



California
Community
Colleges

Transfer Counselor
Website

Transfer Conference for Counselors



Welcome & Housekeeping

Tech Support

Technical support is available, please email conferences@foundationccc.org with any questions.

Closed Captioning

Click the Closed Caption (CC) tab to read live captions

Audio/Visual

You will be muted with your camera off during the entire webinar. To ask a question please utilize the Q&A feature.

Q&A

Click the Q&A tab to enter questions for the presenters and read their responses. We will do our best to answer as many questions before the end of this session. Questions we are unable to answer will be addressed post-event in the coming weeks. Some questions will be answered live at the end of each session.



Transfer
Counselor Website

ABOUT CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES > STUDENT JOURNEY RESOURCES AND TOOLS MAJORS AND CAREERS

Welcome to the New
**Transfer Counselor
Website**

Register for the Annual Transfer Conference! →



Search for a College or University

Search for a College or University Filters

Browse the [TCW Transfer Directory](#) →

All of today's presentations will be recorded and accessible on the CCC
Transfer Counselor [Website](#).

Early Intervention, Lasting Impact: Counseling Strategies for STEM Student Success

About Me

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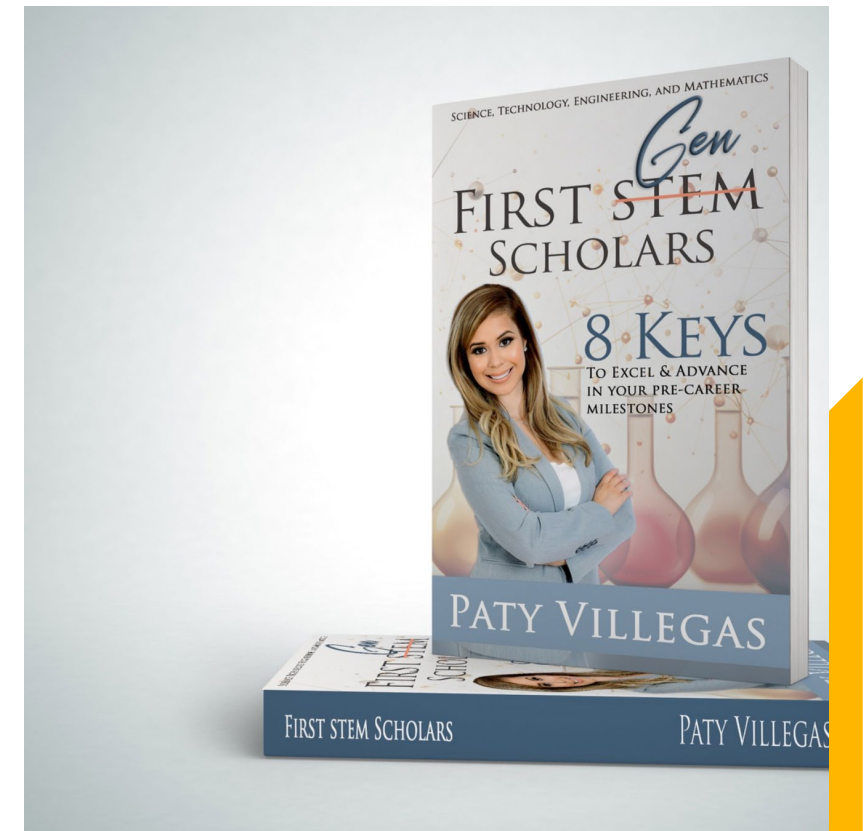
Founder, First STEM Scholars

Empowering first-generation STEM students in academic
and career success www.firststemscholars.com

Author (Upcoming):

First STEM Scholars: 8 Keys to Excel & Advance

Sign up to stay updated: www.firststemscholars.com



Lost in a New Country

- Steps off the plane-everything feels unfamiliar
- Language is different, signs don't make sense
- No clear map to destination
- Without help, progress is slow
- You rely on the guidance of a kind stranger



Experiencing a New Country on Campus

- **Unfamiliar “language”:** Units, prerequisites, transfer requirements
- **New culture:** Talking to new professors, navigating STEM courses
- **Complex pathway** to ultimate goal
- Ambition exists, but roadmap is unclear
- **Early Guidance** can be transform the journey



Counselors are a Guide

- Translate the system for students
- Navigate academic and cultural complexity
- Build confidence, clarity, and long-term success
- Early intervention= Changing trajectories
- Support now has lasting impact



Early Intervention, Lasting Impact

Counseling Strategies for Student Success

Goal

Equip counselors with strategies to leverage early interactions and initial appointments as pivotal moments that guide students toward achieving their academic goals.

