

3.10 UNDERGRADUATE TRANSFER AND ARTICULATION

3.10.1 Purpose

This policy is designed to facilitate the transfer of students between and among community colleges and universities within the State System and ensure maximum transfer of credit hours and course work for students.

3.10.2 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in the Chapter, shall have the following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“Accreditation” is the process used by the State Regents or other entities recognized by the U.S. Department Education (USDE) to ensure postsecondary education providers meet and maintain minimum standards of quality and integrity regarding academics, administration, and related services.

“Academic Notice” is a designation for Freshman students, 30 or fewer credit hours, with a retention GPA of 1.7 to less than 2.0.

“Academic Probation” is a designation for any student whose retention GPA falls below those designated in this policy for a given semester.

“Academic Suspension” is a designation for any student who was on academic probation the previous semester and who fails to raise the GPA to the required retention level or to achieve a 2.0 GPA the next semester in regularly-graded course work, not to include activity or performance courses. The student will be suspended from the institution.

“Associate Degree” is typically a credential requiring two years of full-time equivalent college work (at least 60 credit hours). The State Regents recognize three types of associate degrees—the Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, and Associate in Applied Science.

“Baccalaureate Degree” (also referred to as a bachelor’s degree) is typically a credential requiring four years of full-time equivalent college work (at least 120 credit hours). The State Regents recognize three types of baccalaureate degrees—the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, and Bachelor of (Specialty).

“Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)” is the average of a student’s earned grades calculated by point values assigned to letter grades that includes grades for all attempted regularly-graded course work, including activity courses and forgiven course work. The use of the CGPA on the transcript is optional, but it may be used to determine financial aid eligibility, admission to graduate or professional programs, or for graduation honors.

“Extracurricular Learning” is learning attained outside the sponsorship of legally authorized and accredited postsecondary institutions. The term applies to learning acquired from work and life experiences, independent reading and study, the mass media and participation in formal courses sponsored by associations, business, government, industry, the military and unions.

“General Education” is a standard curriculum required in all undergraduate programs. The general education curriculum provides broad exposure to multiple disciplines and emphasizes the learning of facts, values, understandings, skills, attitudes, and appreciations believed to be meaningful concerns that are common to all students by virtue of their involvement as human beings living in a global society.

“Good Academic Standing” is a designation for any student who meets the retention requirements as set forth in this.

“GPA” see Retention/Graduation Point Average.

“Lower-Division Course Work” are courses generally taken in the freshman and sophomore year; numbered at the 1000 and 2000 level.

“Regional Accrediting Agency” is a nationally recognized accrediting agency whose geographic scope has been defined by the Secretary of the USDE to include at least three states that are contiguous or in close proximity to one another. Regional accreditation is a voluntary non-governmental organization that establishes criteria for educational quality in the geographic region. The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities (HLC) accredits public and private/independent institutions in Oklahoma. HLC evaluates institutions based on Eligibility Requirements (ER) and the Criteria for Accreditation and accredits those institutions that meet these requirements.

“Remedial/Developmental Courses” are zero-level courses that do not carry college credit and are designed to raise students’ competency in the subject area to the collegiate level.

“Retention/Graduation Grade Point Average (GPA)” (hereinafter referred to as GPA unless preceded by another descriptor such as ‘high school’)) is the average of a student’s earned grades calculated by point values assigned to letter grades that is used to determine a student’s eligibility to remain enrolled or graduate from an institution. Activity courses and forgiven course work are not calculated in the GPA. (See the State Regents’ *Grading Policy*.) This GPA may be used to determine financial aid eligibility, admission to graduate or professional programs, or for graduation honors.

“Transcript” is the official document issued by an institution with student information that is a complete and accurate reflection of a student’s academic career. Includes information such as GPA, semesters of attendance, courses taken, grades and credit hours awarded, degrees received, academic standing, academic honors, and transfer information. The transcript may also include the CGPA.

“Transfer Student” is any undergraduate student with greater than six attempted credit hours, excluding remedial/developmental (zero-level courses) or pre-college work and excluding credit hours accumulated by concurrently enrolled high school students.

“Upper-Division Course Work” are courses generally taken in the junior and senior year; numbered at the 3000 and 4000 level.

