



2024 Dorm Student Nandagikendan (Seek to Learn) Academy



Ariel Johnson

2024 DORM STUDENT NANDAGIKENDAN (SEEK TO LEARN) ACADEMY

The 2024 New/Returning Student Academy for dorm students was held August 19th through August 23rd. Students moved into the dorms on August 19th in the morning and sessions began after lunch that day. Both groups of students attended many events together to inform new students and remind returning students of the resources that are available both on and off campus. The Academy was not mandatory nor enforced. Students attended on their own accord and attendance trended to decline over the week, though the important sessions were at the start of the Academy. After an opening ceremony and welcome speeches, students learned about campus safety and sexual harassment prevention, resources on campus, and information about financial aid and FAFSA in the afternoon on August 19th. August 20th included mock college classes with FDLTCC faculty for new students and mock university classes with guest instructors from local universities for returning students. New students completed the online orientation, signed into their campus accounts, and found their class schedules during in the afternoon of August 20th. Returning students learned about their degree audit report and how to use their graduation planner if they wanted to transfer to a university in the afternoon on the 20th, but mostly had time to complete other start-of-the-semester tasks. August 21st was used to

inform students of student clubs, organizations, and work study positions on campus before having a guest speaker from JET present on how to build a resume. In the afternoon, students toured Cloquet to learn about the resources they can find in the community. Students participated in teambuilding activities in the morning on August 22nd before visiting Canal Park in Duluth in the afternoon. The final day included a Meet and Greet for new students and a future planning session for returning students. Figure 1 illustrates the attendance of both new and returning students throughout the Academy.

Brief feedback from students included adding an introduction activity for students to get to know each other's names on the first day to make connections sooner in the Academy. Another recommendation was to have more time on the first day to allow students to settle into the dorms. A review of the schedule determined activities that could be adjusted to allow more time for students to settle into the dorms.

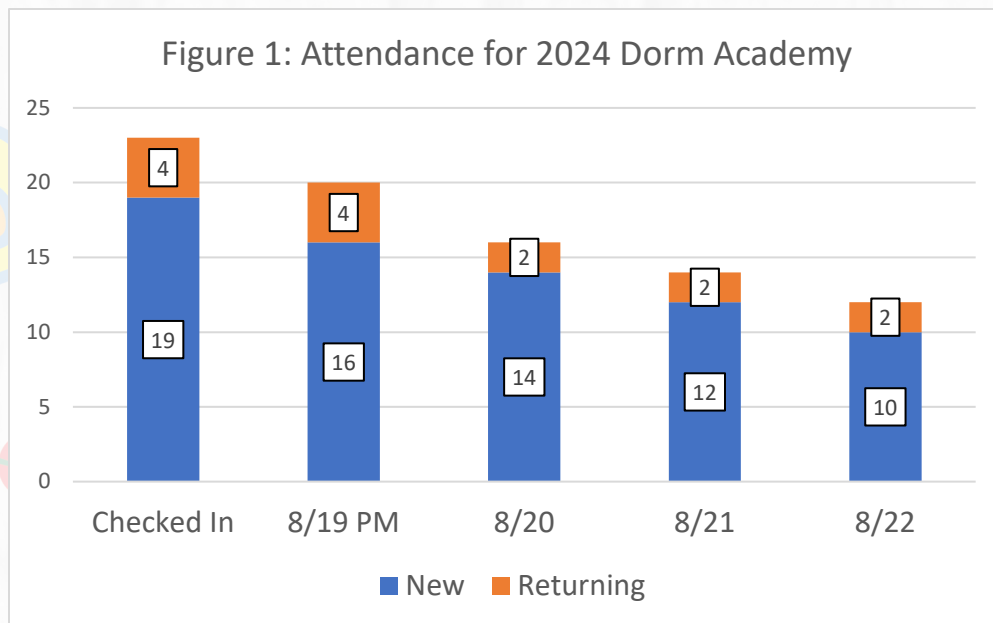


Figure 1: Attendance of both new and returning students for the 2024 Dorm Academy. Students attended the important sessions during the first two days of the Academy, but attendance did decline through the rest of the week when the leisurely activities and teambuilding activities took place. Three of the four returning students are third year students.

