



TO: Chief Instructional Officers
Chief Student Services Officers
Academic Senate Presidents
Curriculum Committee Chairs
Articulation Officers
Transfer Center Directors

FROM: John Stanskas, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs
Equitable Student Learning, Experience and Impact Office (ESLEI)

RE: Cal-GETC Administrative Implementation Guidance Update

Background

[Assembly Bill 928](#) (Berman, 2021) established a singular general education pattern as part of the Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2021 (Education Code section 66749.8(i)). The singular lower division general education pathway will commence with the fall term of the 2025–26 academic year, and will be the only lower division general education pathway used to determine eligibility and sufficient academic preparation for transfer from community colleges into both the California State University (CSU) and the University of California (UC). As directed, the Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates (ICAS) established the California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC) framework and a Standards, Policies, and Procedures Manual.

An Intersegmental Administrative Implementation Workgroup was convened in Fall 2023 to determine a clear set of requirements for a successful implementation of the Cal-GETC framework developed by ICAS. This resulted in the distribution of two implementation guidance memos and a webinar directed to all three segments along with other key parties:

- [Cal-GETC Administrative Implementation Guidance](#) – February 14, 2024
- [Cal-GETC Webinar Materials](#) – February 28, 2024
- [Cal-GETC Infrastructure and Operational Alignment](#) – May 30, 2024

This memo is meant to provide timely clarifying information for the California Community Colleges in particular as all three public higher education segments continue to move toward operationalizing Cal-GETC. The information contained in this memo was derived from a compilation of inquiries from various sources, such as California Intersegmental Articulation Council (CIAC), as well as questions from the field. The Cal-GETC requirements will necessitate coordinated efforts and proactive planning to ensure a smooth transition to informed operations for Fall 2025.

Transition to Cal-GETC - Key Dates

It is important for all stakeholders to prioritize the following key dates with respect to their institution's internal processes. All efforts—including coordination across departments,

technology upgrades, communication plans, and professional development trainings— should align with these dates to ensure a successful and timely implementation of Cal-GETC.

- **December 2024:** ASSIST course submissions due for inaugural Cal-GETC review.
- **May 2025:** Publication of Cal-GETC courses by ASSIST.org. These courses will be available for public viewing in ASSIST.
- **Spring 2026:** Cal-GETC courses will be available for display on California community college student transcripts (from Fall 2025 term). This will be the first semester that a transfer student, if using the Cal-GETC pattern, could be reviewed for Cal-GETC certification.

Transitional Certification Eligibility and IGETC Courses

As noted in the Cal-GETC Administrative Implementation Guidance memo, dated February 14, 2024, students may present an Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) certification beginning with the version that was current when they began at a California community college. However, students without continuous enrollment who have taken IGETC approved courses prior to Fall 2025 may include those courses in Cal-GETC certification if those courses are **also** approved for the corresponding Cal-GETC Area as identified in section 3.4 of the Cal-GETC Standards Manual, version 1.2. For example, a student who passed an Archaeology course that was identified on IGETC 2023-2024 Area 4, Social and Behavioral Sciences, but then stopped out and returned for the fall 2025 term, will be required to use the Cal-GETC pattern. However, that same Archeology course, if it is also identified on Cal-GETC 2025-2026 Area 4, Social and Behavioral Sciences, can be used toward fulfillment of that Area 4 Cal-GETC requirement.

Grade Requirement for the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT)

Differing grade conditions have arisen within the ADT. [Education Code \(EDC\) 66746](#) and California Code of Regulation, [Title 5, section 55062](#) establish a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 (from a 4.0 scale), along with a minimum “C” grade or better for courses fulfilling the major, for conferring an Associate Degree. [EDC, 66749.8](#), along with the Cal-GETC Standards Manual, version 1.2 (Section 8.1, Minimum Grade Requirements) confirms a minimum “C” grade (2.0 in a 4.0 scale) for each Cal-GETC course, which is a requirement of the ADT. These distinct grading standards are similar to past practice with verification of IGETC separately applied in relationship within the ADT. Per the Chancellor’s Office [legal opinion](#), students will need to earn a grade of “C” or better in every course to fulfill Cal-GETC requirements.

