



COLORADO

Department of
Higher Education

1600 Broadway, Suite 2200
Denver, CO 80202

Meeting	General Education Council October 13, 2025 1:00 – 4:00 pm
Location	Virtual Only
Call-In Information	Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 850 5266 1250 Passcode: 928329
Meeting Participants	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.
Meeting Objectives	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)

Brad opened the meeting by expressing appreciation for the successful kickoff of the Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement (STAA) revision process. Four meetings have taken place, with active participation from faculty across two- and four-year institutions. These sessions were described as “magical” in fostering collaboration and aligning degree pathways for students. The Council acknowledged the varying complexity of revisions across disciplines and emphasized the importance of sustained engagement and facilitation by GE Council members. Christina encouraged newer Council members to attend upcoming STAA meetings to observe more seasoned and veteran Council members co-lead and co-facilitate these meetings.

2. Attendance (Christina Carrillo)

In attendance: Wayne Artis (CCCS-PPSC); Lynette Bates (CCCS-TSC); Kelsey Bennett (WCU); Brad Bowers (CCCS-PCC); Morgan Bridge (CMU); Helen Caprioglio (CSUP); Liz Cox (CSM); Rachele Davis (CCCS-NJC); Maureen Durkin (CU-SYS); Kelly Emick (CCCS-LCC); Stephani Etheridge-Woodson (UNC); Michael Galchinsky (CSU); Theresa Groff (CCCS-ACC); Sarah Heath (CCCS); Roze Hentschell (CSU-SYS); Danen Jobe (CCCS); Paul Langston (CCCS-CCA); Mike Lightner (CU-SYS); Pete McCormick (FLC); Rick Miranda (CSU-SYS); Beth Myers (CU Denver); Christiane Olivo (CCCS-MCC); Katherine Olson (CSUG); Amanda Ott (CCCS-CNCC); Tina Parscal (CCCS); Kathryn Regio (CMC); Scott Reichel (Aims); Christy Richter (CCCS-RRCC); Nick Saenz (ASU); Shaun Schafer (MSU Denver); Patrick Tally (CU Boulder); Susan Taylor (UCCS); Linda Van Doren (EGTC); Michelle Camacho Liu (The Attainment Network); Anna Deese (Gov's Office); Jess Kostelnik (Gov's Office); Eric Tucker (CCHE); Christina Carrillo (CDHE); Liliana Diaz Solodukhin (CDHE); Carl Einhaus (CDHE); Rachel Fischer (CDHE); Brad Griffith (CDHE)

II. Adoption of last meeting's notes

1. *[See handout: 2025-09-15-GE Council-NOTES.pdf]*
Notes approved

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. [Legislative Audit Committee Hearing](#) on Higher Education Transfer Credit System:
Monday, October 20, 9:00 am

The Council was informed that the Legislative Audit Committee (LAC) hearing regarding the Higher Education Transfer Credit System audit is scheduled for **October 20, 2025**. The audit report will be released publicly on that day, and Council members were encouraged to attend the hearing virtually. The November GE Council meeting will include a deep dive into the audit findings, with a project management dashboard outlining recommendations and timelines for implementation.

2. Corrections to IB Mathematics Transfer Credit from CCCS – **Action Required!**

Christina shared updates to the International Baccalaureate (IB) mathematics course equivalencies for the Colorado Community College System (CCCS). Miscommunication in the transfer portal had led to incorrect credit assignments, which have now been corrected. The Council emphasized the importance of accuracy in the transfer portal and the benefit of real-time updates to the database.

See the updated equivalencies below, which were approved by CCCS in spring 2022. Please note MAT 1420 Trigonometry is a subset of MAT 1440 Pre-calculus. Therefore, if a student went to an institution that offered MAT 1420 but not MAT 1440 (e.g., Pueblo

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Community College), then the institution should award the credit for MAT 1420 by default.

