

## **Hibbing Community College**

### **Student Right-To-Know Graduation and Transfer-Out Rates**

#### **What is Student Right-To-Know?**

Student Right-To-Know is a federal law that requires all colleges and universities to disclose certain information to students. This handout provides the information that a college must provide to students on graduation rates and transfer-out rates for full-time students seeking degrees at Hibbing Community College (HCC).

#### **What is a graduation rate and what is a transfer-out rate?**

Federal regulations specify how to calculate the graduation and transfer rates. The rates come from a study of Hibbing Community College students who started at the college in the fall of 2007. The study includes all first-time students who enrolled full-time that fall and were seeking to earn a degree, diploma or certificate at the college. The **graduation rate** is the percentage of these students who graduated from HCC within three years. The **transfer-out rate** is the percentage of these students who did not graduate from HCC, but instead transferred to another college or university within three years.

#### **What do I need to know about these rates?**

These rates do not report on all students at Hibbing Community College. The 305 first-time, full-time students in the study were 22 percent of all students enrolled at HCC in fall of 2007.

#### **What are the graduation and transfer-out rates for Hibbing Community College students and how do they compare to rates for other colleges?**

- The **graduation rate** for HCC was 31 percent.
- The **transfer-out rate** for HCC was 20 percent.
- The combination of the graduation rate and the transfer-out rate for HCC was 52 percent. The national average combined rate for similar colleges was 40 percent.

#### **Why don't more Hibbing Community College students graduate or transfer in three years?**

- Since HCC has an “open door” mission, many new students need to take “developmental” courses to improve their reading, writing or math skills before taking other college courses;
- Students who switch from full-time to part-time enrollment or “stop out” for one or more semesters are more likely to take more than three years to graduate;
- Some students take jobs before they graduate;
- Other students delay their education for personal, family or financial reasons.