



*Government Policy and Credit Transfer  
Systems & Applications:*

*Credit Transfer Practices in the  
USA—New Lessons  
for a New World*

Stephen J. Handel, Ph.D. Executive Director—Strategic  
Higher Education Assessment Use and Opportunity

Conference on Credit Transfer Practices in Higher  
Education: Partnership for Success

Hong Kong, November 27, 2020



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# Agenda



Thoughts on Our Present Circumstances



Credit Transfer in the US: Then and Now



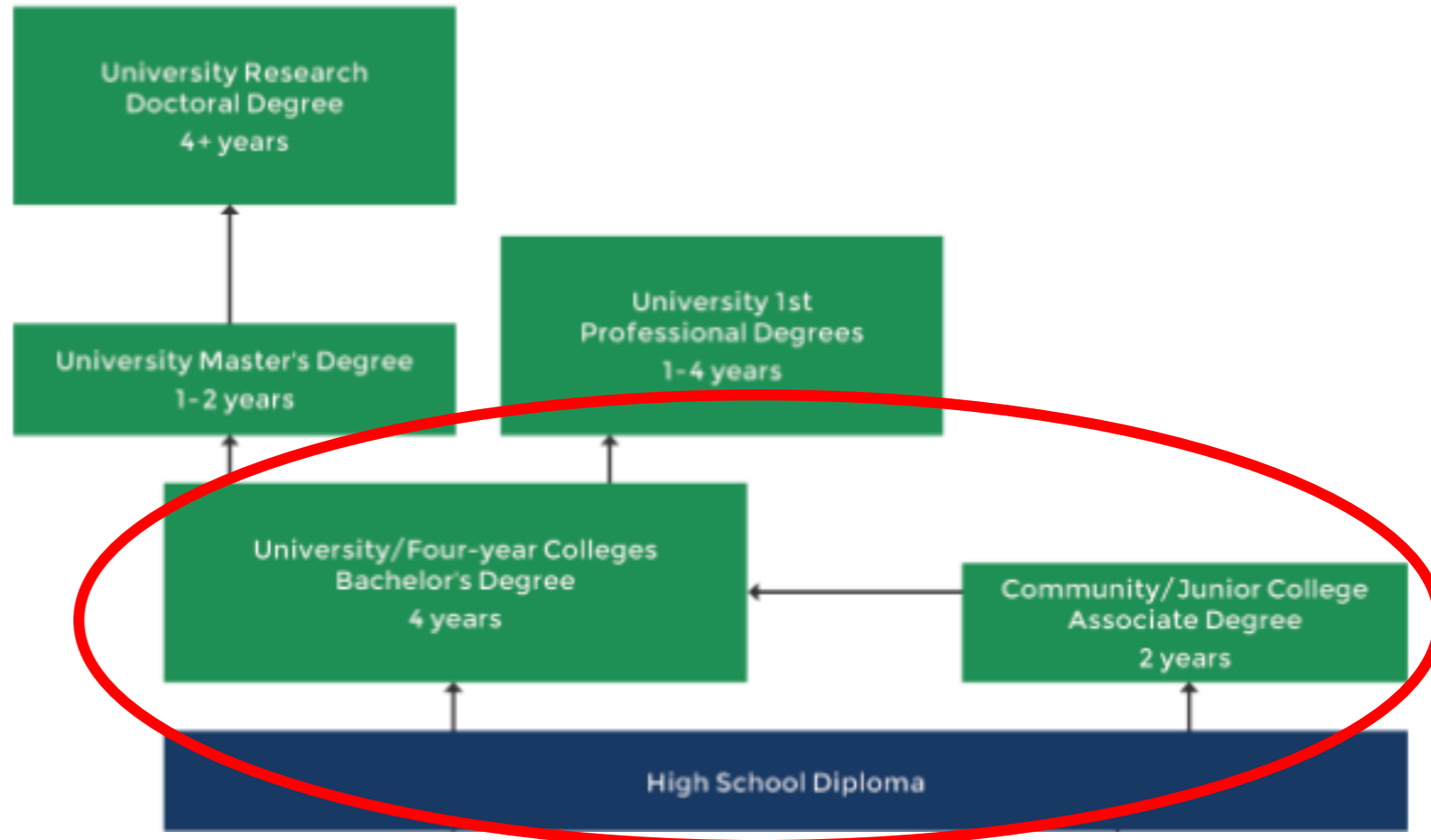
Credit Transfer: Examples of Policies and Practices



Enduring Lessons for the Future

# US Higher Education

Structure of U.S. Education System



# Pandemic's Impact on Higher Education

Los Angeles Times

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CALIFORNIA

Pandemic has led to steep decline in international student enrollment, report says

The New York Times

Coronavirus > | N.Y.C. to Close Schools | Rural 'Dead Zones' | Suspended Reopening Plans | College Journalis

## Colleges Slash Budgets in the Pandemic, With 'Nothing Off-Limits'

Liberal arts departments, graduate student aid and even tenured teaching positions are targets as the coronavirus causes shortfalls.