Exam Name	Score	Category: Course Title - Course Equivalency (Credit Hours)
Analysis and Approaches SL	4 - 7	GT-MA1: College Algebra - MAT 1340 (4.0)
Analysis and Approaches HL	4 - 6	GT-MA1: College Algebra - MAT 1340 (4.0) GT-MA1: Pre-Calculus - MAT 1440 (5.0)
Analysis and Approaches HL	7	GT-MA1: College Algebra - MAT 1340 (4.0) GT-MA1: Calculus I - MAT 2410 (5.0) GT-MA1: Pre-Calculus - MAT 1440 (5.0)

IV. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. **GT** Pathways waiver request for Bachelor of Applied Sciences Degrees (Brad Griffith, CDHE)

A major discussion item was the revised proposal from CCCS for a **blanket waiver of GT Pathways requirements for technical Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree programs**. The proposal was refined to focus on programs deemed terminal and workforce-aligned, based on employer needs and labor market data. While many Council members supported the waiver for purely technical programs, concerns were raised about blanket waivers, transferability, and the evolving definition of “technical” degrees. After extensive debate, the Council voted on the proposal, with **63% in favor, 26% opposed, and 11% requesting more time**. The motion passed and will be forwarded to the Commission’s Student Success and Workforce Alignment Subcommittee for consideration at their **Monday, November 3** meeting before moving forward to the full Commission at their **Thursday, November 13** business meeting.

GE Council members are welcome to attend these open meetings and continue to share feedback as invited for public comment. For meeting information, visit: [Agendas and Minutes | Colorado Department of Higher Education Home](#).

2. Amended CCHE Agenda Item – General Education Council Recommendations for SB24-164 (Brad Griffith, CDHE)
 - Review of [proposed survey](#) to develop requested fiscal note for CCHE (please complete by October 31 and distribute to additional stakeholder groups)
The Council reviewed next steps for submitting GE Council recommendations to the Commission, including a **fiscal note survey** (linked above) to assess institutional needs for transfer student support. The survey will remain open

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through **October 31**, with results to be analyzed and presented at the **November 10** meeting. He informed Council members that the survey will also be distributed to other stakeholder groups, such as registrars, admissions officers, and academic advisors. The final report is expected to be submitted to the Commission in **December**.

- Review of GTP course data recently collected

The Council discussed the status of GT Pathways course data submissions that were due on **September 26, 2025**. These submissions were part of a broader effort to analyze how GT Pathways courses are being accepted and applied across different degree program categories. Brad acknowledged and thanked institutions and staff who contributed to compiling and submitting this data, noting that the department is still working through the initial analysis. This data is essential for completing **Section 2 of the GE Council's report**, which was left incomplete due to pending submissions. The preliminary results table is expected to be shared with Council members following the meeting, allowing them to review and prepare for deeper analysis at the **November 10th meeting**.

3. Review draft of rules authorized by SB24-164

Brad presented a draft of proposed rules for implementing **SB24-164**, which grants CDHE enforcement authority over GT Pathways course transfer decisions. The rules outline institutional responsibilities, student appeal processes, and enforcement mechanisms. Council members provided detailed feedback on language clarity, timelines for student appeals, and the distinction between course acceptance and applicability to majors. Brad encouraged Council members to continue to submit feedback on the draft rules until **next Monday, October 20**. The department will revise the draft based on this input before submitting it to legal and executive review.

4. Update on Math Pathways

Colorado has renewed its commitment to the **Dana Center Launch Year Initiative**. Updates included a tri-agency letter of support and efforts to modernize math pathways, particularly around admission standards and alternatives to Algebra II. The Council discussed the need to align math instruction with workforce demands and student success, and Brad invited ideas for impactful projects under \$100,000 to close out the Strong Start to Finish grant.

5. Schedule ad hoc committee

Two new subcommittees were proposed:

- One to explore dual sending/receiving roles for institutions in STAA agreements.

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- Another to examine the evolving general education landscape, including potential updates to GT Pathways structure or competencies. Council members supported forming a working group with regular updates and faculty involvement.
6. Proposal to award BUS 1015 course credit for [AP® Business with Personal Finance](#) (2:20 pm, Danen Jobe, CCCS)
This agenda item will be carried forward to next month’s meeting.

7. Discussion on ways to adapt to evolving higher education landscape
Brad led Council members in a robust and forward-looking discussion about how Colorado’s general education framework can better respond to the changing needs of students and institutions. The conversation was prompted by increasing tensions between traditional liberal arts degree structures and the growing number of applied science programs, particularly Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degrees. These programs, often designed to meet direct workforce needs, challenge the conventional expectations of general education, especially when students later seek to transfer or pursue further academic study.

