

## Award-Seeking Students Transferring to Four-Year Institutions in 3 and 6 Years

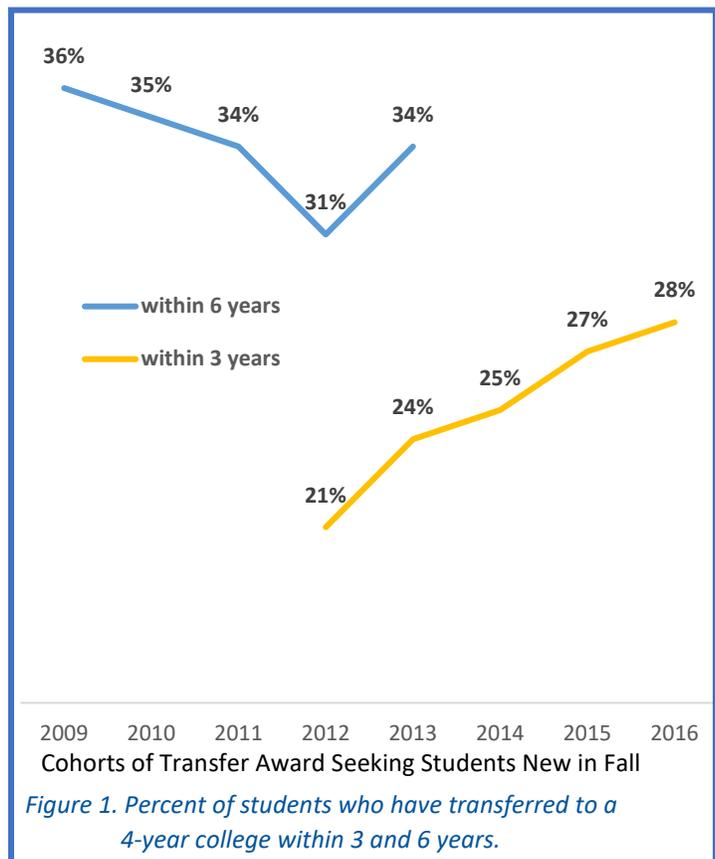
	Previous	Current	Trend	Target	Rating
3 years	27% (Fall 2015 cohort)	28% (Fall 2016 cohort)	↗	29%	Emerging
6 years	31% (Fall 2012 cohort)	34% (Fall 2013 cohort)	↗	36%	

Mission Fulfillment Indicator (MFI) 16 measures the rates at which Fall cohorts of new, award-seeking students who identified as “transfer only” or “degree seeking” are documented as transferring to a 4-year college within 3 and 6 years, respectively. For this MFI, new students include those with early college courses completed during high school. Because transfer to a 4-year institution is the primary educational goal for many Lane students, MFI 16 is a critical lagging indicator of mission fulfillment.

### Discussion

As shown in Figure 1, tracking data shows that, while cohorts beginning in fall 2009 through fall 2012 experienced a decline in the 6-year transfer rate, both 3-year and 6-year rates have increased since 2012. This turnaround correlates with the College joining Achieving the Dream in 2011, which was an effort to focus institutional attention and resources on improving student success outcomes. The recent positive trend in 3-year transfer rates suggests that 6-year rates may also rise for the 2014, 2015, and 2016 cohorts once data become available.

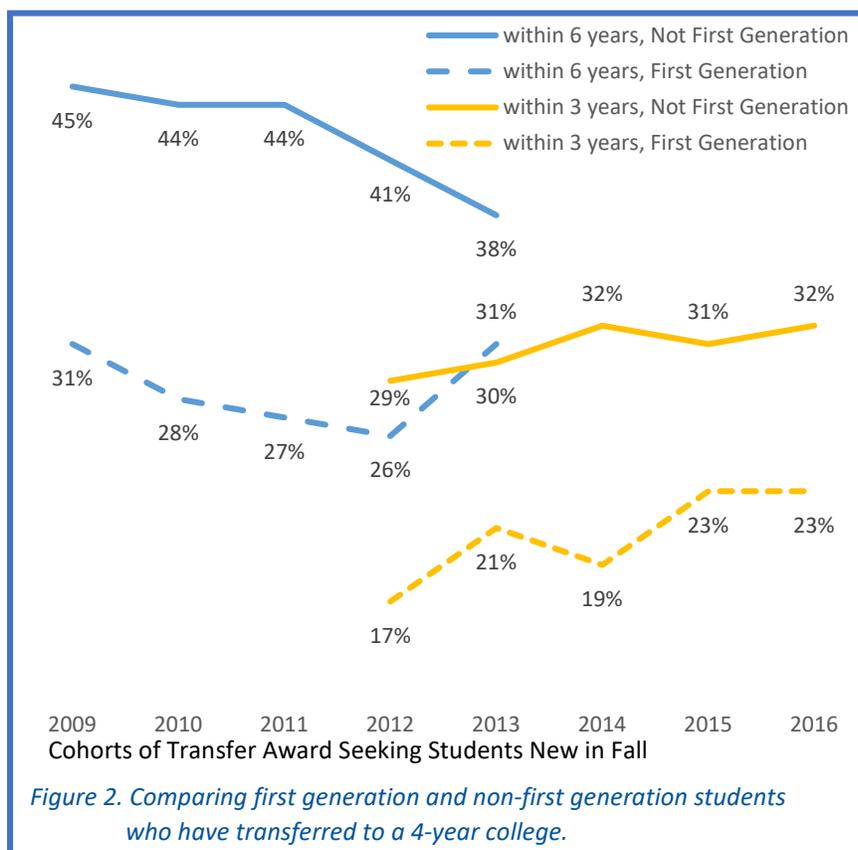
A recent study confirms that Lane’s total success rate has also risen since 2011. Lane’s total success rate is the rate at which students graduate or transfer or both during a given time period. For the most recent cohort analyzed, fall 2015, Lane’s 3-year total success rate was 40%, with 8.6% of the cohort graduating without transferring, 31.2% transferring without graduating, and 5.7% graduating and transferring within 3 years.



## Deeper Data Dive

Figure 2 demonstrates that, of the factors the College examined, a student's status as "first generation" had the strongest relationship to transfer rates. First-generation students are defined as students whose parents have not completed a four-year degree from a college or university.

Disaggregated data show that first-generation students transferred at rates 7 to 14 percentage points lower than students who were not identified as the first generation. Six-year transfer rates of first-generation students were similar to 3-year rates of other members of the cohort.



## Peer Comparisons

The accreditation process calls for evidence-informed self-reflection along with meaningful comparison against peers to provide a contextualized perspective on an institution's quality. Comparing [Voluntary Framework of Accountability](#) (VFA) cohort (which differs slightly from standard cohorts) Table 1, Lane's 6-year transfer rate for the 2013 cohort was 3% to 10% lower than comparison colleges. We take this as a challenge to further improve.

	Fall 2013 Cohort	Percent who Transferred
Lane	1,357	31.5%
Chemeketa	1,351	35.1%
Linn-Benton	923	41.6%
Mt Hood	1,636	34.3%

## Lessons Learned & Next Steps

Guided Pathway's goals for 2020-21 include implementation of a First Year Experience course (FYE) which will provide structured opportunities for career exploration and assist students in identifying an academic pathway that aligns with their career goals and may include transfer to an appropriate 4-year college. One goal of FYE is to nurture a sense of engagement and belonging at Lane among incoming students; this sense of connection and community is especially crucial to the success of first-generation students.