

SANTA
ANA
COLLEGE

Projections:

How many openings the employer anticipates, due to separations and new jobs (growth), in the next full year and over the next five years

Whether the employer believes the program as described would qualify students for the specific positions

Whether the employer would preferentially hire students who have completed the program

Transferable Courses

Community college courses may be transferable to baccalaureate institutions for three different purposes: elective credit, general education, and/or lower-division preparation for a baccalaureate major. Faculty, curriculum committees, and articulation officers share responsibility for determining and ensuring the transferable status of courses.

The predominant transfer-receiving institutions for California community colleges are the California State University (CSU) and the University of California (UC) systems. Under Executive Order No. 167, the CSU Chancellor has delegated responsibility, since 1973, to the community colleges to determine which courses shall be considered baccalaureate-level for elective transfer credit. By contrast, the UC Office of the President reviews the determination of transferability course-by-course for that system; transferability for elective credit requires that the community college course be essentially equivalent to a course already offered for baccalaureate credit on at least one UC campus.

Challenges may be raised at CSU campuses to particular courses that are certified by a community college as transferable, but such challenges do not often occur.

Transferability of elective credit, however, does not create any presumption of acceptance for general education or credit to the major or area of emphasis.

Decisions on transferability of individual courses required as part of a university major are made by departmental faculty and committees at each university campus. Major-specific articulation information for most campuses can be found in the database of the Articulation System Stimulating Interinstitutional Student Transfer (ASSIST), online at www.assist.org.

The baccalaureate public segments (CSU and UC) have extensive requirements for general education. Identifying those community college courses that will be accepted by CSU or UC as satisfying their general education requirements is very important to the success of transfer students.

For the UC, the acceptability of a course for general education is predicated on the acceptability of the equivalent UC course, since each course transferred to UC has been identified, by staff review at the Office of the President, as essentially equivalent to an existing UC course. General education requirements vary greatly from campus to campus in the UC system.

For the CSU, general education requirements are standardized through statewide regulations. Procedures for certifying community college courses as meeting CSU's general education requirements are set forth in the CSU Chancellor's Executive Order 1065, which is available online at www.calstate.edu.

Since 1993, new courses intended for general education transfer have been reviewed for acceptability by CSU Chancellor's Office staff and a subcommittee of the CSU General Education Advisory Committee. This same subcommittee, with the addition of UC representatives, reviews the acceptability of community college courses for the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC), which is accepted by both UC and CSU systems as an alternative pattern for satisfying lower-division general education requirements. In Spring 2000, the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) concluded in a report based on a study of the use, effectiveness, and awareness of IGETC that this general education pattern is useful and preferred by students who intend to transfer. The paper, titled "Use, Effectiveness, and Awareness of the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) an Evaluation," is available on the website of the ASCCC at www.asccc.org.

Determining the eligibility of a particular course for university transfer for all these purposes—elective credit, major or area of emphasis requirements, and general education—is an essential part of the process of local course approval by the curriculum committee, generally with the assistance of a college articulation officer. For CORs submitted to the Chancellor's Office, evidence of transferability is a quality criterion that is reviewed for all programs and courses in traditionally or potentially transferable disciplines.