



COLORADO

Department of
Higher Education

STATEWIDE TRANSFER ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

in

BIOLOGY

For an Associate Degree with Designation (DwD)

FROM ONE OF THESE COLORADO PUBLIC COMMUNITY / JUNIOR COLLEGES

Aims Community College [*A.S. Biology*]
Arapahoe Community College [*A.S. Biology*]
Colorado Mountain College [*A.S. Biology*]
Colorado Northwestern Community College [*A.S. Biology*]
Community College of Aurora [*A.S. Biology*]
Community College of Denver [*A.S. Biology*]
Front Range Community College [*A.S. Biology*]
Morgan Community College [*A.S. Biology*]
Northeastern Junior College [*A.S. Biology*]
Otero Junior College [*A.S. Biology*]
Pikes Peak Community College [*A.S. Biology*]
Pueblo Community College [*A.S. Biology*]
Red Rocks Community College [*A.S. Biology*]

and

For a Bachelor's Degree

FROM ONE OF THESE COLORADO PUBLIC FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Adams State University [*B.S. Biology; Cellular & Molecular Biology, Organismal Biology, & Wildlife Biology emphases*]
Colorado Mesa University [*B.S. Biological Sciences; Biology concentration*]
Colorado State University-Ft Collins [*B.S. Biological Sciences*]
Colorado State University-Pueblo [*B.S. Biology*]
Fort Lewis College [*B.S. Biology; General Biology option*]
Metropolitan State University of Denver [*B.S. Biology*]
University of Colorado Boulder [*B.A. Ecology & Evolutionary Biology*]
University of Colorado Colorado Springs [*B.S. Biology*]
University of Colorado Denver [*B.S. Biology*]
University of Northern Colorado [*B.S. Biological Sciences; Cell & Molecular Biology, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Pre-Health & Biomedical Sciences emphases*]
Western State Colorado University [*B.A. Biology; Cell Biology/Pre-medicine, Environmental Biology & Ecology, General Biology, Pre-allied Health emphases*]



INTRODUCTION

A statewide transfer articulation agreement identifies the community college courses students need to take in order to graduate from a community college with a 60-credit Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) degree with designation (DwD). Students are responsible for informing the admissions counselor or intake advisor at their receiving four-year institution that they are completing a DwD.

It is important for students to understand that completion of an AA or AS degree within two years requires them to complete an average of 15 credits per semester (or 30 credits per year). Also, research shows that students who take classes in their major area within their first 30 credit hours are more likely to persist and graduate.

The guarantees and limitations below describe the minimum requirements to which all participating institutions have agreed. Students who believe an institution is not meeting the guarantees described below can file a complaint at <http://higherred.colorado.gov/Academics/Complaints/>.

PART ONE: GUARANTEES

Students who complete a DwD pursuant to the prescribed curriculum in this statewide transfer articulation agreement **and** pass all 60 credits with a C- or higher **and** are admitted to the receiving institution's corresponding degree program (see cover page) are guaranteed the following:

1. Junior standing with no more than 60 remaining credits to meet the graduation requirements for the baccalaureate degree program covered by this articulation agreement (see cover page).
2. Completion of the receiving institution's lower division general education requirements as defined by the GT Pathways curriculum.
3. The same graduation requirements as students who begin and complete this degree program at the four-year institution.
4. Beginning fall 2019, admission to all Colorado public baccalaureate awarding institutions (*except* Colorado School of Mines) will be guaranteed to applicants who have completed any AA or AS degree from a Colorado public two-year institution after high school graduation, provided certain requirements are met. To see these requirements, please refer to the Colorado Commission on Higher Education's Admissions Standards Policy (effective for students seeking admission for fall 2019 and after), Section titled "Guaranteed Transfer Admissions" at <https://higherred.colorado.gov/Publications/Policies/Current/i-partf-fall-2019.pdf>. Please note: Students transferring to a University of Colorado institution (Boulder, Colorado Springs, Denver) must satisfy the CU System's MAPS (Minimum Academic Preparation Standards) requirement.
5. Per the Commission's Prior Learning Assessment policy, section 2.07 (see <https://higherred.colorado.gov/Publications/Policies/Current/i-partx.pdf>), and pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes §23-1-108 (7)(b)(II)(A), "a state institution of higher education that admits as a junior a student who holds an associate of arts degree, associate of applied science degree, or associate of science degree that is the subject of a statewide degree transfer agreement shall not require the student to complete any additional courses to fulfill general

education requirements”, and that the receiving institution of higher education is responsible for the total cost of tuition “for any credit hours that exceed the total credit hours required for a native student or that extend the total time to receive the degree beyond that required for a native student”.

6. The Commission’s Prior Learning Assessment policy also states “every Colorado public institution of higher education shall accept in transfer from within the institution and from other state institutions of higher education prior learning assessment credit awarded for GT Pathways requirements” (section 3.01), and “Colorado public institutions of higher education shall not prohibit students from meeting general education/GT Pathways requirements with prior learning assessment credit” (section 3.02).

