In addition to its college-age population, West Valley College plays host to hundreds of local high school students each term. These students enroll at the college for a variety of reasons, from those who seek more advanced coursework than that offered at their high schools, to those who are in a senior-year scramble to earn enough credits to graduate. The Office of Institutional Research took a closer look at who these concurrently enrolled students are, and what their enrollment patterns at West Valley are. This chart depicts their more frequent course selections:

Not surprisingly, these special admits are younger than the typical West Valley student, but they differ in other areas as well. Their ethnic composition more closely resembles that of the immediate community than does the college as a whole, with more Asian students and fewer Hispanics. Female students are an even larger majority in this group, making up 63% of the high school students on campus.

A sizable number are enrolled in Physical Education and Arts courses, likely attracted by the variety of offerings. For students who are nervous about trying to learn a conventional foreign language, the college offers courses in American Sign Language, enrolling 40-50 high school students each semester. Many enroll in the Counseling Department’s Careers & Life-styles and College Success courses.

The research office plans further study of special admit students in the future, including whether those students who take part in concurrent enrollment are more or less likely to enroll at West Valley after their high school graduation.

Questions or comments? Email Inge_Bond@wvm.edu or call 741-2166