Forbes

2,070 views | Sep 29, 2020, 08:59am EDT

## Pandemic's Impact On Higher Education Grows Larger; Now Estimated to Exceed \$120 Billion

News & Views | Job Search | Events | Reports & Data

Trending: **Coronavirus** **Live Updates** - 5 hours 14 min ago  
Faculty Stress | Community College Enrollment

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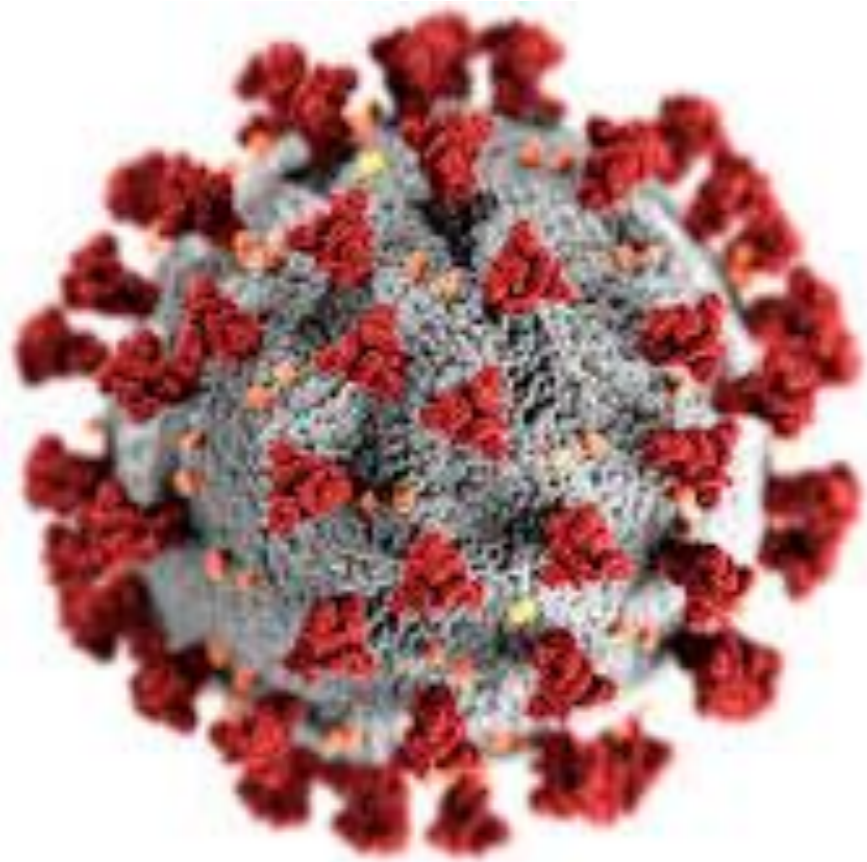
#News #Coronavirus

## Higher Education and Work Amid Crisis

The pandemic has accelerated and worsened equity gaps in higher education and its connection to work, according to new data, which may also show paths to improving this connection.