PART TWO: LIMITATIONS

1. Until the Commission’s new Admissions Policy takes effect fall 2019, completion of the prescribed curriculum in this statewide transfer articulation agreement does not guarantee admission to a participating receiving institution. Students must meet all admission and application requirements at the receiving institution including the submission of all required documentation by stated deadlines.
2. Only courses with grades of C- or higher are guaranteed to transfer.
3. Admission to a receiving institution does not guarantee enrollment in a specific degree program. Some programs at receiving institutions have controlled entry due either to space limitations or academic requirements.
4. The credit and course transfer guarantees described in this agreement apply to the specific degree programs covered by this agreement (see cover page). If the student changes majors, receiving institutions will evaluate application of the courses designated in this agreement to other degree programs on a course-by-course basis.
5. Students are allowed to use credits awarded by exam, such as AP (Advanced Placement) and IB (International Baccalaureate), as long as those exams are listed on the exam tables here: <https://highered.colorado.gov/Academics/Transfers/GetCredit.html>, or may use challenge exams to fulfill GT Pathways requirements (not necessarily major requirements) and those credits are guaranteed to transfer and apply to GT Pathways requirements at the receiving institution per the Colorado Commission on Higher Education’s Policy I, X: Prior Learning Assessment. See the entire policy for more information: <https://highered.colorado.gov/Publications/Policies/Current/i-partx.pdf>.
6. The receiving institution shall accept all applicable credits earned within ten years of transfer to the receiving institution. Credits earned more than ten years earlier will be evaluated on a course-by-course basis.

7. All the courses a student needs to take in the associate degree program covered by this statewide transfer articulation agreement are listed in the prescribed curriculum. Course substitutions are allowed as long as the student and sending and receiving institutions agree to the substitution; such agreement should be documented in writing and the student should keep a copy until the baccalaureate degree is conferred. Note that if students substitute a course, then this is no longer a statewide agreement and some of the guarantees are only for the receiving institution that agreed to the substitution. **Any additional courses taken in the discipline covered by this agreement might not count toward the requirements of the major at the receiving institution.** Students can avoid this problem by either taking no more courses in the discipline than the ones identified in the prescribed curriculum or by consulting first with the receiving institution to assure that any additional courses they take in the discipline will count toward the major.

8. Students seeking K-12 teacher licensure may not use this agreement because teacher preparation programs have different requirements for educator licensure.

Because of the limitations above, students must consult with the Office of Admissions at the institution to which they are transferring.

PART THREE: PRESCRIBED CURRICULUM¹

Required Courses that Fulfill General Education Requirements				36
	Credit Hours	Community College Course No.	Course Title or Category	
(Written) Communication	6	ENG 121 and ENG 122 or ENG 122 and a GT-CO3 course	English Composition I (GT-CO1) and English Composition II (GT-CO2) OR English Composition II (GT-CO2) and a GT Pathways-approved CO3 course (GT-CO3)	
Mathematics	5	MAT 201	Calculus I (GT-MA1)	
Arts & Humanities	6		Two GT Pathways Arts & Humanities courses (GT-AH1, GT-AH2, GT-AH3, GT-AH4)	
History	3		One GT Pathways History course (GT-HI1)	
Social & Behavioral Sciences	6		Two GT Pathways Social & Behavioral Sciences courses (GT-SS1, GT-SS2, GT-SS3)	
Natural & Physical Sciences	5	BIO 111	General College Biology I (GT-SC1)	
	5	CHEM 111	General College Chemistry I (GT-SC1)	
Additional Required Courses				20
<p><u>Please note:</u> if these credits are <i>not</i> required for the <i>major</i> at a receiving 4-year institution, they will be applied to the Bachelor's degree as <i>elective credit</i> towards <i>graduation</i>. Please check with the receiving institution to determine in which way these courses will be applied.</p>				
	Credit Hours	Community College Course No.	Course Title	
	5	BIO 112	General College Biology II (GT-SC1)	
	5	CHEM 112	General College Chemistry II (GT-SC1)	
	5	PHY 111	Physics Algebra-based I/Lab (GT-SC1)	
	5	PHY 112	Physics Algebra-based II/Lab (GT-SC1)	
Electives				4
Total				60

¹ Students are strongly encouraged to seek academic advising prior to registration regarding the acceptability of online science courses if they anticipate transferring to a 4-year institution or completing graduate work in the sciences or health professions. It should be noted that per Colorado Revised Statute, §23-1-125(1)(e), general education courses taken online are guaranteed to satisfy core course (GT Pathways) requirements at all Colorado public institutions of higher education.

Addendum to Agreement

Students who do not complete an AA/AS degree can use the prescribed curriculum in a statewide transfer articulation agreement as a common advising guide for transfer to all public institutions that offer the designated bachelor's degree program.

Please note the following:

1. Students are guaranteed application of general education courses completed with a C- or higher in the prescribed curriculum in this agreement up to the established maximum in each GT Pathways content area.
2. Except in special cases (e.g., the partial completion of a required sequence of courses or variation in the number of credit hours institutions award for course equivalents), students can expect that courses specified within the prescribed curriculum in this agreement, successfully completed with a C- or higher, will fulfill the relevant course requirements in the designated major.
3. Receiving institutions will evaluate all courses other than those specified in this agreement on a course-by-course basis.

Students transferring without a completed AA/AS degree must consult with the Office of Admissions at the institution to which they are transferring to review the issues identified above, and to make sure they meet all admission and application requirements at the receiving institution, including the submission of all required documentation by stated deadlines.

This agreement will remain in force until such time as it is formally modified or terminated.

The Chief Executive Officers/Presidents/Chancellors and Chief Academic Officers for all participating institutions, as listed on the cover page, have signed this agreement. Signatures are on file in the Division of Academic Affairs at the Colorado Department of Higher Education.

HISTORY OF REVISIONS TO AGREEMENT:

- 2014-12-04 – Approved by CCHE.
- 2016-08 – Cover page revised: added only CCs who are participating and degree titles; some formatting adjustments.
- 2016-12 – Formatting edits made.
- 2017-01 – Formatting changes made to cover page; paragraph 8 added to Limitations section; removed teacher licensure paragraph in Prescribed Curriculum; added updated Addendum to Agreement section.
- 2017-03 Revisions made to Introduction, Guarantees, and Limitation sections.
- 2018-11 – Revisions made to Introduction and Limitations sections. Paragraphs 5 & 6 added to Guarantees section to reflect changes made to CCHE Prior Learning Assessment policy.