3.10.3 Admission of Transfer Students

A. Admission by Transfer within the System

Undergraduate students entering a State System institution by transfer from another State System institution must meet one of the following:

1. Students originally meeting both the high school curricular requirements and academic performance standards of the institution to which the student wishes to transfer must have a GPA high enough to meet the institution's retention standards as defined in the State Regents' *Institutional Admission and Retention Policy*.
2. Students originally meeting the high school curricular requirements but not the academic performance standards of the institution to which the student wishes to transfer must have a GPA high enough to meet the institution's retention standards based on at least 24 attempted semester credit hours of regularly graded (A, B, C, D, F) college work.
3. Students originally meeting the performance but not the curricular requirements of the institution to which the student wishes to transfer must have a GPA high enough to meet that institution's retention standards as defined in the State Regents' *Institutional Admission and Retention Policy* and must also complete the curricular requirements before transferring.
4. A student originally meeting neither the curricular nor the performance requirements of the institution to which the student wishes to transfer must have a GPA high enough to meet the institution's retention standards based on at least 24 attempted semester credit hours of regularly-graded (A, B, C, D, F) college work and must also complete the curricular requirements of the institution to which the student wishes to transfer before transferring.

B. Admission by Transfer from Non-State System Institutions

Undergraduate students wishing to transfer from non-State System institutions to an institution in the State System may do so by meeting the entrance requirements of the receiving institution as outlined in the State Regents' *Institutional Admission and Retention Policy*; and also meet the following:

1. Transcripts of record from colleges and universities accredited by the HLC or other regional associations will be given full value.

2. Each nonresident applicant must be in good standing in the institution from which the applicant plans to transfer.
 - a. Each nonresident applicant must have made satisfactory progress (an average grade of “C” or better or meet this policy’s current retention standards, whichever is higher) in the institution from which the applicant plans to transfer.
3. Transcripts of record from institutions not accredited by a regional association may be accepted in transfer when appropriate to the student’s degree program and when the receiving institution has had an opportunity to validate the courses or programs.
 - a. Each nonresident undergraduate applicant must meet the conditions of 1.a and 1.b above.
 - b. Each nonresident undergraduate applicant who meets 1.a and 1.b above will also be required to validate the transferred credit by making satisfactory progress (an average of “C” or better) for at least one semester.

C. Non-native Speakers of English

Transfer students who are non-native speakers of English must meet the same transfer admission standards as outlined in 3.10.3 subsection A or B, dependent upon their educational background or have attended a college or university where English is the primary teaching language in a country where English is a primary language and that is recognized by professional organizations in the U.S. involved in admissions and international education for a minimum of 24 semester credit hours with passing grades and also meet other transfer requirements.

Student with less than 24 hours from a college or university where English is the primary teaching language in a country where English is a primary language and that is recognized by professional organizations in the U.S. involved in admissions and international education must meet the language requirements for first-time undergraduate students.

D. Transfer Probation

Students who do not meet the academic criteria including curricular requirements in section A or B above, but have not been formally suspended, may be admitted as transfer probation students. Institutions may develop policies and procedures, subject to State Regents approval, to guide the admission of transfer students who do not meet the requirements. Such policies should include that these students are admitted on probation and must maintain a 2.0 GPA average each semester while on probation or raise their GPA to the designated level, as

detailed in the State Regents' *Institutional Admission and Retention Policy*. Any transfer probation student with curricular deficiencies must remove the deficiencies within the first 12 hours of enrollment. Additionally, it is expected that institutions will provide the appropriate academic support services to assist such students in achieving academic success.

E. Higher Standards

The University of Oklahoma (OU) and Oklahoma State University (OSU) are authorized by the State Regents to assume higher standards for admission by transfer. Standards for the admission of students as stated above are considered minimum. Institutions may request higher standards.

3.10.4 Transfer of Course Work Within the State System

The following guidelines for transfer of students among institutions have been adopted for the State System.

- A. A student who has completed the prescribed lower-division requirements of a State System institution developed in accordance with the standards set forth in the State Regents' *Undergraduate Degree Requirements Policy* may transfer into a baccalaureate degree program at any senior institution of the State System and be assured of completing his or her program in sequential fashion. Senior institutions may, with the approval of the State Regents, require that transferring students complete additional general education work for the degree. However, such additional work shall be programmed as a part of the upper division requirements of the senior institution in order that any student shall be able to complete a baccalaureate program in a number of semester hours equal to the total specified for graduation published in the receiving institution's official catalog.
- B. It is understood, however, that it might be necessary for certain students to take additional courses in general education to meet minimum professional certification requirements as defined by the state. It is also understood that the completion of these requirements does not preclude requirements of senior institutions of particular GPAs for admission to professional departments or fields.
- C. It is further understood that it is the responsibility of the transferring institution to provide adequate counseling to enable a student to complete during the freshman and sophomore years those lower-division courses which are published prerequisites to pursuit of junior level courses of his or her chosen major disciplinary field.
- D. The baccalaureate degree in all Oklahoma senior-level institutions shall be awarded in recognition of lower-division (freshman and sophomore) combined with upper-division (junior and senior) work. If a student has completed an AA or AS