Attention should be paid to all statutory and regulatory requirements necessary to confer an ADT or local degree with the Cal-GETC pattern. Appropriately, updates to degree audit programming and training for transcript evaluators should accompany this aspect of Cal-GETC implementation—that is, a “C” grade or higher for each certified general education (GE) and major preparation course, with an acceptable overall 2.0 GPA for the degree. It is important for effected students to be advised about this grade mandate with the implementation of Cal-GETC.

General Education Patterns Reference

Referential updates to the GE patterns in Education Code and Title 5 will occur during the transition period, and effective dates for those updates will vary. All approved GE patterns (i.e.,

IGETC, CSU General Education Breadth, and Cal-GETC) will be in use simultaneously during this time and will be effective for specifically identified students per previous guidance or equivalent local policy.

Cal-GETC Certificate of Achievement

Some colleges have created Certificates of Achievement for the various transfer GE patterns ([T5 §55070](#)). Such certificate development may continue with the Cal-GETC pattern. However, in alignment with Education Code section 66749.8(i), any previous GE certificates of achievement should be inactivated. Colleges may submit new Cal-GETC certificate programs into the Chancellor's Office Curriculum Inventory (COCI) system through the standard procedure described in the [Program and Articulation Handbook, 8th edition](#) (Certificates in California State University General Education Breadth and Intersegmental GE Transfer Curriculum or Adjacent State Transfer Pattern). Since this type of program is not related to Career and Technical Education (CTE), Chancellor's Office staff does not review such a submission.

Model Catalog Language

When the ADT was originally established, model language for catalog descriptions was provided. Since then, colleges have had the flexibility to determine their own catalog language around the ADT. This will continue with the caveat that all required and expected elements are included.

Resources and References

Stakeholders will find it helpful to leverage existing informational resources during the Cal-GETC pattern's implementation transition phase. The ICAS Cal-GETC Standards Committee continues to update the Cal-GETC Standards Manual; version 1.2 was recently released. While Cal-GETC Standards Manual 1.1 remains a viable resource, the newer version provides improved clarity and precision with regard to corresponding policies and procedures.

- [Cal-GETC Standards, Policies, and Procedures Manual, version 1.2](#) – This is the most recently approved version of current practices and policies related to Cal-GETC.
- [CCCCO ADT Compliance with Assembly Bill 928 and Cal-GETC Curriculum Submission Guidance](#) – This memo provides curriculum submission guidance for the Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs) specific to AB 928 and Cal-GETC.

Many inquiries and concerns can be alleviated by refreshing one's understanding of established policies and protocols.

- [AB 928 Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2021](#) – The bill that established the single general education pattern.
- [Guiding Notes for General Education Course Reviewers](#) – Elaboration on state and systemwide policies with guidance from experienced reviewers.
- [CSU General Education \(GE\) Requirements Policy](#) – This policy establishes a common understanding of the CSU GE requirements for transfer students.
- [UC General Education \(GE\) Admissions Information](#) – Information for UC undergraduate transfers as to the nature of and requirements for GE.

Cal-GETC Administrative Implementation Guidance Update

August 22, 2024

- [UC 7-Course Pattern](#) – Basic requirement information for the junior-level transfer applicant to meet to be considered for admission to the UC.
- [UC Transfer Course Agreement \(TCA\) Process](#) – A description of the UC’s submission and review process for establishment of baseline course transferability.

We are committed to providing support and guidance throughout this transition period. Your cooperation and diligence in preparing for these changes is highly appreciated. Inquiries may be sent to Transfer@CCCCO.edu.

cc: Chief Executive Officers
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