Figure 2: New Student Pre-Survey Results to Yes/No Questions

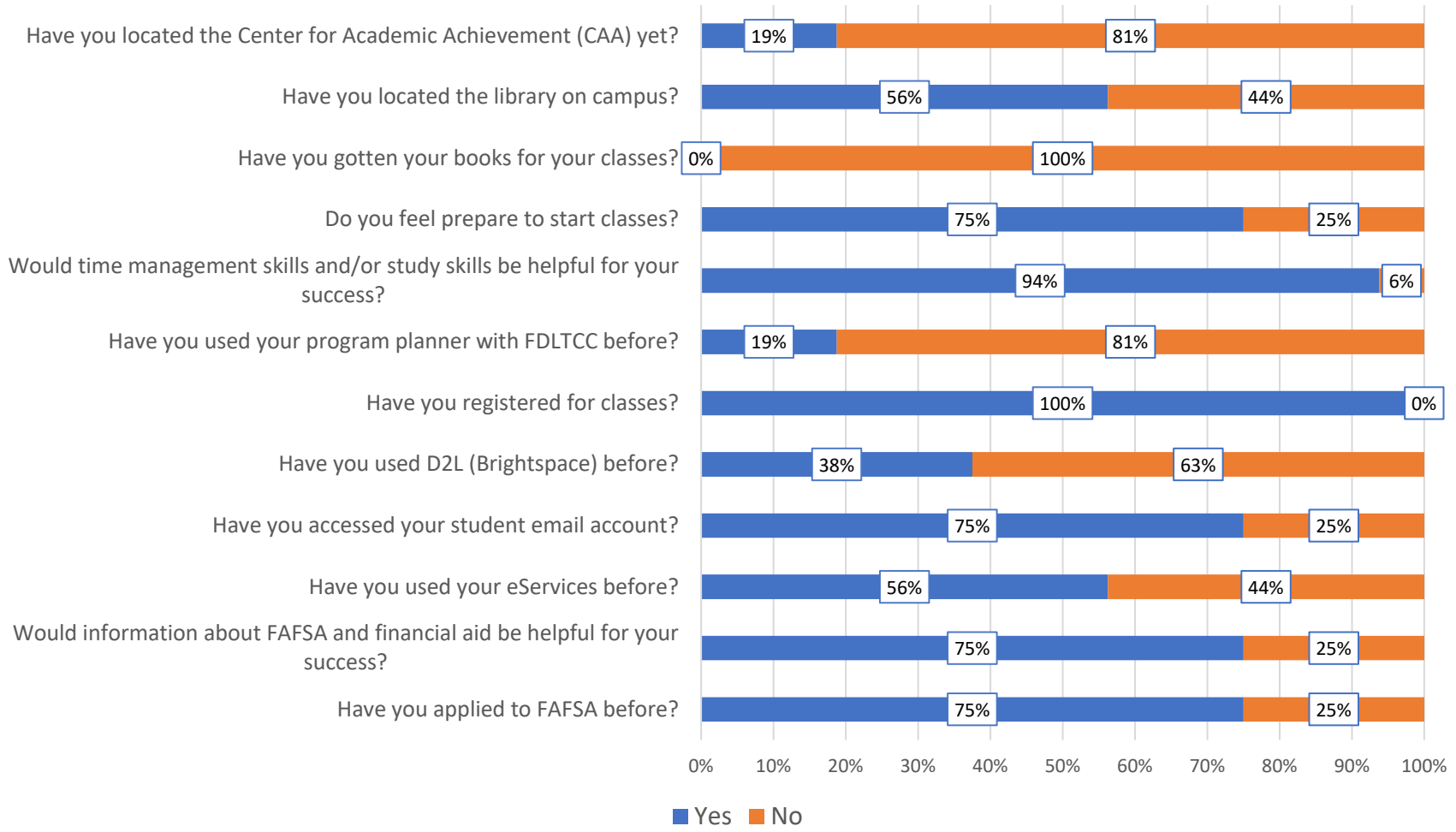


Figure 2: Results from the new student pre-survey. While 100% of students had registered for their classes prior to the Academy, students had other tasks to complete before the start of the semester during the Academy, such as purchasing books. The Academy activities assisted students in accessing D2L, aiding in completing FAFSA, and guiding students through their eServices accounts.

