



**COLORADO**

Department of  
Higher Education

1600 Broadway, Suite 2200

Denver, CO 80202

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>General Education Council</b> <b>July 14, 2025</b> <b>1:00 – 4:00 pm</b>
<b>Location</b>	Virtual Only
<b>Call-In Information</b>	<a href="#">Join Zoom Meeting</a> Meeting ID: 896 7500 8283 Passcode: 821457
<b>Meeting Participants</b>	The General Education Council (GE Council) is comprised of representatives from each of the 31 public institutions of higher education, including area technical colleges, local district colleges, and dual mission institutions.
<b>Meeting Objectives</b>	The GE Council is a statutorily created entity (CRS §23-1-108.5(3)(a)) with oversight responsibilities for various statewide transfer initiatives, most prominently GT Pathways and Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreements (STAAs). GE Council typically meets monthly, to carry out different statutory responsibilities assigned by the General Assembly.

## **AGENDA – NOTES**

### **I. GREETINGS & INTRODUCTIONS**

1. Welcome (Brad Griffith)
2. Attendance (Christina Carrillo)

In attendance: Wayne Artis (CCCS-PPSC); Lynette Bates (CCCS-TSC); Kelsey Bennet (WCU); Brad Bowers (CCCS-PCC); Morgan Bridge (CMU); Liz Cox (CSM); Meghan Davis (CCCS-CNCC); Rachelle Davis (CCCS-NJC); Maureen Durkin (CU-SYS); Michael Galchinsky (CSU); Theresa Groff (CCCS-ACC); Chelsea Herasingh (CCCS-OC); Sara Holzberlein (EGTC); Paul Langston (CCCS-CCA); Mike Lightner (CU-SYS); Nancy Matchett (UNC); Pete McCormick (FLC); Brooke McKinney (CCCS-FRCC); Christiane Olivo (CCCS-MCC); Katherine Olson (CSUG); Tina Parscal (CCCS); Kathryn Regjo (CMC); Scott Reichel (Aims); Christy Richter (CCCS-RRCC); Nick Saenz (ASU); Shaun Schafer (MSU Denver); Patrick Tally (CU Boulder); Susan Taylor (UCCS); Andrew Vidockler (PTC); Hailey Wold; Kaylah

Zelig (CCCS-CCD); Matt Bennett (Slalom); Michelle Camacho Liu (The Attainment Network); Braun Lowry (Slalom); Zachary Machani, Jr. (College Board); Suzanne McGurk (College Board); Tori Meschino (Slalom); Christina Carrillo (CDHE); Zeke Clark (CDHE); Liliana Diaz Solodukhin (CDHE); Kennedy Evans (CDHE); Sam Fogleman (CDHE); Brad Griffith (CDHE)

## II. Adoption of last meeting's notes

1. *[See handout: 2025-06-09-GE Council-NOTES.pdf]*

Liz Cox requested that the attendance list be updated to reflect that C.Schneider is Colin Schneider from Colorado School of Mines. Notes approved as amended.

## III. INFORMATION ITEMS

Brad informed Council members about two recent events he attended last week – the Strong Start to Finish (SSTF) Symposium in Salt Lake City on July 8-9 and the CCHE Retreat in Alamosa on July 10-11. While at the SSTF Symposium, Brad presented on the work the Department has been engaged in regarding math pathways – he discussed the Advisors LEAD module focused on math pathways as well as the most recent work aligning pathways with K-12 partners. Brad informed Council members that while at the CCHE Retreat, Commissioners welcomed several new Advisors, including Wayne Artis, who was re-elected as the faculty advisor for CCHE. Commissioners also engaged in conversations on various topics, including what their role and authority is as a Commission; minimum value threshold (MVT) calculations and value; funding formula review; the Governor's new Executive Order (EO) regarding more intentional collaboration between postsecondary and workforce development; and hosted several institutional CEO panels.

Brad announced the departure of Dr. Nancy Matchett from the Council – she will be returning to her faculty position at UNC this fall. Council members expressed their heartfelt gratitude for Nancy's service to the Council for the past six years. The Council will welcome UNC's new representative, Dr. Stephani Etheridge-Woodson, Vice Provost for Enrollment Services and Dean of Undergraduate Studies, at next month's meeting.

## IV. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. College Board presentation and discussion – new AP courses (Suzanne McGurk, Senior Director, AP Higher Education Policy and Community College Engagement, 25 minutes)
  - [AP® Business with Personal Finance](#)
    - **Course description:** page 6 of the pdf
    - **Couse units:** page 9 of the pdf
    - **Course skills:** Business skills are on page 10 of the pdf; Professional & leadership skills on page 11 of the pdf
  - [AP® Cybersecurity Course Framework - Career Kickstart](#)

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- **Course description:** page 7 of the pdf
- **Couse units:** page 12 of the pdf
- **Course skills:** Page 15 of the pdf

Suzanne McGurk and her colleague, Zachary Machani, Jr., Director of Postsecondary and Workforce Connections, provided a high-level overview of the two new AP course offerings from the College Board – AP Cybersecurity and AP Business and Personal Finance. Council members engaged in a brief discussion regarding how these two courses may or may not align within the current GT Pathways curriculum and framework or within any of the existing Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreements (STAAs). It was noted that if no alignment within GT Pathways or STAAs occurs, individual institutions have discretion to determine their own credit equivalencies and awards for these two new course offerings. Council members requested DHE staff to send out the slide deck that was used during Suzanne’s and Zachary’s presentation – DHE staff informed Council members that they would send it out as soon as it has been made digitally accessible.

