 | 69 | 71 | 70 |
| Grand Total | 1898 | 858 | 1160 | 845 | 1090 | 1102 | 1102 |

Results

Applicants

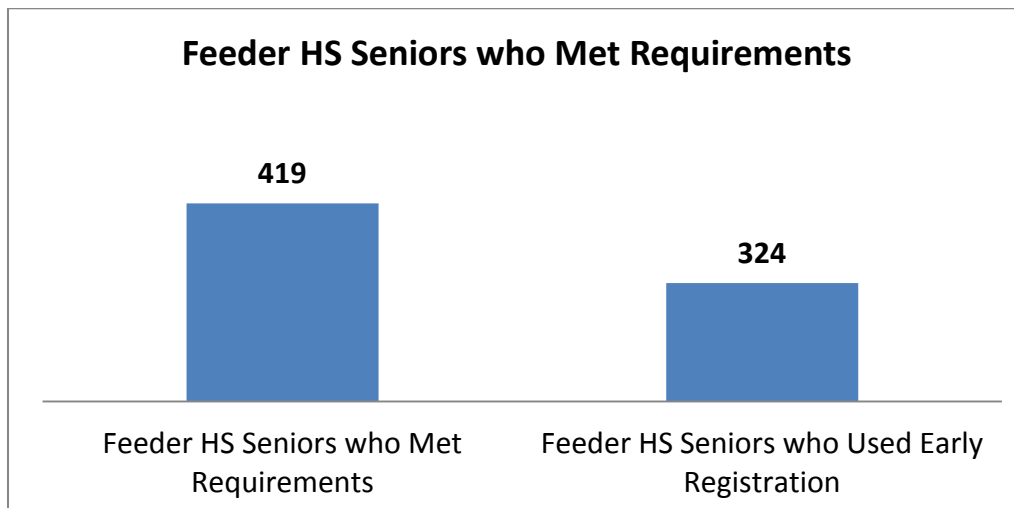
Outreach staff utilized a blanket approach that encouraged all feeder high school seniors (2,576) to apply to WHCCD. Approximately 74 % (1,898) of feeder high school seniors completed the admissions application.



Source: WHCCD Data Warehouse

Priority Registration

A total of 419 feeder high school seniors who registered at WHCCD met the requirements for priority registration. Of those, 324 (77%) took advantage of the early registration date that was made available to them.



Note: Fifty-three seniors who completed requirements qualified as AB540 students.

Source: WHCCD Data Warehouse

Impact on Matriculation Requirements

A total of 693 high school seniors applied and enrolled at WHCCD for the fall 2011 term. Sixty-one percent (419) of those students completed all priority registration requirements (Financial aid application, orientation, Ed plan, and placement tests) and thirty-eight percent partially completed the requirements. Only one percent of students did not meet any of the requirements.

| SCHOOL | Total First-Term Students | Met All Requirements | Partially Met Requirements | Did not Meet any Requirements |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| AVENAL HIGH SCHOOL | 75 | 76% | 24% | 0% |
| CARUTHERS UNION HIGH SCHOOL | 17 | 65% | 35% | 0% |
| COALINGA HIGH SCHOOL | 112 | 77% | 23% | 0% |
| CORCORAN HIGH SCHOOL | 25 | 36% | 64% | 0% |
| FAITH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY | 7 | 71% | 29% | 0% |
| FIREBAUGH HIGH SCHOOL | 55 | 64% | 36% | 0% |
| HANFORD HIGH SCHOOL | 72 | 61% | 35% | 4% |
| HANFORD WEST HIGH SCHOOL | 54 | 41% | 59% | 0% |
| KINGS CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL | 6 | 0% | 83% | 17% |
| LATON HIGH SCHOOL | 20 | 85% | 15% | 0% |
| LEMOORE MIDDLE COLLEGE | 15 | 73% | 27% | 0% |
| LEMOORE UNION HIGH SCHOOL | 119 | 45% | 52% | 3% |
| MENDOTA HIGH SCHOOL | 42 | 67% | 31% | 2% |
| RIVERDALE JT UNION HIGH SCHOOL | 37 | 57% | 41% | 3% |
| TRANQUILLITY UNION HIGH SCHOOL | 37 | 51% | 49% | 0% |
| Total | 693 | 61% | 38% | 1% |

Source: WHCCD Data Warehouse

Impact on College-Going Rates

The table below shows seven years of feeder high school graduate enrollments at WHCCD. The dramatic decrease in feeder high school enrollments during fall 2010 was due in part to state budget cuts and reduction of courses but primarily to the implementation of the district’s new priority registration process which did not include high school seniors. During the fall 2011, the district modified its priority registration process to include high school seniors and enrollment of high school graduates at WHCCD increased dramatically by 34%. These preliminary results show strong evidence that priority registration for high school seniors can have a positive impact on college-going rates.

| High School | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| AVENAL | 32 | 68 | 38 | 35 | 58 | 55 | 73 |
| CARUTHERS | 9 | 10 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 16 |
| COALINGA | 85 | 116 | 88 | 120 | 119 | 100 | 112 |
| CORCORAN | 16 | 3 | 17 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 25 |
| FAITH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| FIREBAUGH | 47 | 39 | 40 | 52 | 61 | 49 | 54 |
| HANFORD | 62 | 94 | 94 | 76 | 67 | 37 | 72 |
| HANFORD WEST | 69 | 52 | 56 | 66 | 59 | 56 | 52 |
| KINGS CHRISTIAN | 8 | 9 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 7 |
| LATON | 10 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 19 |
| LEMOORE MIDDLE COLLEGE | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 15 |
| LEMOORE UNION | 127 | 140 | 153 | 142 | 140 | 108 | 119 |
| MENDOTA | 28 | 36 | 32 | 35 | 36 | 32 | 42 |
| RIVERDALE | 11 | 17 | 18 | 25 | 24 | 32 | 32 |
| TRANQUILLITY | 16 | 12 | 7 | 16 | 24 | 26 | 37 |
| Total | 520 | 601 | 560 | 578 | 599 | 509 | 682 |
| % Change | Baseline | 16% | -7% | 3% | 4% | -15% | 34% |

Source: WHCCD Data Warehouse