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Figure 3: New Student Post-Survey Results to Yes/No Questions

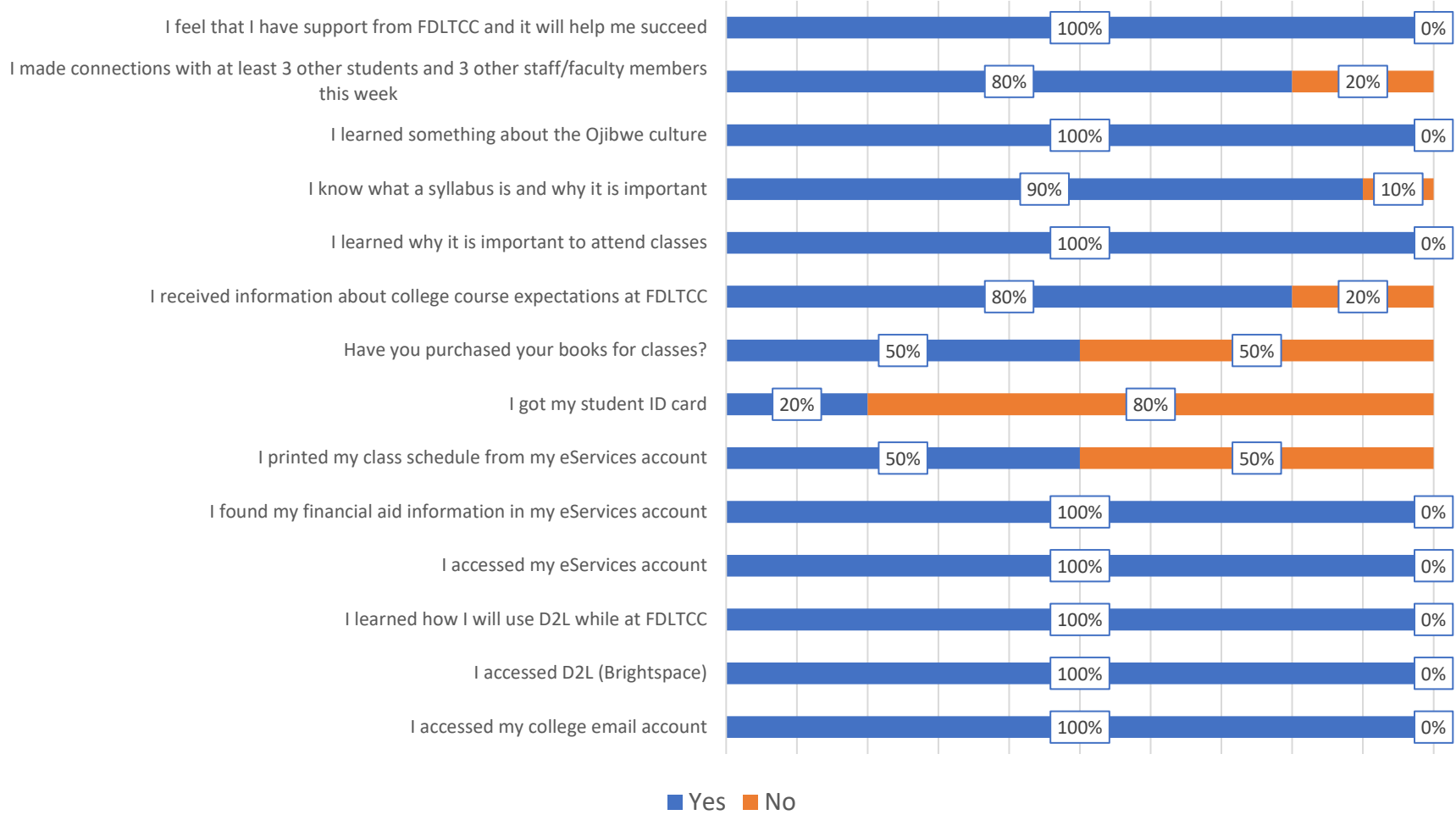


Figure 3: The survey results from the post-Survey that new students completed. Students were not able to print their schedules due to printers being down. Students were only able to get their student IDs the first week of classes rather than during the Academy. There was a delay in some books being shipped to campus, which meant that some students were not able to purchase all their books. As for the students who responded “no” to the college course expectations, student attendance varied during the week and some students did not attend the mock classes at all.

