

## Financial and Other Pressures Preventing Attendance A Text Survey

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Because LaGuardia was below expected numbers of registrants for this time, before the start of classes for Spring 2013, we asked the Student Information Center if they knew the reason the number of registrants was low. Director Loretta Capuano volunteered to text unregistered students, asking why.

She received 523 replies to the question, "Why haven't you registered for Spring 2013 classes?" Of these, 89 said they had graduated and 69 were either not interpretable or were actually continuation messages from the same person. Of the remaining 365, 47% said that they intended to.

*When is the last day?*

*Just cleared my stop. Going to enroll classes today*

*I'm in the LPN program they are suppose to register me*

The remaining 195 indicated that they would not or could not register. Of the 195:

**12% had non-financial challenges** or opportunities that prevented them from registering this semester

*In the army. In Missouri right now*

*Sorry iam in the hospital with my daughter*

*Due to some family emergency I left New York for Bangladesh. I will back before Fall 2013 though.*

*Because I'm due to have a baby and have to take a break until fall semester*

**3% had academic issues**

*Can I?? I wasn't suered because of my grades, because I was in probation*

**9% had or were intending to transfer** to another college

*Going to a better school*

*Because i dont tend to be in laguardia for spring i am transferring to another school with less headaches*

*Because I transferred to Baruch college*

**18%** thought that **LaGuardia** did things to **prevent** them from registering (**15% non-CUNYfirst** and **3% CUNYfirst**)

*When I went to register the staff were so disgustingly rude and unhelpful. I wasted a whole day in the wrong line, unable to ask a question without being yelled at or ignored. I work a 70 hour work week with only one day off. I would be fired if I ever treated people the way I was treated that d...*

*Well LaGuardia, that's a fantastic question. There's a wide array of reasons why I am not yet registered for classes at your institution. 1. My inability to know who my professor is before I show up for the first day of school is aggravating to say the least. During my trigonometry class I was ...*

*Times i need aren't available nor is the subject I was advised to take available to add Because cuny first is making it impossible, blocking me from registering me for classes i need.*

**4%** were having trouble getting **advised**:

*The reason I haven't registered for classes is Because I have stops on my account for my loan which I'm paying in full this year and i have to speak with a councilor to remove my advisement stop but i work full time and have classes from 5:45-9:05 PM mon-thurs and cannot make it in before the ...*

Between **42% and 54% had financial** problems. (Some indicated holds, which were probably financial aid, but not necessarily.)

Because I don't have money

Because its expensive

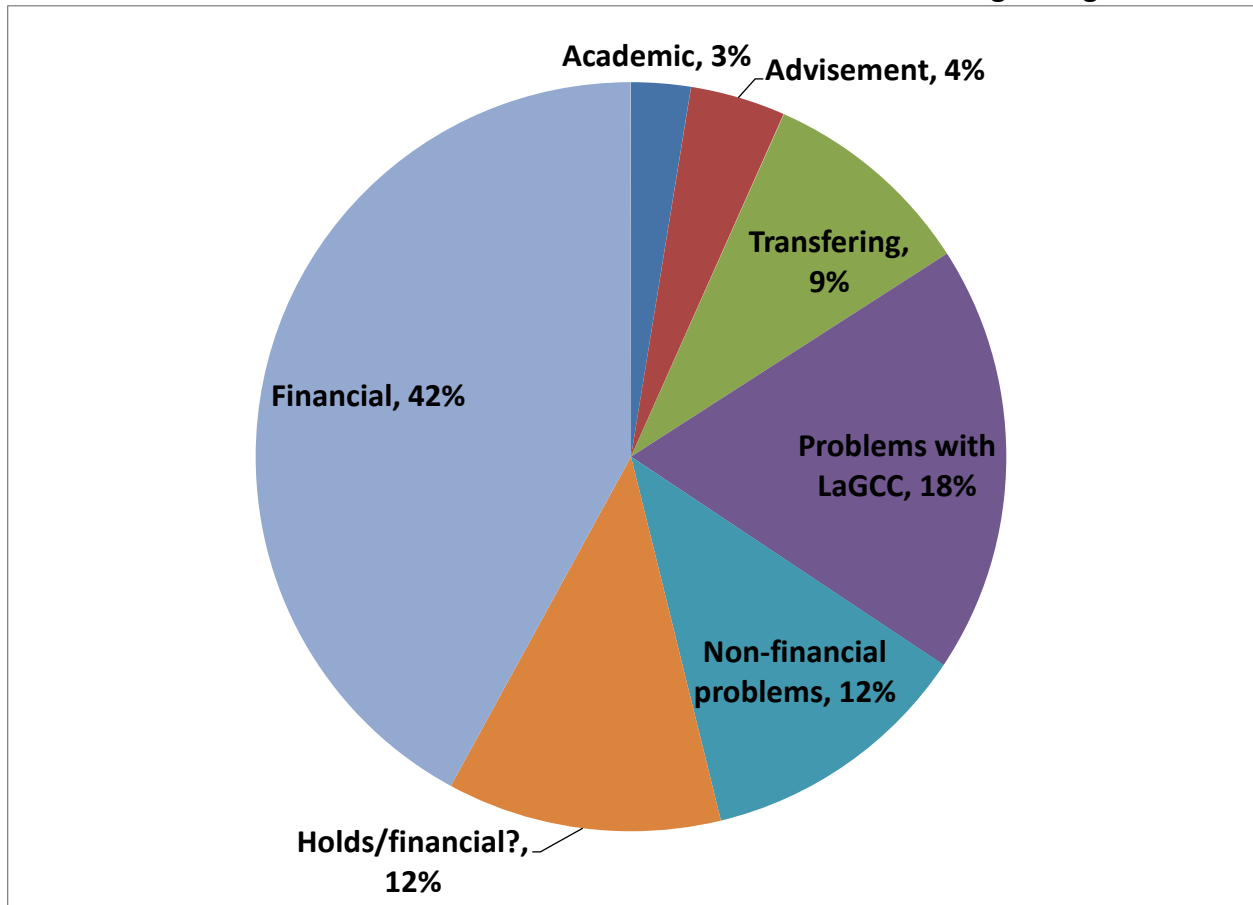
Because I still haven't paid what I owe

Financial Aid

I'm now unemployed and cannot afford to pay for tuition. Also I'm not eligible for financial aid, life sucks.

There is a hold on my account.

**Distribution of Reasons Given for Not Registering by 195 Students Responding to Text Question Who Had Not Graduated and Who Were Not Still Planning to Register**



**Conclusion: Of the students who were not planning to register and who responded to a text question:**

- About half had financial challenges.
- About one-quarter had difficulties with LaGuardia.
- About one-quarter had academic or life challenges beyond the financial and LaGuardia.