

Board of Visitors

February 6-8, 2019

Page 1 of 4

Persistence: The Success of Students Who Transfer from Community Colleges to Selective Four-Year Institutions

Jennifer Glynn, Ph.D.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation has recently released a research study focused on community college transfer students. The data demonstrated that community college transfer students are not only successful at four-year institutions, but that they graduate at higher rates than students who transfer from other four-year institutions, as well as students who enter four-year institutions directly from high school.

The following charts were excerpted from this report:

- **Exhibit 20: One-Year Retention Rates by Student Type, and Institutional Selectivity**

The research report categorized four-year institutions by their competitiveness in order to examine how community college students fared in each of these environments.

As can be seen from this chart, students who transferred from a community college to a four-year institution had higher retention rates than those transferring from another four-year college as well as those entering directly from high school, and that this pattern held true for each of the institutional competitiveness categories.

- **Exhibit 21: Six-Year Graduation Rates by Student Type and Institutional Selectivity**

This chart demonstrates that students who transferred from community colleges consistently graduated from four-year institutions at higher rates than did students who transferred from another four-year institution or students entering directly from high school.

EXHIBIT 20: ONE-YEAR RETENTION RATES, BY STUDENT TYPE AND INSTITUTIONAL SELECTIVITY

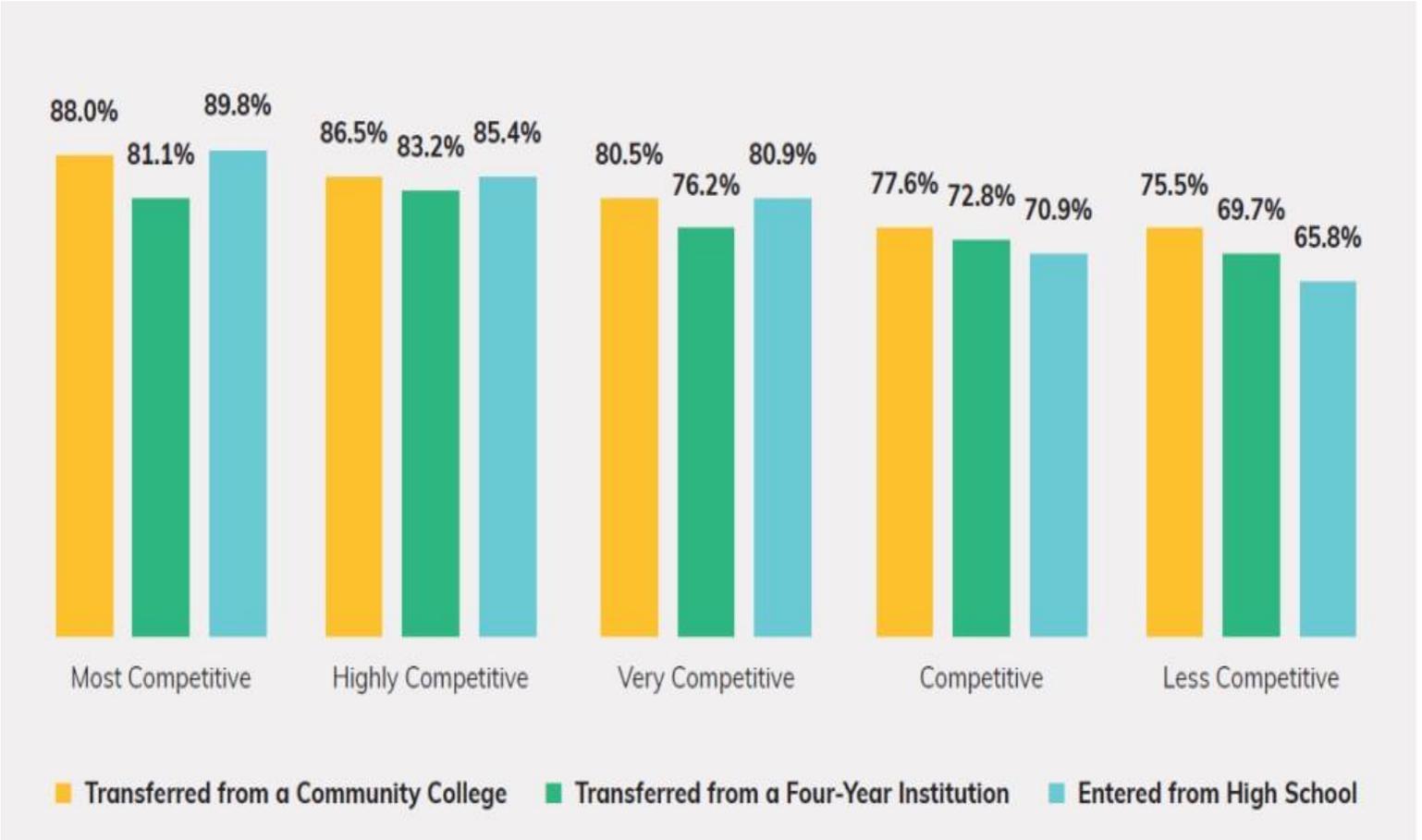
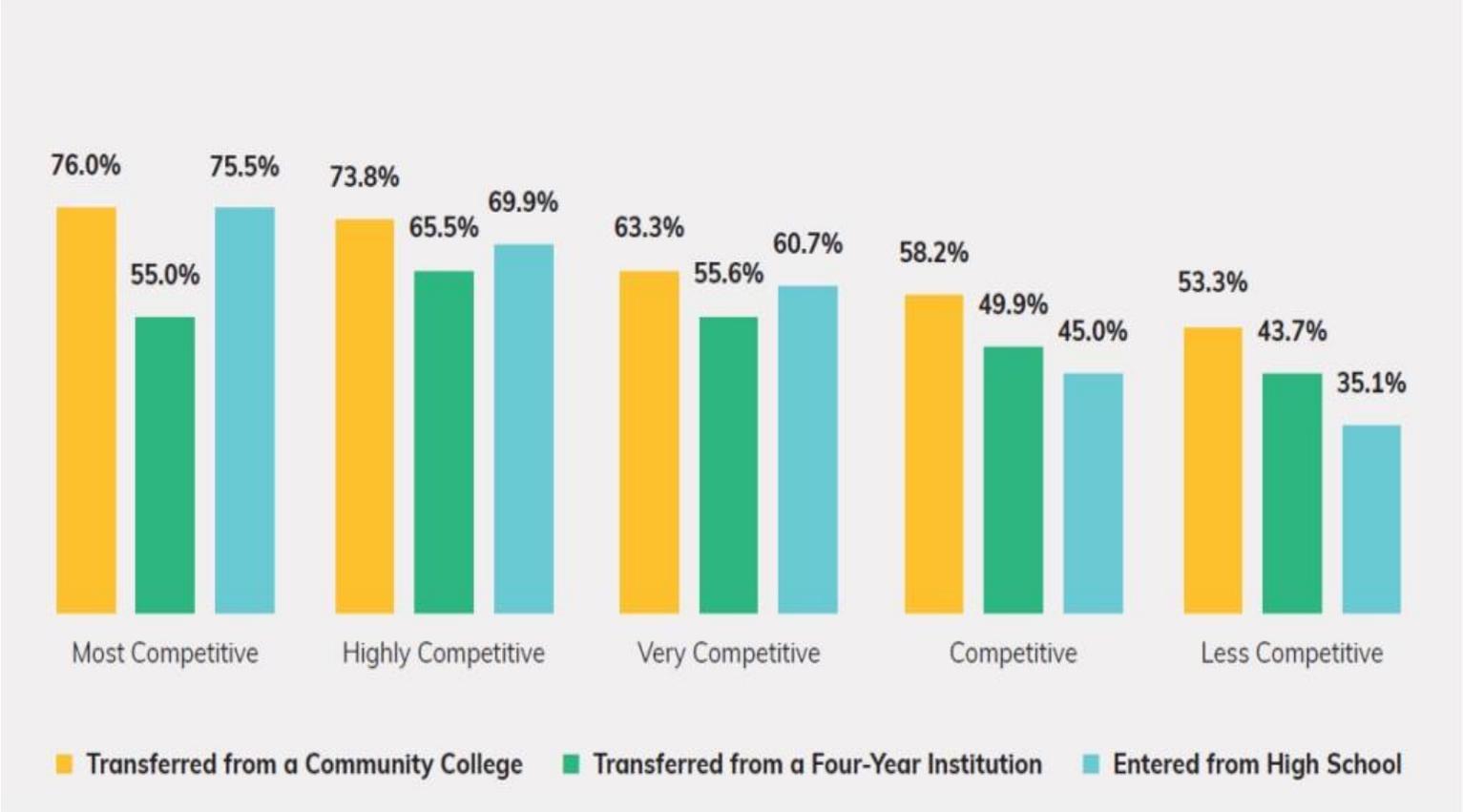