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Figure 4: Returning Students Pre-Survey Results to Yes/No Questions

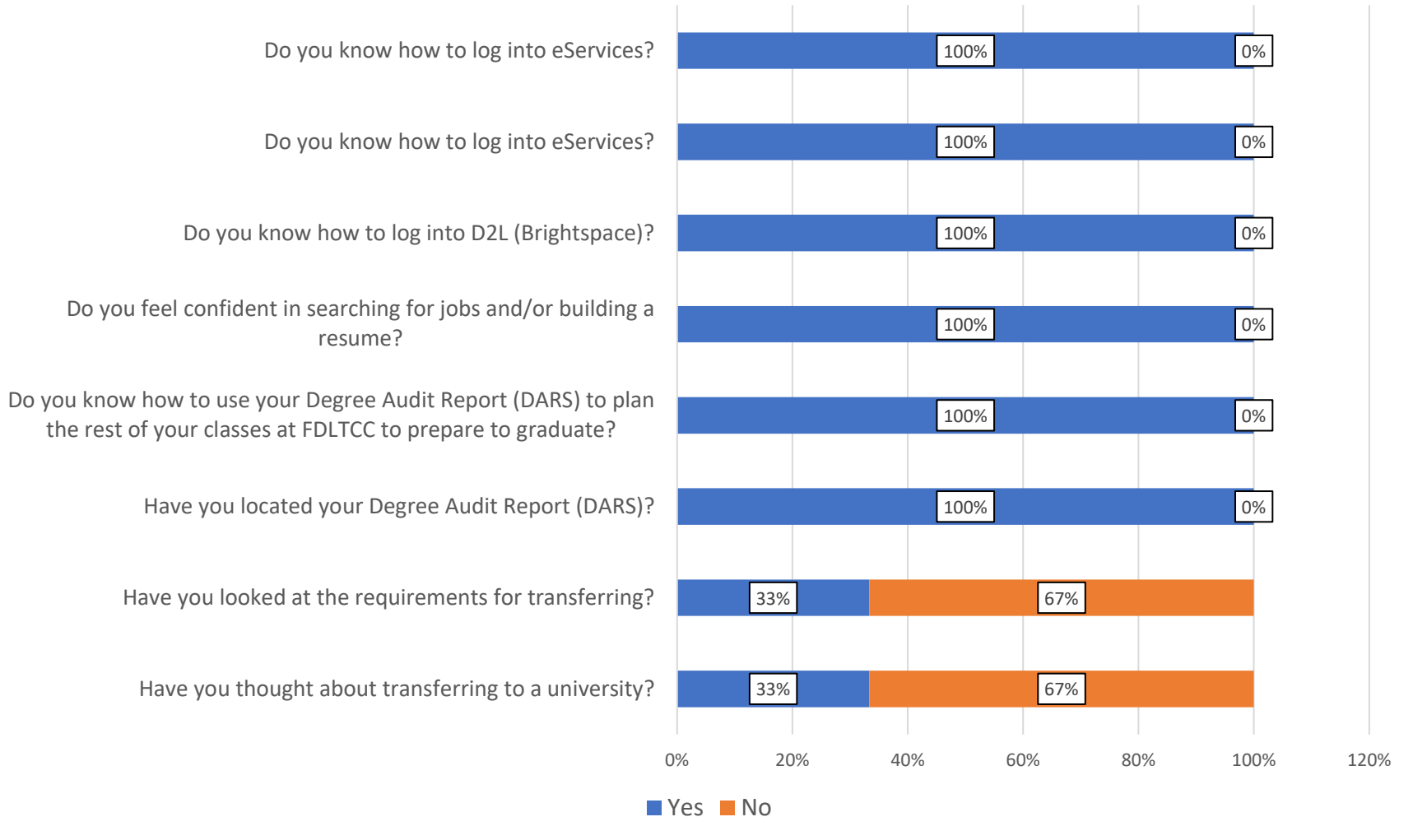


Figure 4: Results of the yes/no questions on the Pre-Survey for Returning Students. Most of the returning students are third year students who are hoping to find careers after completing their degree at FDLTCC.