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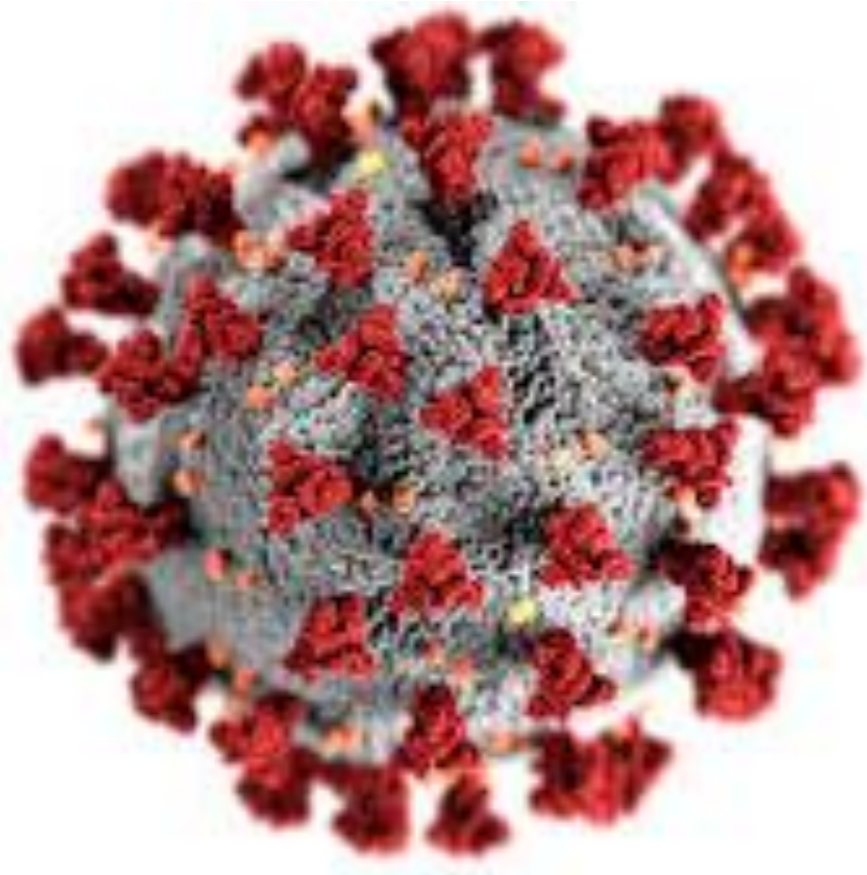
# Our New Normal: Impact on Higher Education



- Students stopping out or dropping out
- On-Line learning accelerating
- “Digital Divide” magnified
- Low income and underrepresented students bearing the brunt

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# Our New Normal: Impact on Higher Education



- Expansion of the internet and on-line platforms like Zoom have allowed us to communicate virtually.
- On-line learning has expanded significantly, providing students with an opportunity to earn college credit without having to go to a classroom.
- New and growing sources of college credit, such as Advanced Placement (AP), IB, and PLA, will advance student progress around the world.

It is predicted that by 2025, 32% of students attending public four-year institutions will transfer with 30 or more credits from another institution.

% of Students Enrolling With >30 Credits From Another Institution				
	Public 4-Year		Private 4-Year	
	Current	2025	Current	2025
<10%	6%	2%	21%	12%
10%-19%	21%	9%	22%	15%
20%-29%	17%	21%	15%	22%
30%-39%	9%	21%	12%	15%
40%-49%	15%	6%	7%	10%
>50%	17%	32%	9%	16%
Unsure	13%	9%	15%	9%

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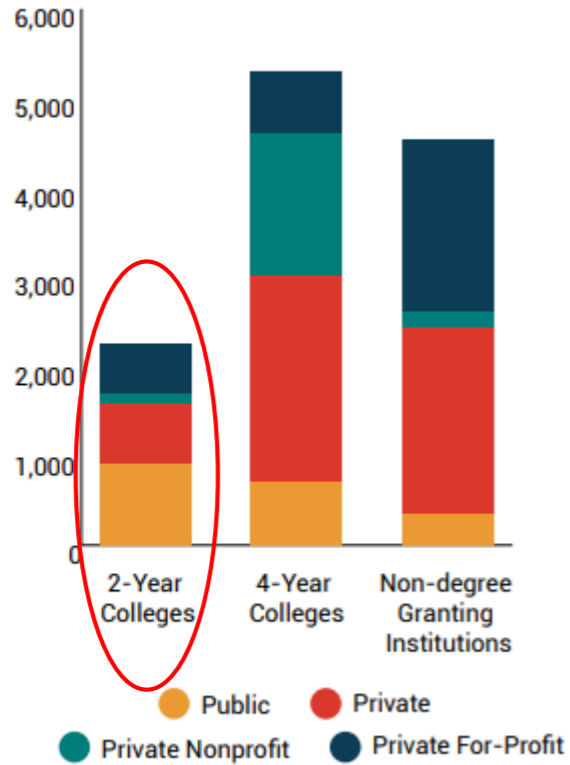


Enduring Lessons for the Future



# US Higher Education

FIGURE 2: DEGREE-GRANTING INSTITUTIONS, BY TYPE



Source: NCES 2016b

TABLE 2: U.S. HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM, BY INSTITUTION TYPE