Council members expressed concern about the use of blanket waivers for GT Pathways requirements in technical BAS programs. While the waiver was approved, several members noted discomfort with the ambiguity around what qualifies as “technical” and the potential impact on student mobility and transparency. The discussion highlighted the need for clearer definitions and safeguards to ensure that students in applied programs retain viable pathways for transfer and continued education.

Brad proposed forming a subcommittee to explore potential updates to the GT Pathways framework. The goal is not to dismantle the system, which has served Colorado well, but to consider strategic flexibilities — such as integrating technology competencies or contextualized general education aligned with industry demands. Members agreed that any changes must be faculty-driven, given their authority over curriculum, and should build on the inclusive processes used in past revisions, such as the 2016 update to GT competencies.

The Council also acknowledged the importance of serving students in applied fields, including those in apprenticeships and non-traditional learning environments. There was strong support for creating clearer, stackable pathways that balance employer-driven curriculum with academic rigor and transferability. The proposed subcommittee will begin exploratory work, with monthly updates to the full Council and opportunities for broader stakeholder engagement, including faculty from across the state.

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8. New and closed GT Pathways courses (Note: **Bold yellow** indicates courses which may require further evaluation of alignment with proposed category.)

The Council conducted a rapid review of **over 80 course proposals** from Colorado State University (CSU). Many were approved, while others — particularly studio art and certain interdisciplinary courses — were flagged for further review due to concerns about alignment with GT Pathways' competencies. A color-coded list of approved and pending courses will be distributed for follow-up (see below).

- New

- Colorado State University (Sample syllabi available [here](#))

- ~~GT AH1: ART 221 Art in Action (3)~~
- ~~GT AH1: ART 275A Art for Non-Art Majors: Painting (3)~~
- ~~GT AH1: ART 275C Art for Non-Art Majors: Sculpture (3)~~
- ~~GT AH1: ART 275D Art for Non-Art Majors: Fibers (3)~~
- ~~GT AH1: ART 275J Art for Non-Art Majors: Pottery (3)~~
- GT-AH1: ETST 242 African American Creative Expression (3)
- GT-AH1: MU 133 Survey of Jazz History (3)
- ~~GT AH2: E 200 Inquiry Based Teaching and Communicating (3)~~
- ~~GT AH2: E 202 Language Use in Society (3)~~
- ~~GT AH2: E 204 Creative Writing as Transformative Practice (3)~~
- ~~GT AH2: E 206 Language for Activist Rhetoric and Writing (3)~~
- GT-AH2: E 237 Introduction to Science Fiction (3)
- ~~GT AH2: IU 174A Questions for Human Flourishing: Approaches to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (3)~~
- ~~GT AH2: IU 174B Questions for Human Flourishing: Approaches to Arts and Humanities (3)~~
- GT-AH2: LFRE 251 Revolution and Resistance in Literature and Film (3)
- ~~GT AH2: LGEN 250 Global Cities (3)~~
- ~~GT AH2: LSPA 251 Language and Culture for Education Abroad (3)~~
- ~~GT AH3: BUS 210 Critical Perspective of Workplace Culture (3)~~
- ~~GT AH3: BUS 225 Transforming Business for Sustainable Impact (3)~~
- ~~GT AH3: CS 150A Culture and Coding: Java (3)~~
- ~~GT AH3: IU 173A Thinking Toward a Thriving Planet (3)~~
- GT-AH3: IU 173B Thinking Toward a Thriving Planet: Approaches to Arts and Humanities (3)
- GT-AH3: PHIL 171 Religions of the West (3)
- GT-AH3: PHIL 172 Religions of the East (3)