EXHIBIT 21: SIX-YEAR GRADUATION RATES, BY STUDENT TYPE AND INSTITUTIONAL SELECTIVITY





Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship

Application Open
SEPT. 13 - NOV. 27, 2018

Apply Online
JKCF.ORG/TRANSFER

The Program Experience

The Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship is a highly selective scholarship for the nation's top community college students seeking to complete their bachelor's degrees at four-year colleges or universities. Each Cooke Scholar has access to generous financial support for two to three years, college planning support, ongoing advising, and the opportunity to connect with the thriving community of fellow scholars. As part of their scholarship, recipients may:

- Receive up to \$40,000 per year to use toward tuition, books, and other fees and expenses at any accredited four-year institution.
- Pursue any area of study.
- Have access to personal advising about selecting a college, navigating financial aid, and maximizing their experience at their new institution.
- Be eligible to apply for the Cooke Graduate Scholarship.

Who We Select

Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship recipients are selected from a nationwide applicant pool each year. As minimum criteria, students must:

- Be a current student at an accredited U.S. community college or two-year institution with sophomore status or a recent graduate (within the last five years).
- Intend to enroll full time in an accredited four-year college or university in fall 2019.
- Earn a cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.5 in college.
- Demonstrate financial need. We will consider applicants with family income up to \$95,000. Last year's cohort of new transfer scholarship recipients had a median family income of approximately \$32,000.

Cooke Scholars come from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds and from rural, suburban, and urban communities. Many scholars are the first in their families to pursue higher education.