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Figure 5: Returning Student Post-Survey Results to Yes/No Questions

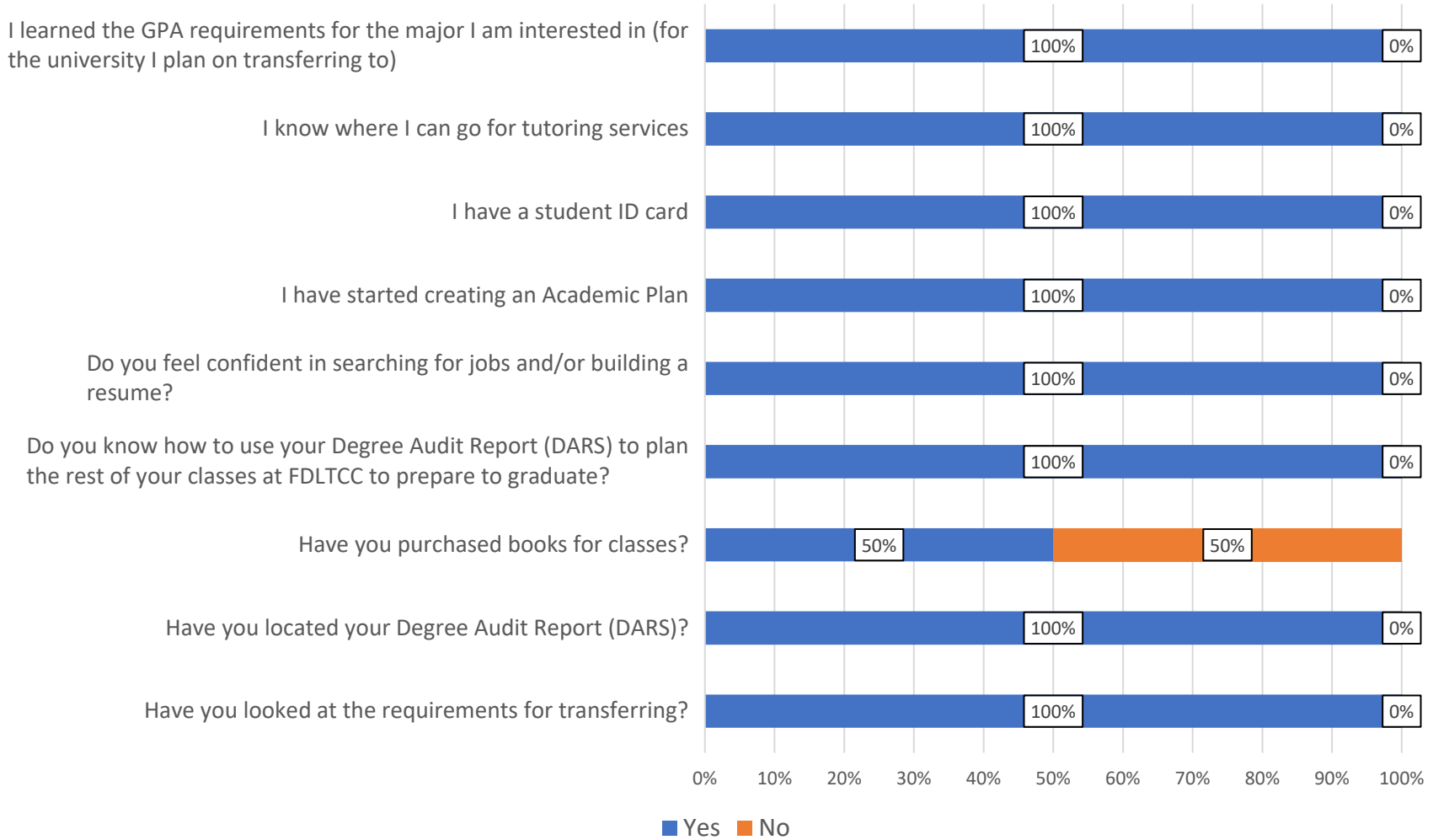


Figure 5: Results from the Yes/No questions of the post-Survey for returning students. As noted in Figure 3, some books were not yet available for students to purchase during the Academy.

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Figure 6: New Student Pre-Survey: "What is one concern or thing you would like more information or assistance with regarding college life and how to be successful in college?"