Brad informed College Board staff that DHE staff would follow up regarding next steps.

2. Statewide credit transfer website demonstration and prioritization feedback session (Slalom Consulting, 90 minutes)

Brad informed Council members that DHE staff is completing user testing for the first phase of the statewide credit transfer website. As a reminder, the first phase of the website development focused on creating a more user-friendly and interactive platform for DHE’s GT Pathways courses and credit-by-exam course equivalencies and credit awards (e.g., Advanced Placement [AP]; International Baccalaureate [IB] DANTES Subject Standardized Tests [DSST], etc.) information that has historically been housed on the Department website on static PDF documents. He also informed Council members that staff members are currently engaged in drafting a grant application to secure funding to begin work on the second phase of the website development – this phase will focus on working with institutions of higher education to voluntarily gather data on one-to-one course matches.

Brad then introduced Matt Bennett, Braun Lowry, and Tori Meschino from Slalom Consulting, DHE’s vendor partner, on the website project. He explained that DHE staff has met with Slalom Consulting numerous times to discuss which features and functionalities to prioritize in the second-round grant application – DHE staff invited them to meet with Council members today to gather feedback from institutions on which features and functionalities should be prioritized next.

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Braun demonstrated the current tool as it will be launched in the next two weeks for phase one. Council members expressed concern that academic advisors and others would need to be retrained on how to access information on the tool – DHE staff assured Council members that trainings and/or a “how to” one pager is part of the implementation plan. Tori and Matt then reviewed the different features (e.g., GT Pathways Checklist Tool, Course Planning Tool, Institution-Specific Pages, Interactive STAA Pages, Additional Exam Equivalencies, Integration Technologies) that have been identified by DHE staff as priorities for phase two. Tori and Matt walked through each feature with Council members and worked with them to identify the level of impact and effort for IHEs to implement and participate. This feedback will be incorporated into the grant application for the second-round of funding.

3. Proposed removal of Colorado Mesa University from the Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement (STAA) in English

This item was removed from the agenda, as it was resolved prior to the meeting.

4. Continued discussion on SB24-164 (60 minutes):

- Review/discuss potential recommendations and survey results

Brad thanked Council members for participating in last month’s discussion about potential recommendations via the interactive Mentimeter poll he created. He then informed them of what he hoped to accomplish during today’s discussion – to review and discuss the findings from last month’s discussion to begin drafting final recommendations. He began by reviewing the statutory mandate for this body to review GT Pathways courses and provide recommendations to CCHE as necessary to make changes to GT Pathways to maintain accuracy by October 1, 2025, and every October 1 thereafter. Brad then identified three key themes from the Mentimeter survey results: 1) improve data and tracking; 2) increase transparency of course transferability; and 3) explore further alignment of GT Pathways courses with majors. He clarified that these themes were identified from the survey results as having action items that most members felt were important and were also within the purview of the Council.

Brad then shared three potential Commission recommendations with related action items: 1) credit hour standardization – review, and where feasible, align credit hours across institutions for GT Pathways categories with high variability (includes examples such as Math for Liberal Arts, College Algebra and Pre-Calculus); 2) transfer transparency – develop a public dashboard and information pages to communicate about GT Pathways categories and courses’ applicability to degree programs; and 3) statewide support for transfer success – increase statewide professional development opportunities for academic advisors and

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others to promote transfer student success. Council members engaged in a discussion about these recommendations, noting that the introduction and implementation of HB19-1206 concerning the use of supplemental academic instruction (SAI) may cause issues with assessing credit hour standardization in mathematics courses across institutions. Council members also noted that focusing on associate's degree completion could be a useful strategy, as this may help alleviate some of the perceived issues regarding transfer. Council members agreed with the recommendation about increased professional development opportunities; however, Council members wanted to ensure these opportunities were made available to all transfer professionals, including registrars, admissions officers, and others who may not traditionally be included.

#### 5. New and closed GT Pathways courses

- New
  - Colorado Mesa University
    - GT-SC2: GEOL 109: Geologic Wonders of Our National Parks (3)
    - GT-SS1: POLS 151 Introduction to Political Ideas (3)
    - GT-SS1: POLS 270 World Politics (3)

Council members expressed concern regarding the sample syllabi that was submitted for the two GT-SS1 courses. Members noted that the courses did not adequately demonstrate how they met the GT Pathways content and competencies. CMU responded that they would be revised and resubmitted for review.
  - Colorado State University – Global Campus
    - GT-SS3: COM 210 Interpersonal Communication (3)
    - GT-SS3: COM 215 Intercultural Communication (3)
- Closed (Withdrawn from GTP but may still be offered at IHE)
  - None
- Closed (No longer offered at IHE)
  - None

## ACTION ITEMS

Issue	Action / Next Step	Assigned To & Date Assigned
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STAA (Physics)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reach out to individual IHEs for clarification on additional required courses (Computer Science I and General College Chemistry II w/laboratory) requirement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assigned to DHE staff (Christina)</li> <li>To be completed in January 2025</li> </ul>

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