Why This Matters

About 50%-60% of students leave STEM pathways

Source: Community College Research Center (CCRC), Columbia University.

Why STEM CC Students Delay Completion

- **Academic:** Math gaps, heavy STEM workload, failed/withdrawn gateway courses
- **Structural:** Complex transfer pathways, prereq sequencing, limited course access
- **Life:** Work (20-40 hrs), financial stress, family responsibilities
- **Social:** Low Confidence, Lack of belonging, limited STEM exposure
- **Advising:** Overloaded schedules, delayed referrals, unclear ed plans

Source: Community College Research Center (Columbia University)

What Research Shows

- Support programs increase persistence
- Structured pathways improve completion
- Early intervention is critical

Workshop Agenda & Learning Outcomes:

- Develop effective, student-centered comprehensive education plans (CEPs)
- Learn about internship resources and inclusive opportunities for all students
- How to apply compassionate, student-centered communication strategies
- Access professional development resources to strengthen STEM advising

STEM vs. Non-STEM Ed Plans

Non-STEM Ed Plans

- Less math-intensive
- More flexible and adjustable
- Courses often independent
- Transfer + degree flexibility
- More room to explore/change
- Easier to recover from delays
- Less urgency in sequencing
- Moderate monitoring needed

STEM vs. Non-STEM Ed Plans

STEM Ed Plans

- Math-Centered (Calc readiness is key)
- Highly structured & sequential
- Courses build on each other (Math->Physics)
- Transfer driven (full major prep usually required)
- Delays extend graduation timeline
- requires early intervention
- Performance monitoring critical

STEM Educational Plan: Initial Intake Questions

Academic Goals

- What is your major ?
- If unsure, list majors you are considering
- Do you plan to earn a degree/certificate?
- If yes, which one?
- Top 3 Transfer Institutions:
- Have you taken courses at other colleges? Yes No
- If yes, where? _____
- Have you sent official transcripts? Yes No N/A
- AP / IB / CLEP Exams? Yes No
- If yes, list exams & scores: _____
- Submitted to college? Yes No

STEM Educational Plan: Initial Intake Questions

Work & Enrollment Planning

- Planned course load: Part-Time Full-Time

Commitments

- Currently working? Yes No
- If yes, hours per week: _____
- Ongoing commitments (family, caregiving, etc.)? Yes No
- If yes, estimated hours/week: _____
- Interested in summer courses? Yes No

STEM Educational Plan: Initial Intake Questions

Math & Prereqs Assessment

1. Highest level of math you took in high school?
2. Do you feel confident in your math skills or would you like to be referred to tutoring services?
3. If applicable, ask if they took Chem in HS?

STEM Educational Plan: Initial Intake Questions

Engagement & Support Programs

- Are you currently participating in any support programs (e.g., MESA, EOPS, TRIO)?
- Did you have an IEP or receive accommodations in high school?
- If yes, have you connected with the Disability Resource Center on campus? Yes No
- Are you involved in any clubs or student organizations?

Continuing Students: Protect & Improve GPA

- Review Academic History: Consider academic renewal, P/NP, or EW options
- Adjust Course Load: Recommend lighter load if history shows low grades/withdrawals
- If Dropping a Course: Explore challenges & reassess unit load
- Monitor STEM GPA: Identify risk areas early
- Internship Check: Ask about experience; refer if none
- Review Transcript: Identify broken course sequences and advise students to maintain continuity
- Transcript Review & Referrals: Identify patterns → connect to tutoring, MESA, and support services

STEM Documentation Notes

Non-STEM Note:

