

- According to both the Department of Education and the National Association of College Admissions Counselors, nearly 60% of college students will start and end their college careers at different schools. Westmont has a high retention rate, meaning we often see our students persist and complete their college education once they are enrolled and admitted into the institution. We do not have a high number of students that transfer out of Westmont. Instead, we inherit a larger

Suggestions for Helping Your Student Transition

- _____: Your transfer student has learned something from his or her experience in their former college and can take advantage of that knowledge while still experiencing a clean slate at a new school. !
- _____: Your student will be most successful if they know themselves well, understand their strengths, challenges and passions, and evaluate their reasons for the transfer. According to the 2009 National Survey of Student Engagement, transfer students may be less “engaged” in high impact activities such as study abroad, internships, research, or capstone experiences, so your student may need you to remind them to seek out those opportunities – and affirmed in their decision to be at Westmont. !
- _____: It is important that your student think beyond the actual transfer process itself and give thought and attention to what comes next as they settle into Westmont. So. . . !
- _____ Here are a few suggestions that you might want to keep in mind and pass on to your student in order to encourage their entrance into the community:!
 - o Encourage questions about anything that doesn't seem clear or is confusing.
 - o Get to know their RA and ask them questions—RAs love welcoming and resourcing new students!
 - o Attend a Res Life event and get to know other students living in your residence hall and section.
 - o Identify a professor with whom you'd like to attend office hours. Ask them about classwork, their journey into their discipline and their experiences at Westmont.
 - o Explore and commit to one group, club or activity. Identifying one, or a few, places of involvement can be rewarding while also prevent over-extension for the student.
 - o Find a mentor.