degree, the lower-division general education requirement of the baccalaureate degree shall be the responsibility of the institution awarding the associate degree, providing the general education requirements specified herein are met. If, for any reason, a student has not completed an associate degree program prior to his or her transfer to another institution, the general education requirements shall become the responsibility of the receiving institutions. However, the receiving institution will recognize general education credit for all transfer courses in which a reasonable equivalency of discipline or course content exists with courses specified as part of general education at the receiving institution, provided that there is an appropriate correspondence between the associate degree and the baccalaureate degree being sought.

- E. If a student has completed general education courses at a baccalaureate degree-recommending institution within the State System, the receiving baccalaureate institution will recognize general education credit for all courses in which a reasonable equivalency or discipline or course content exists with courses specified as part of general education at the receiving institution, provided that there is an appropriate correspondence of disciplinary study.
- F. Lower-division programs in all state institutions enrolling freshmen and sophomores may offer introductory courses which permit the student to explore the principal professional specializations that can be pursued at the baccalaureate level. These introductory courses shall be adequate in content to be fully counted toward the baccalaureate degree for students continuing in such a professional field of specialization. The determination of the major course requirements for a baccalaureate degree, including courses in the major taken in the lower division, shall be the responsibility of the institution awarding the degree. However, courses classified as upper-division courses generally taken by sophomores at senior institutions, even though taught at a community college as lower-division courses, should be transferable as satisfying that part of the student's requirement in the content area.
- G. Courses offered at the freshman or sophomore (1000 or 2000) level at baccalaureate degree-recommending institutions may be offered at a community college provided that such courses are included in the community college's approved instructional program.
- H. Other associate degrees and certificates may be awarded by institutions for programs which have requirements different from the aforementioned degrees, or a primary objective other than transfer. Acceptance of course credits for transfer from such degree or certificate programs will be evaluated by the receiving institution on the basis of applicability of the courses to the baccalaureate program in the major field of the student. Each

receiving institution is encouraged to develop admission policies that will consider all factors indicating the possibility of success of these students in its upper division.

- I. Each baccalaureate degree-recommending institution shall list and update the requirements for each program leading to the baccalaureate degree and shall publicize these requirements for use by all other institutions in the State System. Each baccalaureate degree-recommending institution shall include in its official publications (whether print or electronic) information stating all lower-division prerequisite requirements for each upper-division course. All requirements for admission to a university, college, or program should be set forth with precision and clarity. The degree requirements in effect at the time of the student's initial full-time enrollment in any State System college or university shall govern lower-division prerequisites, provided that the student has had continuous enrollment in the State System as defined in the official college or university publications.
- J. Institutions are encouraged to publish, distribute, and keep current transfer guides. The transfer guides should include institutional procedures for the evaluation of course equivalency and a description of the appeals process. A systemwide course transfer matrix is maintained online and updated annually by the State Regents.
- K. Credit for extracurricular learning, once recorded at a State System institution, is transferable on the same basis as if the credit had been earned through regular study at the awarding institution. See the State Regents' *Credit for Extracurricular Learning Policy*.

Admission Policy: Revised December 9, 1994; June 28, 1995; June 28, 1996; June 27, 1997; September 5, 1997; April 3, 1998; December 3, 1999; February 18, 2000; December 1, 2000; February 9, 2001; March 30, 2001; June 29, 2001; October 26, 2001; February 7, 2002; June 27, 2002; September 13, 2002; November 1, 2002; December 5, 2002; June 30, 2003; June 30, 2004 and November 29, 2007. IEP Policy: Revised August 16, 1994; April 11, 1997; May 30, 2003. Undergraduate Degree Requirements Policy: Approved April 15, 1994; Revised April 3, 1998; June 30, 1998; October 15, 1999; April 7, 2000; April 1, 2004. Credit for Extracurricular Learning Policy: Revised February 8, 1995. Uniform Course Numbering Policy: Approved December 15, 1970. Revised for GPA purposes, June 24, 2010.