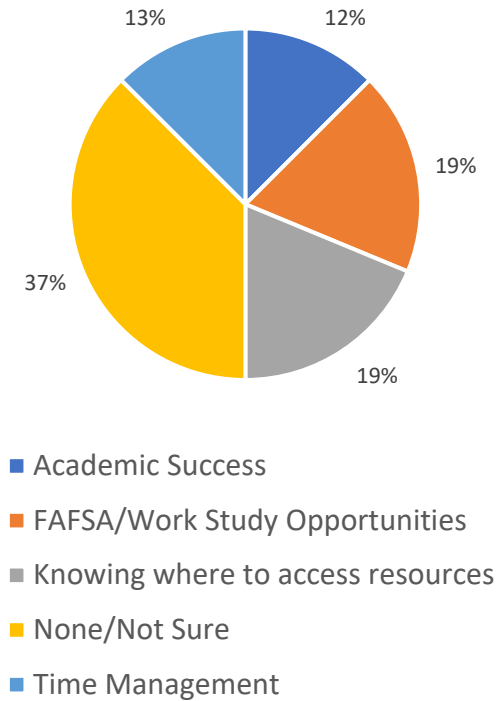


Figure 6: On the Pre-Survey, new students noted that FAFSA/Work Study opportunities and information on resources were concerns or information they would like to know more about.

Figure 7: New Student Post-Survey: "What was the most helpful session from this week?"

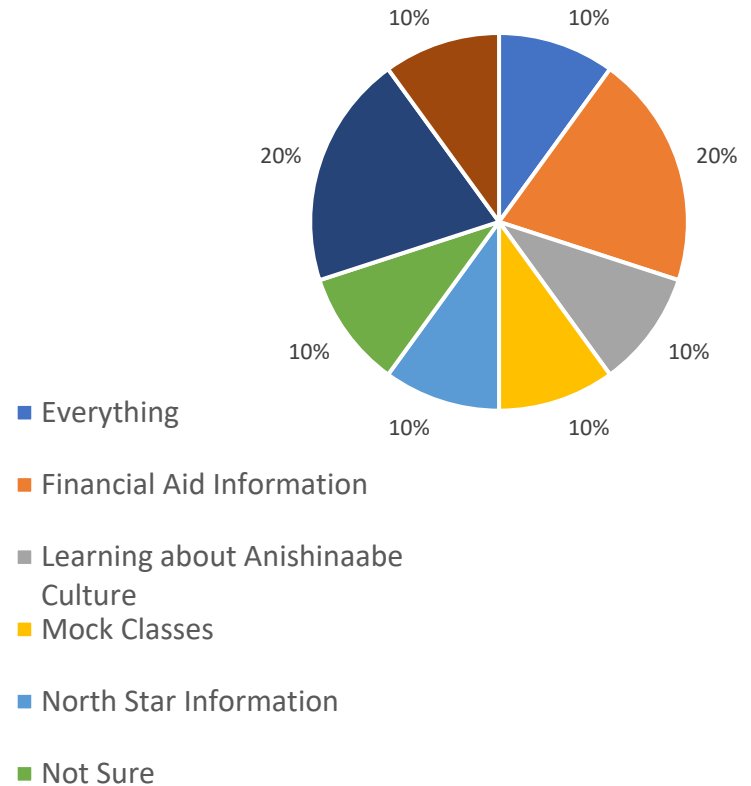


Figure 7: On the Post-Survey, new students were asked what the most helpful session was during the Academy. Students noted everything and financial aid information as being the most helpful.

Figure 8: Returning Student Post-Survey: "What was the MOST helpful part of this Academy?"

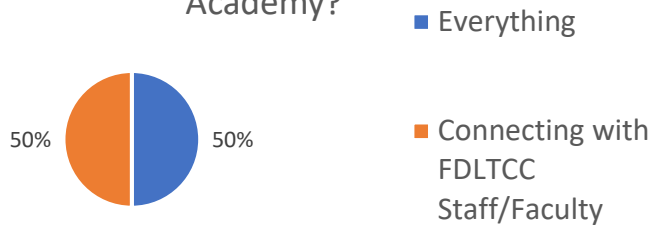


Figure 8: In the Post-Survey for returning students, students responded that the most helpful parts of the Academy was "everything" and "connecting with FDLTCC staff/faculty."