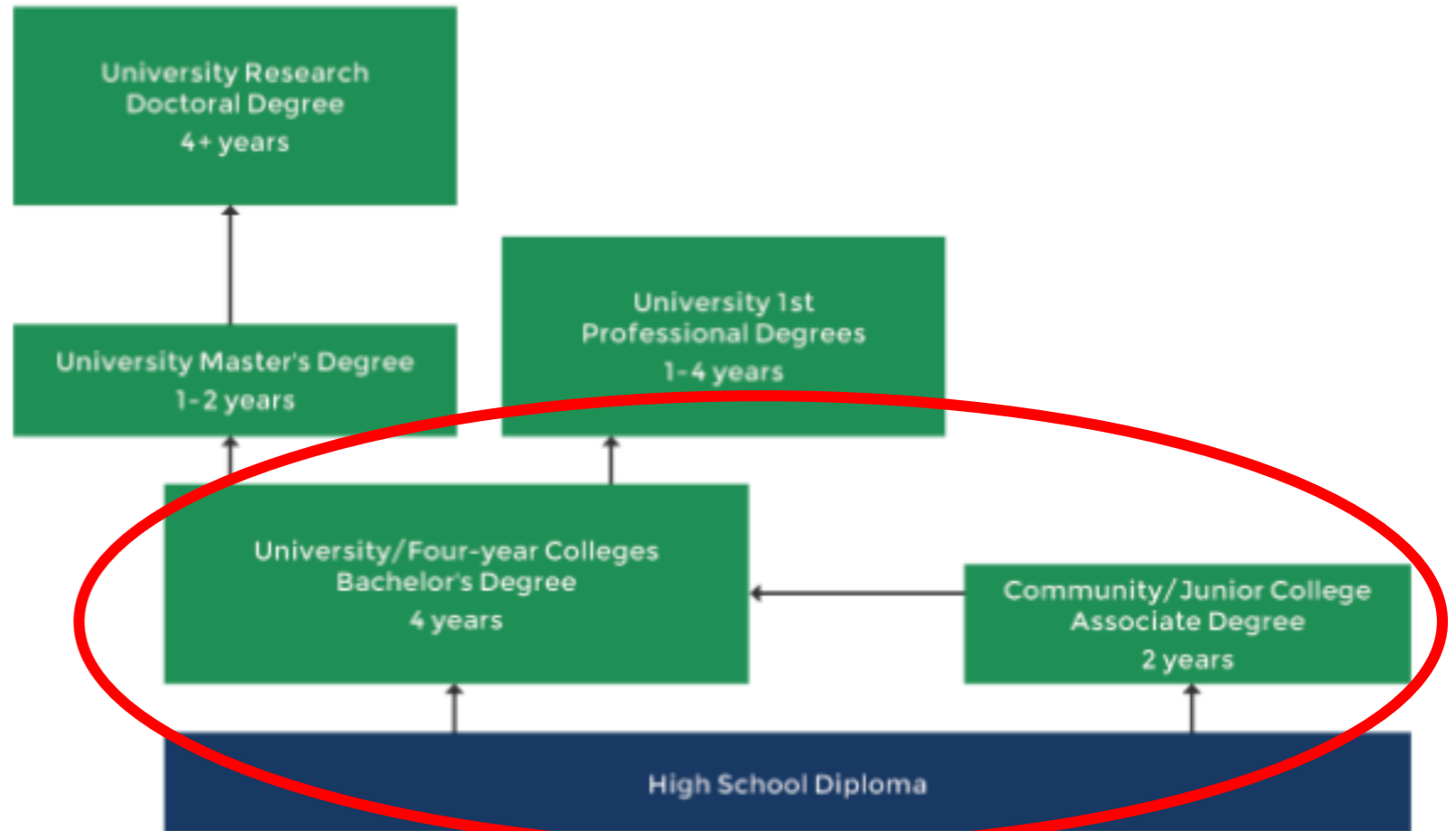
	N	%
Doctoral Universities	335	7%
Master's Colleges and Universities	741	16%
Baccalaureate Colleges	583	13%
Baccalaureate/Associate	408	9%
Associate Colleges	1,113	24%
Other	1,484	33%
Total	4,664	100%

