

ASSOCIATE DEGREES & TRANSFERRING

California Community Colleges

Associate Degrees

1. Associate Degree
 - Two main types: AA (Arts) and AS (Science)
 - 60 semester units / 90 quarter units
 - Lower-division courses (freshmen and sophomore level)
 - Issued and recognized nation-wide; the standard accepted CC degree
 - Some U.S. 4-year colleges and universities will only offer transfer scholarships to students who complete an AA or AS
2. [Associate Degree for Transfer \(ADT\)](#)
 - Two types: AA-T and AS-T
 - 60 semester units / 90 quarter units
 - Lower-division courses (freshmen and sophomore level)
 - Specific to California
 - Only for certain (about 40) majors
 - Initially designed for students to transfer to the CSU system
 - Recently expanding beyond CSU
 - Known as a [Degree with a Guarantee](#)

Major & General Education Requirements

1. Major Requirements
 - A major is a primary area of study which leads to a degree.
 - Information as to which classes are required for a specific major at a specific university can be obtained from the university catalog and from articulation agreements. These articulation agreements can be found at the Counseling Office or the Transfer Center or online at [ASSIST](#).
2. General Education (GE) — 3 Options:
 - GE
 - For students who do not intend to transfer
 - 18 units of GE courses; 4 areas
 - Students also do electives (Major, GE, electives)
 - GE for CSU
 - For students who intend to transfer to a CSU
 - 39 units of GE courses; 5 areas
 - IGETC
 - For students who intend to transfer to a CSU or UC
 - Best option for those who want to keep options open and haven't decided on an institution or major

- Satisfy the lower-division GE requirements at both UCs and CSUs.
- 34 units of GE courses; 6 areas
- Most UC campuses do not recommend IGETC for students majoring in engineering or science (physical or natural) - require extensive lower-division courses. These students should concentrate on completing the prerequisites for the major required by the individual UC campus. However, they can choose to follow the IGETC for STEM pattern of course work in addition to major preparation.
- IGETC for STEM is a pattern of courses currently only available to students earning an associate degree for transfer (ADT) at a California community college in a major that explicitly offers IGETC for STEM as an option.
- Students who do not complete IGETC before transferring will be required to satisfy the lower-division general education/breadth requirements of the UC college or school they attend.

SUBJECT AREAS (6)	REQUIRED COURSES (11)	REQUIRED UNITS (34)
English communication One course in English composition and one course in critical thinking/English composition.	2	6 semester units or 8-10 quarter units
Mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning	1	3 semester units or 4-5 quarter units
Arts and humanities Three courses with at least one from the arts and one from the humanities.	3	9 semester units or 12-15 quarter units
Social and behavioral sciences Three courses from at least two disciplines, or an interdisciplinary sequence.	3	9 semester units or 12-15 quarter units
Physical and biological sciences One physical science course and one biological science course, at least one of which includes a laboratory.	2	7-9 semester units or 9-12 quarter units
Language other than English *Proficiency equivalent to two years of high school courses in the same language.	Proficiency	Proficiency

* Students intending to transfer to CSU are required to take an additional course in oral communication and do not need to demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English.

Transferring to a 4-year Institution

- The minimum GPA for the CSU system is a 2.0
- The minimum GPA for the UC system is a 2.4 for California residents and 2.8 for non-residents.
- An Associate degree is **not** required for transfer to most universities. Universities are more concerned about major preparation and general education courses.
- In many cases, students can complete their Associate degree as well as their requirements for transfer.
- The 23 CSUs grants bachelor's and master's degrees — career orientation.
- The 10 UCs (one professional): focal point for academic and scientific research. Grants bachelor's, master's, and doctorates and professional degrees. The emphasis at the bachelor's level is on theoretical learning.
- UC application window is from November 1–30
- TAG
 - Students can only apply for one TAG
 - May 1–31: Submit TAG for winter/spring term (only Merced & Riverside)
 - Sept. 1–30: Submit TAG for fall term
 - Nov. 1–30:
 - must also submit a UC application to that univ.
 - apply to other UC campuses
 - Completion of IGETC is **not** required for TAG
 - Some majors are excluded from TAG
 - Receive admissions decision March 1 – May 1 (same for all UC applicants)
 - Offers of admission are provisional until the campus receives final official transcript & verifies successful completion of all coursework required for UC.
 - When students are admitted, they must accept or decline the offer.
 - If they accept an offer, students declare their intent to register with either a Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) form or on a website.
 - The TAG admission is a guarantee, but it is **not** binding.
- CSU and UC campuses require students to complete 60 transferable units in order to be eligible for upper-division transfer. Many private universities and out-of-state colleges will accept transfer students with fewer transfer units, typically 24 – 30.
- Assist.org
 - Transfer & articulation system for California's public colleges & univ.
 - Be sure that courses are transferable