Figure 9: Returning Student Post-Survey: "What is one thing you wish was added to this Academy?"

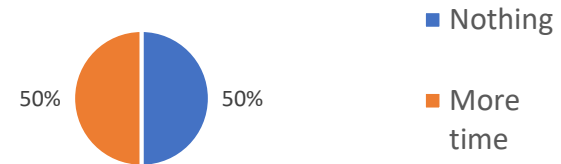


Figure 9: Returning students noted in the post-Survey that the having more time with the Academy would be helpful, meaning more time to move in and to get to know their peers.

Figure 10: August 19th Checkpoint: "I completed the FAFSA..."

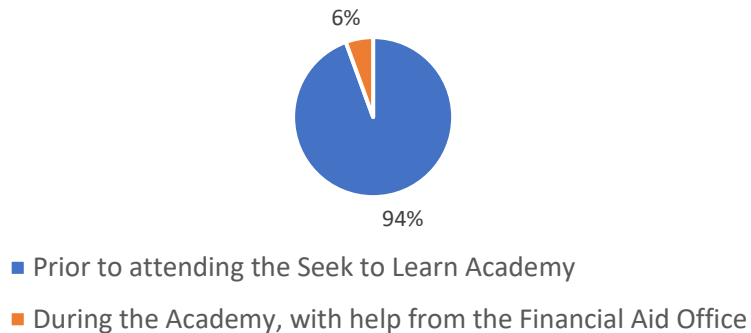


Figure 10: One question from the August 19th Checkpoint determined that 94% of students attending the Academy had completed FAFSA prior to the Academy.

Figure 11: August 19th Checkpoint Results to Yes/No Questions

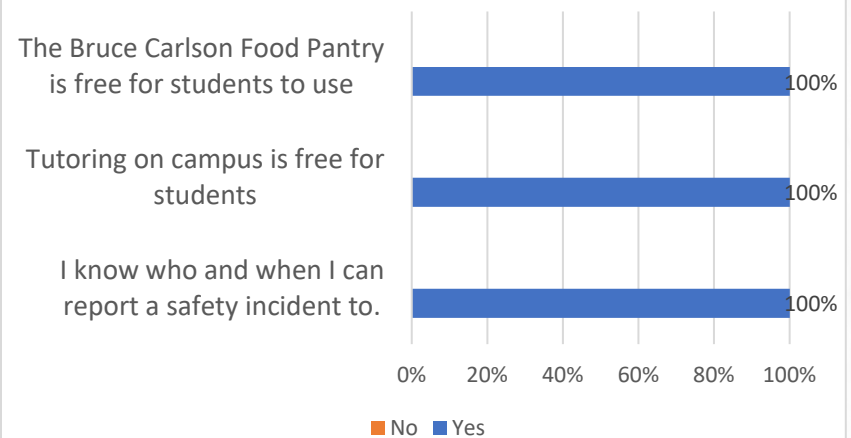


Figure 11: Three yes/no questions that were asked in the August 19th Checkpoint determined that all attendees acknowledged the on-campus food pantry is free, tutoring on campus is free, and they know who to report a safety incident to.

Figure 12: August 20th Checkpoint: Yes/Somewhat/No Questions

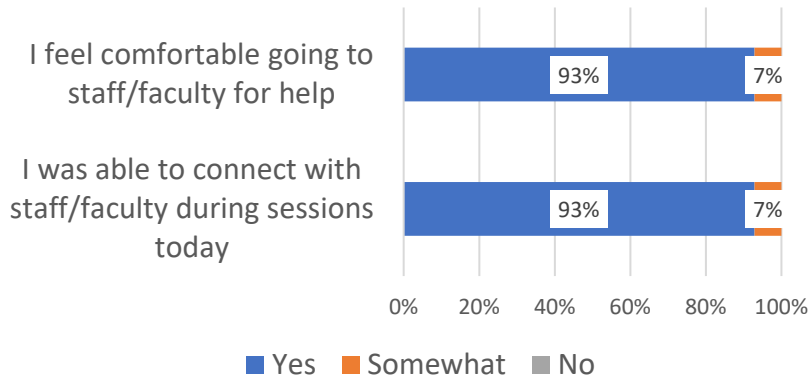


Figure 12: Yes/Somewhat/No Questions that were asked as part of the August 20th Checkpoint determined that 93% of Academy participants felt comfortable asking staff/faculty for help and were able to connect with staff/faculty during sessions that day. Only 7% felt somewhat comfortable going to staff/faculty for help or that they connected with staff/faculty during sessions that day.

