CLEP
New Student Orientation (NSO) Survey
Summary of Results
May 2006

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I. General New Student Orientation (NSO) Information

1. Please describe your institution (two-year/four-year).

   ![Pie chart showing distribution between two-year and four-year institutions.]

   - Two-year, 37%
   - Four-year, 63%
   n=310

2. Does your institution offer a formal New Student Orientation (NSO) program?

   ![Pie chart showing distribution between those who do and do not offer NSO.]

   - Yes, 85%
   - No, 15%
   n=310

2a. How many times per calendar year does your institution offer NSO?

   - Once a year: 17%
   - Twice a year: 31%
   - More: 42%
   - Other*: 9%

   n=267

*Selected “Other” responses include: 3 times; 10 times; 12 times; ongoing; on an individual basis.
2b. When is the primary NSO for your institution?

- Jan: 76
- Feb: 8
- Mar: 19
- Apr: 30
- May: 39
- Jun: 91
- Jul: 83
- Aug: 154
- Sep: 24
- Oct: 12
- Nov: 18
- Dec: 21

2c. Does your institution offer a specific NSO for international students?

- Yes, 34%
- No, 66%

n=267

If yes, when?

- Aug: 57
- Jul: 9
- Jun: 5
- May: 1
- Apr: 4
- Mar: 2
- Feb: 0
- Jan: 26
- Sep: 4
- Oct: 1
- Nov: 0
- Dec: 2
2d. Does your institution offer a specific NSO for transfer students?

- Yes, 37%
- No, 63%

If yes, when?

2e. Does your institution offer a specific NSO for returning adult students?

- Yes, 22%
- No, 78%

If yes, when?
2f. Does your institution offer any other kind of NSO (such as an NSO for commuter students, for example)?

![Pie chart showing the responses to 2f.]

If yes, please describe.

Selected responses include (in order of frequency):
- Distance/online learners
- NSOs for specific major programs
- Evening and off-campus students
- Concurrent students (high school/college)
- Honors students
- Students from branch campuses.

2g. Which division/department/office is responsible for your NSO?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division/Department/Office</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Services</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment Management</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admissions</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other*</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Selected “Other” responses include (in order of frequency): Student Development/Activities/Life
A combination of Student Services, Enrollment Management, Admissions
Academic Affairs/Services
Advising
Counseling
Recruitment
Dean’s office
Advising and Testing
3. Are students at your institution required to take an orientation course during their first semester as part of their academic requirements?

- No, 56%
- Yes, 44%

n=267
II. CLEP and NSO at Your Institution

1. Do you send information about CLEP to students prior to your institution’s NSO?

- Yes, 24%
- No, 76%

n=270

If yes, what type of information do you send? Check all that apply.

- Letters to students featuring CLEP: 62%
- CLEP Take-One brochures: 38%
- Flyers, leaflets, or sheets about your CLEP policy
- Other*: 29%
- Other*: 16%

n=63

*Selected “Other” responses include:
- CLEP information is available on our Web site
- CLEP is mentioned during the campus tour
- CLEP information is available in the catalog or in academic literature
- CLEP information is distributed during recruitment
- CLEP information is available in the campus newspaper

If no, why? Check all that apply.

- Information going to students restricted by college policy: 27%
- Not enough staff or resources: 17%
- Have never thought of it: 29%
- Other*: 14%

n=191
2. Are students informed about CLEP testing during NSO?

If yes, how? Check all that apply.

- Presentations for students: 42%
- Copies of our policy and test center information: 49%
- CLEP Take-One brochures and other material: 58%
- Other*: 17%

n=170

*Selected “Other” responses include (in order of frequency): CLEP is discussed as part of general NSO sessions or classes CLEP information is offered in the catalog or in other academic literature CLEP information is available on our Web site Advisors offer CLEP as an option to students CLEP information is offered prior to NSO
3. Do you offer CLEP testing at designated times during NSO?