- AA-T Psychology → Transfer to SJSU
- No external coursework or AP/IB/CLEP
- Plans part-time (work commitments)
- CEP created (2025–2026, Cal-GETC)

STEM Note:

- Biology major → Transfer to UC Berkeley
- No external coursework or AP/IB/CLEP
- Plans full-time + works ~40 hrs/week
- Advised lighter load / avoid stacking STEM → student declined
- Recommended completing CHEM sequence at same college
- Encouraged summer internships

Using Compassionate Language with Students

Scenario:

Student (2.3 GPA) wants to transfer to UC Berkeley with one semester left

Less Supportive Response:

- “Berkeley won’t admit you, it’s too competitive. Apply to CSUs.”

Compassionate, Student-Centered Response:

“UC Berkeley is a great goal, and I see your interest. For your major, admitted GPAs are typically around 3.5+, and you’re currently at a 2.3, which makes admission challenging. The good news is there are strong CSU options where you’d be competitive, let’s explore those together.”

Help Students Build a Competitive STEM Profile (for UCs & PIQs)

Encourage students to gain and track experiences early on.

- Education & GPA
- STEM Skills (technical, lab, computer, soft skills)
- STEM Coursework
- Projects & Research Experience
- Internships & Employment
- Awards & Scholarships
- Clubs, Leadership & Affiliations
- Community Service
- Conferences & Trainings
- Certificates & Professional Development
- Research Interests

Where to Refer Students for Internships

Top Websites:

- **REU Finder** – reufinder.com
- **AAMC** – aamc.org
- **Pathways to Science** – pathwaystoscience.org
- **NASA Internships** – nasa.gov
- **NSF REU Programs** – new.nsf.gov
- **U.S. Dept. of Energy (CCI)** – energy.gov
- **Community College Internships (CCI)** – science.osti.gov/wdts/cci

Undocumented Students:

- Immigrant Rising <https://immigrantsrising.org/>
- TheDream.US: <https://www.thedream.us/>

Click here to explore a list of opportunities through [TheDream.US](https://www.thedream.us/)

STEM Professional Organizations

- Society of Women Engineers (SWE)
- National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)
- Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE)
- IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers)
- American Chemical Society (ACS)
- SACNAS (Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science)

Professional Development Opportunities for Counselors

Pre-Health Conference

- *Pre-Health Professions Virtual Conference*
- **Dates:** April 16–17, 2026 (Thurs–Fri)
- **Link:** <https://www.ivc.edu/transfer-center/hpc>

Premedcc.org

- Regular workshops & pre recorded webinars

WAAHP (Western Association for Advisors in Health Professions)

- Professional development for pre-health advisors
- Focused on California and surrounding regions