Figure 13: August 20th Checkpoint: What is one question you have as you prepare for fall semester? (As Topics)

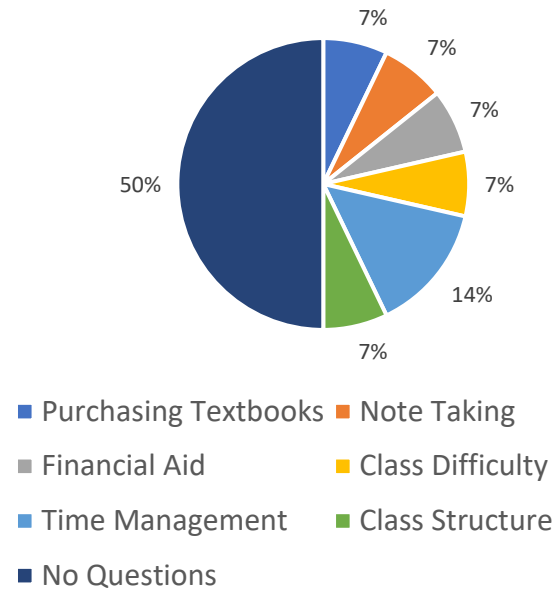


Figure 13: Students were asked the open-ended question "What is one question you have as you prepare for fall semester" on the August 20th Checkpoint. Answers were categorized and 50% of participants had no questions.

Figure 14: August 21st Checkpoint: What was most helpful from today's sessions?

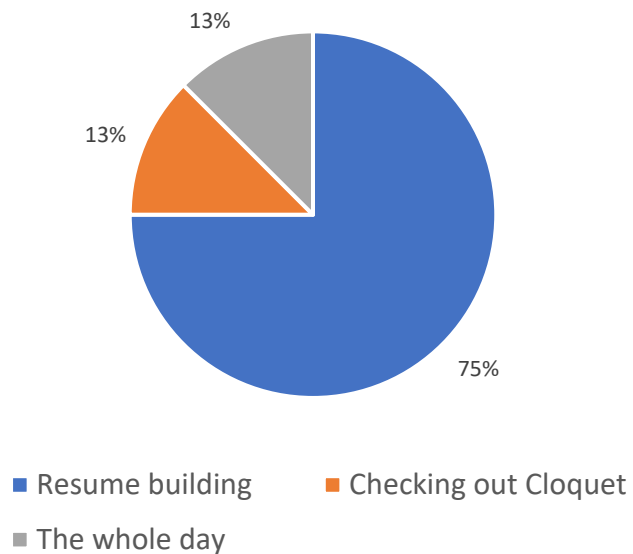


Figure 14: Students were asked what the most helpful session from the day was for the August 21st Checkpoint survey and 75% noted that the resume Building session was the most helpful session. Students noted "the whole day" and "checking out Cloquet" as equally helpful.

Figure 15: August 22nd Checkpoint: Which online platform is used to access classes, homework, quizzes, and other coursework?

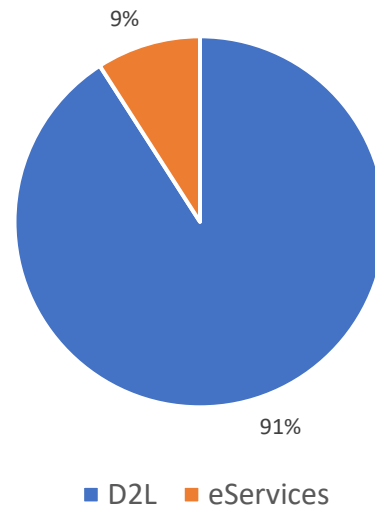


Figure 15: Participants were asked which platform is used to access classes, homework quizzes, and other coursework, to which 91% answered correctly. It is assumed that the other 9% were new students that did not attend the online orientation session.