Source: NCES 2016b

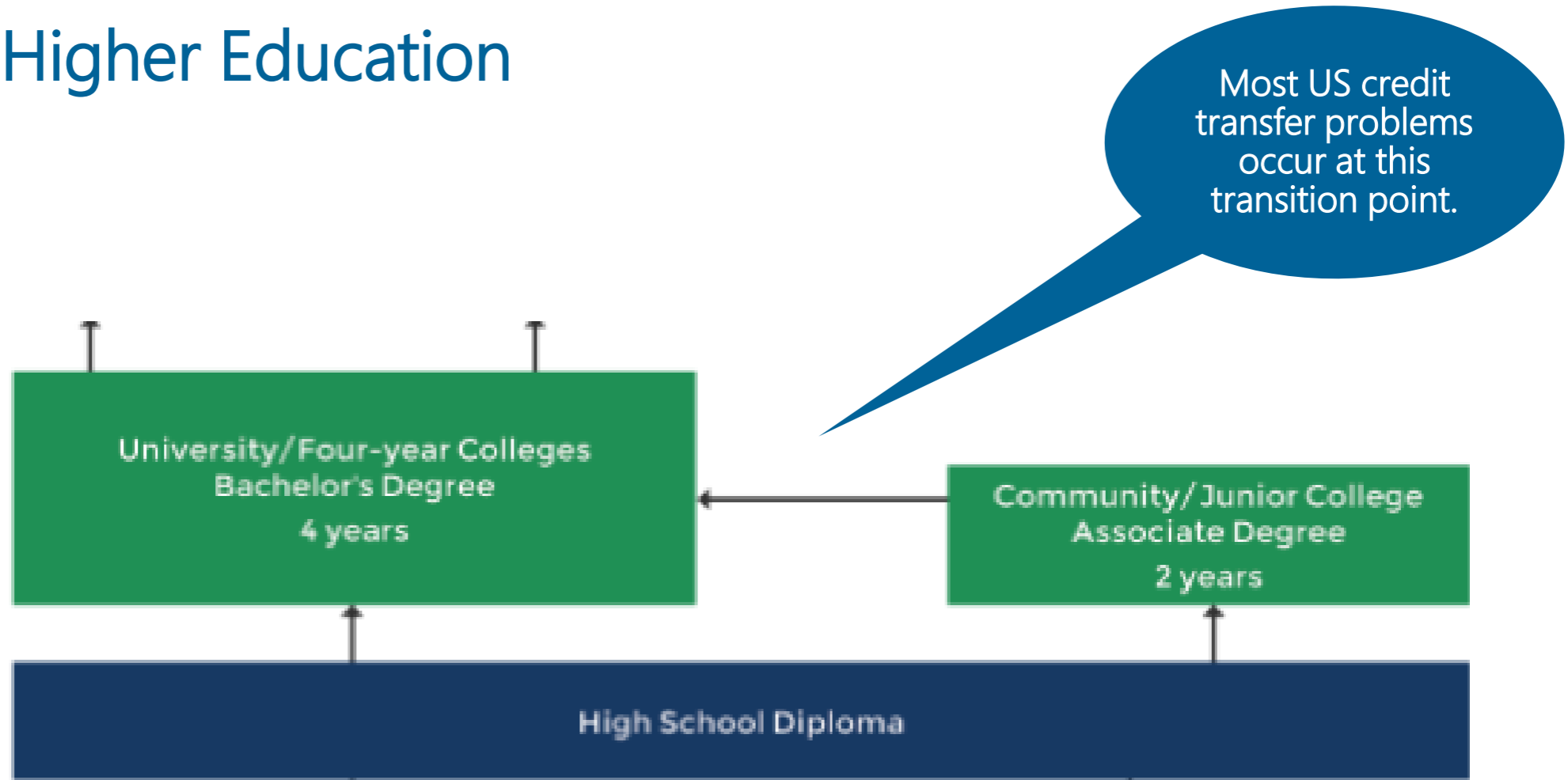
Source: American Council on Education ("US Higher Education: A Brief Guide")

