

CCSSE 2016 Survey: Item 14: Issues that may cause students to withdraw from class or college.

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SCC has participated in the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) the past several years. This national survey covers a wide range of information related to how students engage in their classwork and other aspects of college life. Of interest in these times of declining enrollment, the CCSSE provides information about factors that students perceive as likely to cause them to leave a class or the college.

Of the factors included on the survey, those most likely to result in survey respondents withdrawing from class or college were working full time, a lack of funds and transfer to a 4-year college or university.

Percent of respondents indicating that specific factors would be likely + very likely to cause students to withdraw from class or from the college (2016 SCC CCSSE survey, values have been rounded to the nearest whole percent)		
Factor	Student respondents Percent likely + very likely	Faculty respondents Percent likely + very likely
Being academically unprepared	24%	80%
Caring for dependents	31%	79%
Working full time	48%	86%
Lack of finances	48%	80%
Transfer to a 4-year college	53%	38%

Being academically unprepared: In 2016, only 24% of SCC student respondents indicated that it was likely or very likely that being academically unprepared would cause them to withdraw from class or from college. Since the majority of SCC students place into below-transfer levels of Math and English, this is a somewhat surprising result. Faculty respondents rated this issue as highly likely to result in students withdrawing from classes or college.

Caring for dependents: In 2016, 31% of SCC student respondents indicated that it was likely or very likely that caring for dependents would cause them to withdraw from class or from college. On another 2016 CCSSE survey item, 23% of student respondents indicated that they spent more than 10 hours per week caring for dependents. Faculty respondents rated this issue as highly likely to result in students withdrawing from classes or college.

Working full-time: In 2016, 48% of SCC student respondents indicated that it was likely or very likely that working full time would cause them to withdraw from class or from college. On another 2016 CCSSE item, 27% of respondents indicated that they worked more than 30 hours per week. Faculty respondents rated this issue as highly likely to result in students withdrawing from classes or college.

Lack of finances: In 2016, 48% of SCC student respondents indicated that it was likely or very likely that a lack of finances would cause them to withdraw from class or from college. The 2016 CCSSE also had some special focus items related to student finances. Over 50% of SCC respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement “I always find myself living paycheck-to-paycheck.” Faculty respondents rated this issue as highly likely to result in students withdrawing from classes or college.

Transfer to a 4-year college or university: In 2016, 53% of SCC student respondents indicated that it was likely or very likely that transferring to a 4-year school would cause them to withdraw from class or from college. On another 2016 CCSSE survey item, 69.3% of respondents indicated that transfer to a 4-year college or university was a primary reason for attending SCC. Faculty respondents rated this issue as less likely to result in students withdrawing from classes or college.

Student Responses:**How likely is it that the following issues would cause you to withdraw from class or from this college?**

Item		N	%
14a. Working full-time	Not likely	418	32.5
	Somewhat likely	256	19.9
	Likely	263	20.4
	Very likely	350	27.2
	Total	1,288	100
14b. Caring for dependents	Not likely	588	46.1
	Somewhat likely	287	22.5
	Likely	220	17.3
	Very likely	180	14.1
	Total	1,276	100
14c. Being academically unprepared	Not likely	616	48.1
	Somewhat likely	353	27.6
	Likely	180	14.1
	Very likely	130	10.2
	Total	1,279	100
14d. Lack of finances	Not likely	358	28
	Somewhat likely	307	24
	Likely	263	20.5
	Very likely	353	27.5
	Total	1,282	100
14e. Transfer to a 4-year college or university	Not likely	382	30
	Somewhat likely	217	17
	Likely	220	17.3
	Very likely	455	35.7
	Total	1,274	100

Faculty Responses: How likely is it that the following issues would cause students to withdraw from class or from this college			
Item		N	%
Working full-time	Not likely	1	1.1
	Somewhat likely	12	12.8
	Likely	28	29.8
	Very likely	53	56.4
	Total	94	100
Caring for dependents?	Not likely	1	1.1
	Somewhat likely	19	20.2
	Likely	42	44.7
	Very likely	32	34
	Total	94	100
Being academically unprepared	Not likely	0	N/A
	Somewhat likely	19	20.2
	Likely	33	35.1
	Very likely	42	44.7
	Total	94	100
Lack of finances	Not likely	0	N/A
	Somewhat likely	19	20.2
	Likely	31	33
	Very likely	44	46.8
	Total	94	100
Transferring to a 4-year college or university	Not likely	25	27.5
	Somewhat likely	31	34.1
	Likely	27	29.7
	Very likely	8	8.8
	Total	91	100