Conclusion: You are their Guide

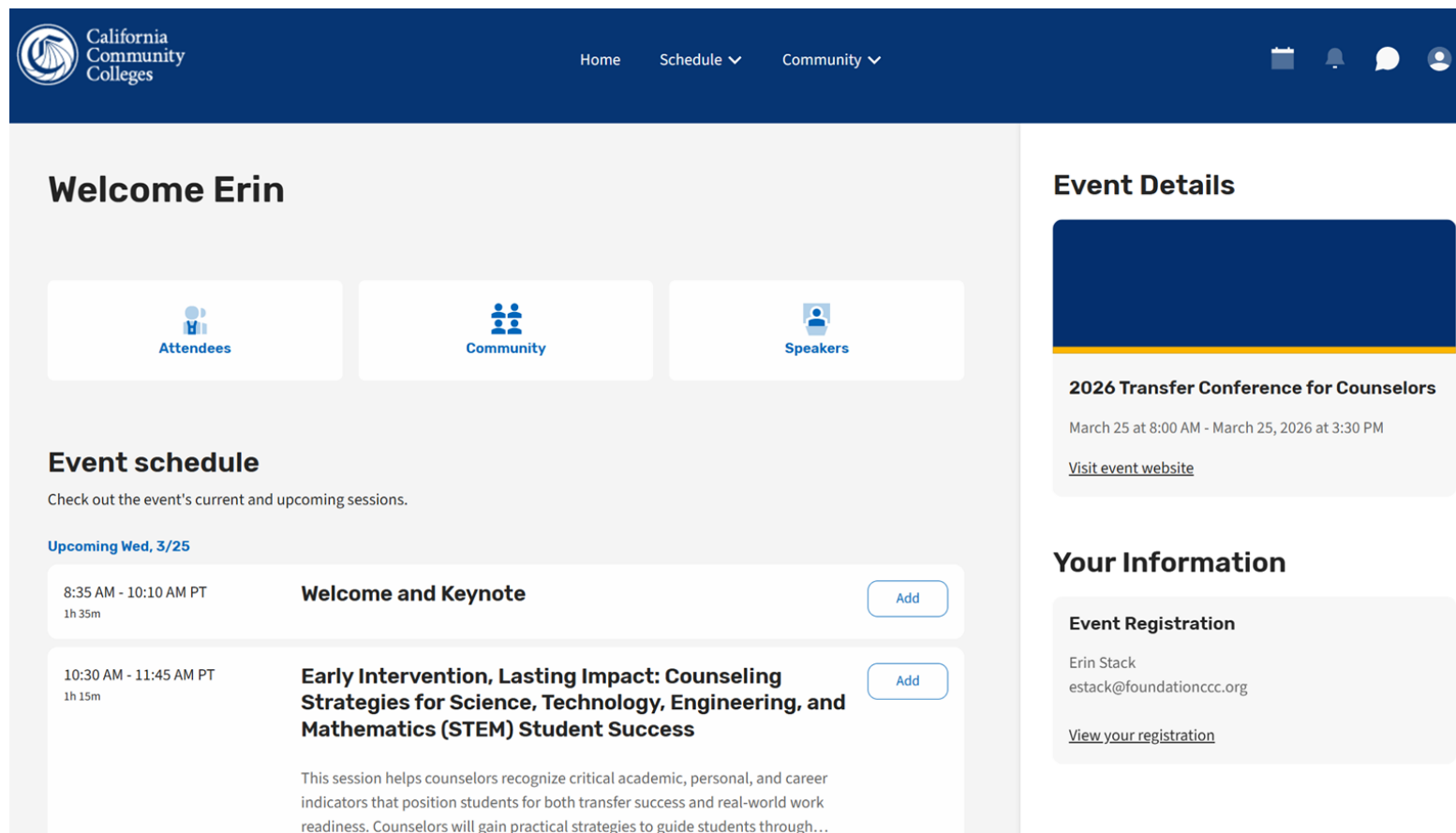
- STEM students are navigating an unfamiliar system
- Without guidance, progress is slow- with support, it transforms
- Translate the system
- Build confidence & clarity
- Guide intentional pathways
- **Early intervention changes trajectories**

Your Impact Matters: You are guiding students toward their future in STEM



THANK YOU!

Download Free Counselor Intake guide:
www.firststemscholars.com



The screenshot shows a user interface for an event. At the top is a dark blue navigation bar with the California Community Colleges logo, 'Home', 'Schedule', and 'Community' menus, and icons for a calendar, notifications, chat, and profile. Below the navigation bar, the main content is divided into two columns. The left column is titled 'Welcome Erin' and features three white cards with icons for 'Attendees', 'Community', and 'Speakers'. Below these is an 'Event schedule' section with the text 'Check out the event's current and upcoming sessions.' and a sub-section for 'Upcoming Wed, 3/25'. It lists two sessions: 'Welcome and Keynote' (8:35 AM - 10:10 AM PT, 1h 35m) and 'Early Intervention, Lasting Impact: Counseling Strategies for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Student Success' (10:30 AM - 11:45 AM PT, 1h 15m). Each session has an 'Add' button. A description for the second session is provided below it. The right column is titled 'Event Details' and features a dark blue header. Below it, the event title '2026 Transfer Conference for Counselors' is displayed, along with the dates 'March 25 at 8:00 AM - March 25, 2026 at 3:30 PM' and a 'Visit event website' link. Below this is a 'Your Information' section with a sub-section for 'Event Registration' showing the user's name 'Erin Stack', email 'estack@foundationccc.org', and a 'View your registration' link.

Throughout the day, please continue to revisit the attendee portal to access each of the sessions you're interested in.