# US Higher Education

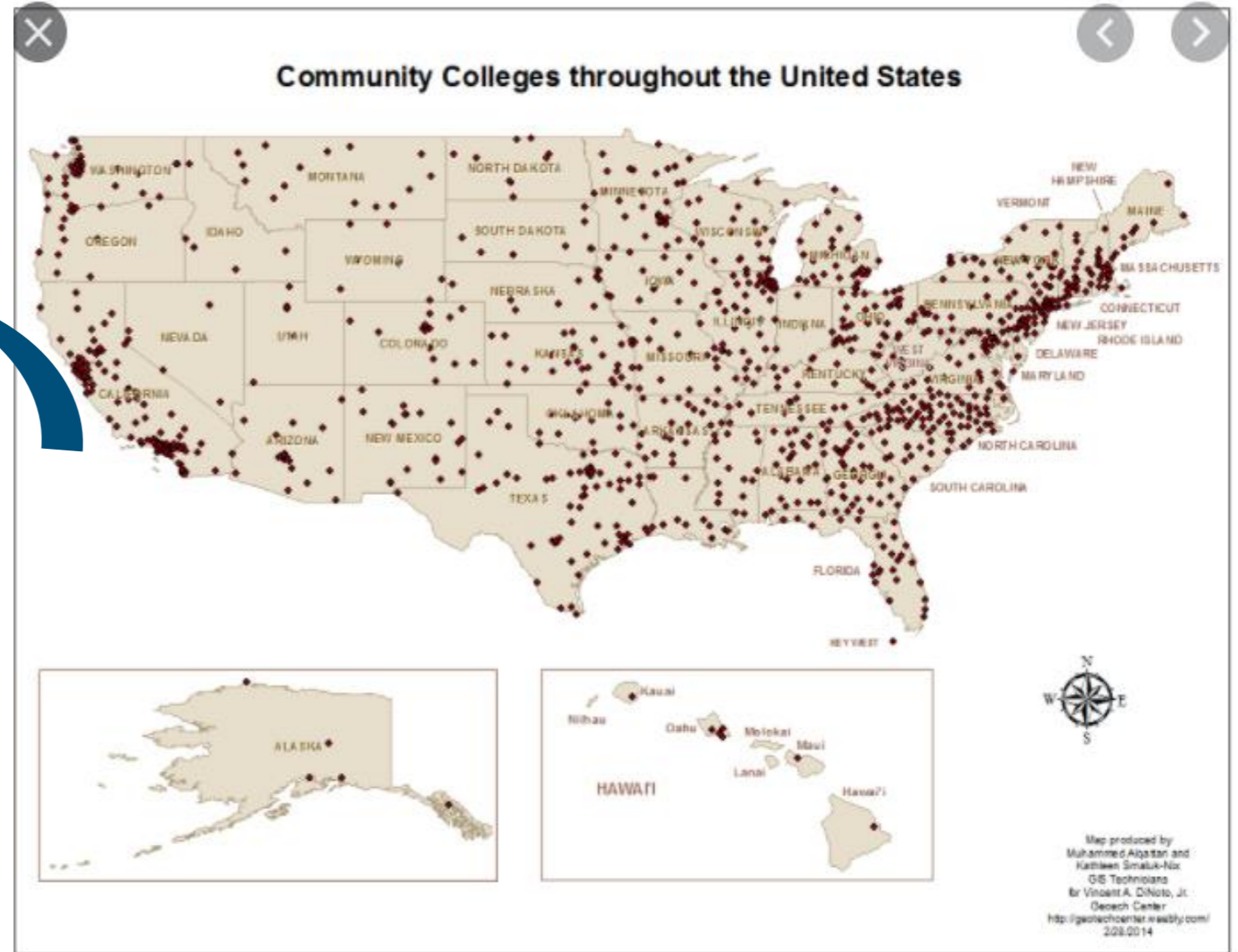
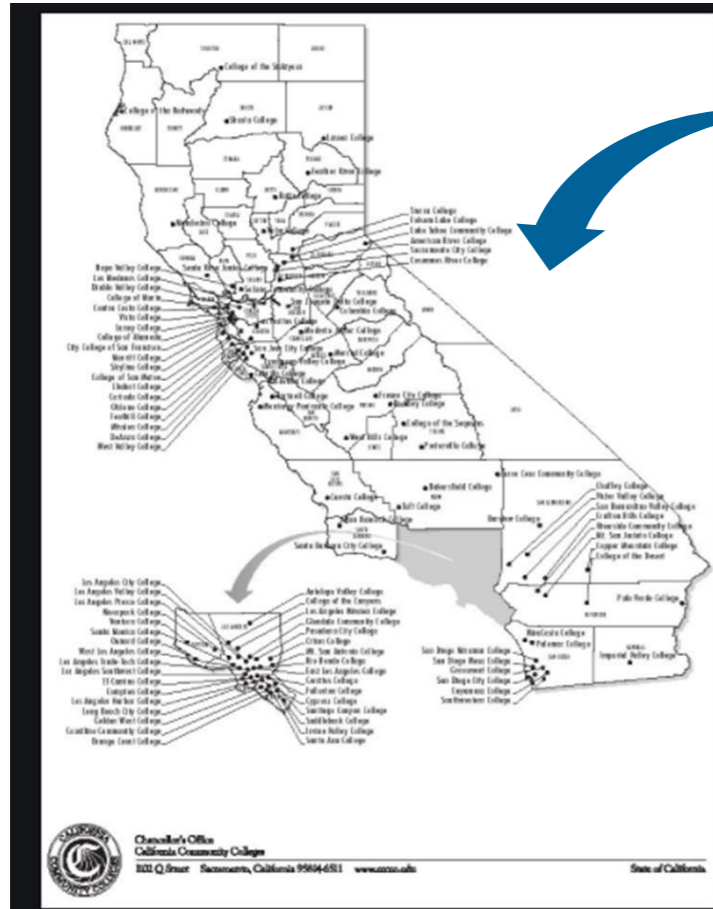
Structure of U.S. Education System