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- GT-AH3: PHIL 174 World Religions (3)
- GT-AH3: PHIL 245 Environmental Philosophies (3)
- GT-AH4: LKOR 200 Second Year Korean I (5)
- GT-AH4: LKOR 201 Second Year Korean II (5)
- GT-AH4: LSPA 208 Second-Year Intensive Spanish (5)
- ~~GT-CO3: CHEM 301 Advanced Scientific Writing – Chemistry (3)~~
- ~~GT-HI1: AMST 100 Self & Community in American Culture, 1600-1877 (3)~~
- ~~GT-HI1: AMST 101 Self & Community in American Culture Since 1877 (3)~~
- ~~GT-HI1: IU 173D Thinking Toward a Thriving Planet: Approaches to History (3)~~
- ~~GT-HI1: IU 174D Questions for Human Flourishing: Approaches to Historical Perspectives (3)~~
- **GT-MA1: FIN 200 Personal Finance (3)**
- ~~GT-MA1: MATH 105 Patterns of Phenomena (3)~~
- ~~GT-MA1: MATH 112 Mathematics of Sustainability (3)~~
- GT-MA1: MATH 120 College Algebra (3)
- GT-MA1: MATH 127 Precalculus (4)
- GT-MA1: MATH 156 Mathematics for Computational Science I (4)
- GT-MA1: STAT 201 General Statistics (3)
- GT-MA1: STAT 204 Statistics for Business Students (3)
- GT-SC1: CHEM 121 Foundations of Modern Chemistry Lab (1)
- GT-SC1: GEOL 150 Dynamic Earth (4)
- ~~GT-SC1: GR 110 Introduction to Physical Geography (3)~~
- ~~GT-SC1: GR 111 Introduction to Physical Geography Lab (1)~~
- ~~GT-SC1: LIFE 103 Biology of Organisms Animals and Plants (3)~~
- GT-SC1: NR 151A Study Abroad: Oceanography Lab (1)
- **GT-SC2: ANTH 274 Human Diversity (3)**
- GT-SC2: ATS 150 Science of Global Climate Change (3)
- GT-SC2: CHEM 120 Foundations of Modern Chemistry (4)
- ~~GT-SC2: ERHS 220 Introduction to Environmental Health (3)~~
- **GT-SC2: HES 202 Introduction to Exercise Physiology (3)**
- **GT-SC2: SOCR 210 Microbiome Roles in a Sustainable Earth (3)**
- GT-SS1: AREC 222 Economics of Food Systems (3)
- GT-SS1: POLS 160 Introduction to Public Policy (3)
- GT-SS1: POLS 272 Politics of Power, Justice, and Democracy (3)
- GT-SS2: GR 213 Climate Migrants (3)
- GT-SS2: GR 217 Human-Environment Geographies (3)

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- GT-SS2: NR 140 Diversity and Inclusion in Natural Resources (3)
- ~~GT-SS3: BUS 250 Music Business: Shifting the Social Landscape (3)~~
- ~~GT-SS3: FSHN 115 Health Equity (3)~~
- ~~GT-SS3: HES 145 Health and Wellness for Everyone (3)~~
- ~~GT-SS3: IDEA 110 Design Your Life with Social Impact (3)~~
- ~~GT-SS3: INST 179B Study Abroad – Ireland First Year Seminar: Culture, Society, and Environment (3)~~
- ~~GT-SS3: INST 179C Study Abroad – Japan First Year Seminar: Culture, Society, and Environment (3)~~
- GT-SS3: IU 173C Thinking Toward a Thriving Planet: Approaches to Social and Behavioral Sciences (3)
- GT-SS3: IU 174C Questions for Human Flourishing: Approaches to Social and Behavioral Sciences (3)
- ~~GT-SS3: KEY 175 Key Communities Diversity Inclusion and You (3)~~
- GT-SS3: PBHL 200 Introduction to Public Health (3)
- GT-SS3: SOC 270 Social Production of Reality (3)
- GT-SS3: SOC 271 Body and Society (3)
- GT-SS3: SOWK 130 Identity, Power, and Social Justice (3)
- GT-SS3: VMBS 165 Social Justice Issues in Healthcare (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
STAA (Physics)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reach out to individual IHEs for clarification on additional required courses (Computer Science I and General College Chemistry II w/laboratory) requirement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assigned to DHE staff (Christina) • To be completed in January 2025



SB24-164	Provide feedback on proposed rules	GE Council members – deadline: Monday, October 20
SB24-164	Complete fiscal note survey	GE Council members and additional stakeholders – deadline: Friday, October 31
GT Pathways	Review sample syllabi for courses with strikethrough	GE Council members – deadline: before November meeting
Ad hoc committee	Schedule initial meeting for dual sending/receiving roles for institutions in STAA agreements	Complete Committee Sign-Up Form ASAP.
Ad hoc committee	Schedule initial meeting for evolving general education landscape	Complete Committee Sign-Up Form ASAP.