- Yes, 25%
- No, 75%

n=268

4. Do you prepare advisers/counselors to talk about CLEP during NSO?

- Yes, 41%
- No, 59%

n=267

If yes, how do you prepare them?

- Distribute CLEP Advising Kits: 41%
- Hold a CLEP Open House or information session: 55%
- Call, email, or visit advisers to answer questions: 23%
- Other*: 10%

n=112

*Selected “Other” responses include (in order of frequency):
- Provide flyers or information sheets
- Provide information at faculty/staff meetings
- Advising staff are already aware of CLEP
- Direct advising staff to the Web site
III. Your Involvement in NSO

1. If you and/or your team are currently involved in NSO:

   a. How many years have you been part of NSO?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-2 years</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4 years</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-6 years</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More*</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   n=167

   *Those who selected “More” (as a percentage of the total responses):
   - 7–10 years: 7%
   - 11–15 years: 8%
   - 16–20 years: 1%
   - >20 years: 5%

   b. Please rate the benefit to your Testing/Assessment Unit as the result of your involvement in NSO.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Great benefit</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some benefit</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No benefit</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   n=217

   c. Please rate the effectiveness of presenting CLEP during NSO, in terms of making students more aware of CLEP options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effectiveness</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very effective</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat effective</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not effective</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   n=201
d. Have you seen an increase in testing volume as a result of your involvement in the NSO?

If yes:

I. How have you documented the increase?

Selected responses include (in order of frequency):
Annual report
No current documentation
Monthly report
By observation; no formal documentation

II. Have you reported the volume increase to your supervisor and your institution's administration?

III. Has the increase in testing volume benefited your center?
IV. If so, how?

Selected responses include (in order of frequency):
- Added revenue
- Increased visibility on campus
- Greater benefit to students
- Additional funding and resources
- Extra testing stations/computers
- More staff
V. CLEP and NSO at Your Institution: Response Breakdown for Institutions Promoting CLEP during NSO

For question III1d, 35% of respondents indicated that they had seen an increase in testing volume as a result of their involvement in NSO, while 65% indicated that they did not.

We analyzed the responses that these two groups of respondents gave to the questions in section II (CLEP and NSO at Your Institution) in order to determine whether differences in their orientation practices might account for their differing CLEP volume outcomes.

Do you send information about CLEP to students prior to your institution’s NSO?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Volume Increase</th>
<th>No Volume Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, 37%</td>
<td>No, 63%</td>
<td>Yes, 22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If yes, what do you send?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Volume Increase</th>
<th>No Volume Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flyers, leaflets, or sheets about your CLEP policy</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLEP Take-One brochures</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters to students featuring CLEP</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Are students informed about CLEP testing during NSO?

**Volume Increase**
- Yes, 88%
- No, 13%

**No Volume Increase**
- Yes, 32%
- No, 23%

If yes, how?

**Volume Increase**
- Presentations for students: 51%
- Copies of our policy and test center information: 54%
- CLEP Take-One brochures and other material: 68%
- Other: 0%

**No Volume Increase**
- Presentations for students: 37%
- Copies of our policy and test center information: 40%
- CLEP Take-One brochures and other material: 46%
- Other: 15%
Do you offer CLEP testing at designated times during NSO?

- **Volume Increase**
  - Yes, 47%
  - No, 53%

- **No Volume Increase**
  - Yes, 17%
  - No, 83%

Do you prepare advisors/counselors to talk about CLEP during NSO?

- **Volume Increase**
  - Yes, 59%
  - No, 41%

- **No Volume Increase**
  - Yes, 40%
  - No, 60%

If yes, how do you prepare them?

**Volume Increase**
- Other* 15%
- Call, email, or visit advisers to answer questions 66%
- Hold a CLEP Open House or information session 17%
- Distribute CLEP Advising Kits 46%

**No Volume Increase**
- Other* 15%
- Call, email, or visit advisers to answer questions 51%
- Hold a CLEP Open House or information session 4%
- Distribute CLEP Advising Kits 40%