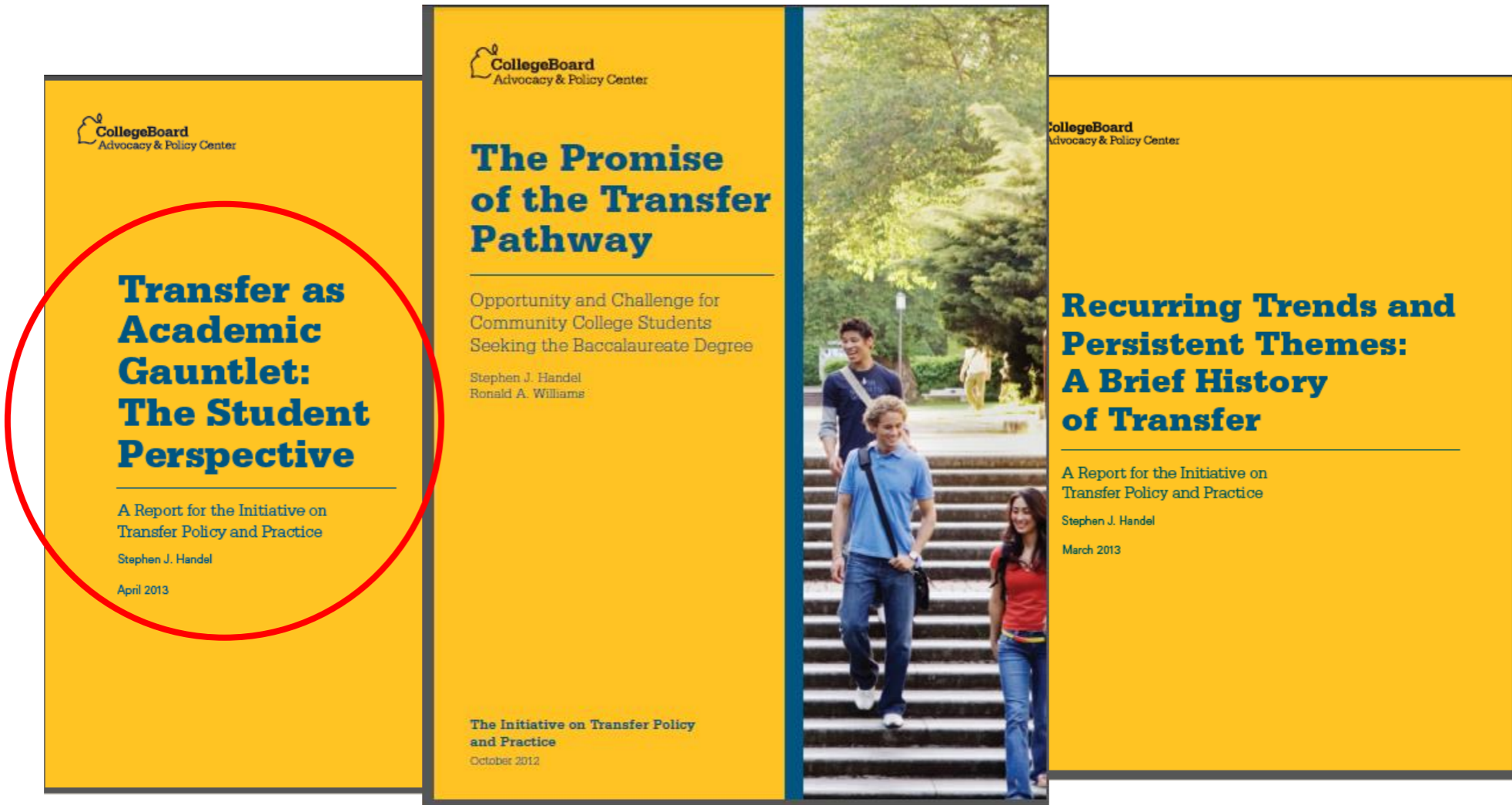
# US Higher Education



US education policy is locally-controlled, which creates a complex policy landscape...



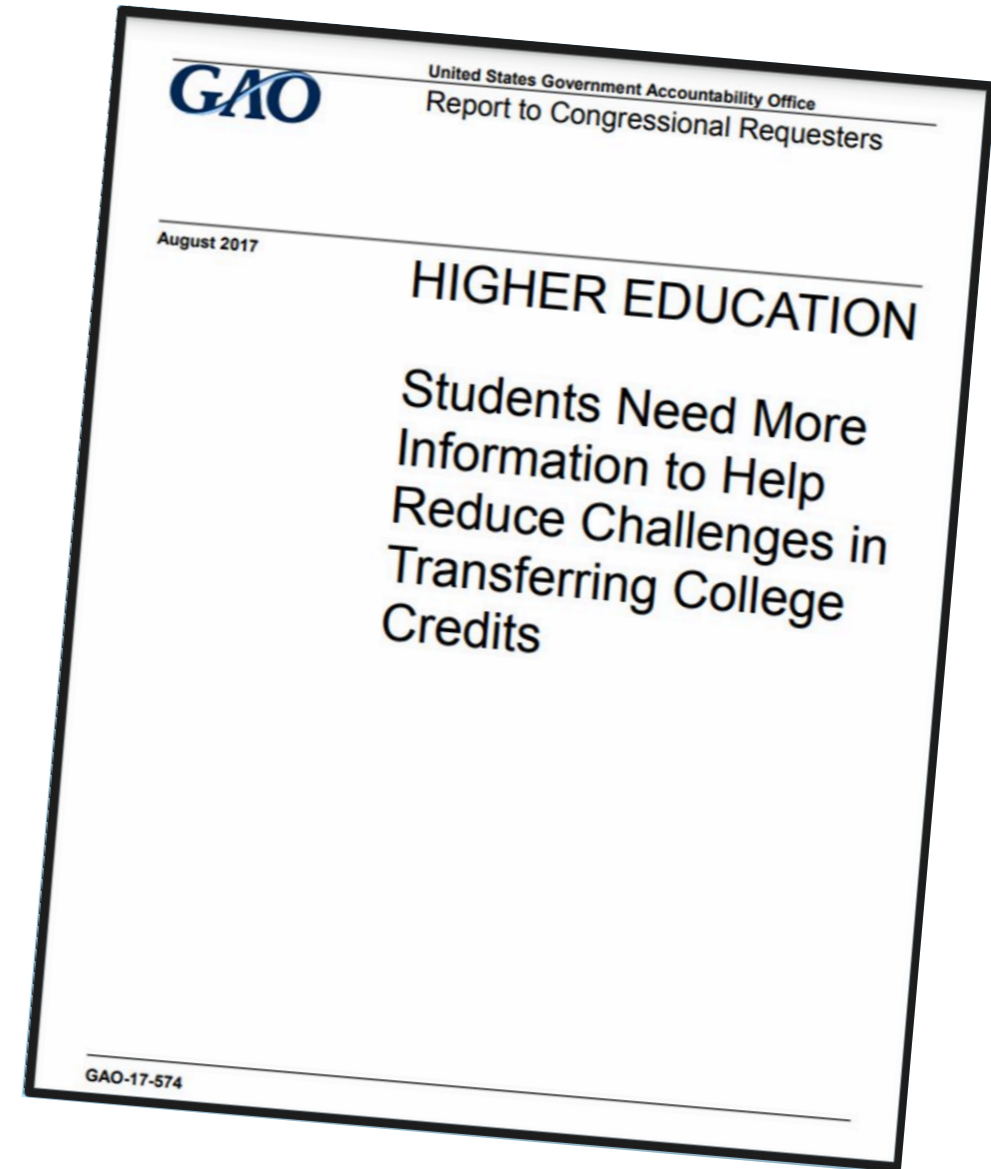
# The Initiative on Transfer Policy and Practice



Available from: <https://professionals.collegeboard.org/highered/community-colleges/initiative-transfer-policy-and-practice>

# Credit Transfer Outcomes

- US General Service Administration (GAO) analysis of student course taking over six years.
- Findings:
  - “Students lost an estimated 43 percent of college credit when they transferred, or an estimated 13 credits, on average”
  - Credit Loss by Pathway: Vertical transfers lost about 26 percent of their credit.



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# Common Course Numbering

## Welcome to the New Mexico Common Course Numbering System

Research course compatibility across public higher education institutions in the State of New Mexico



Texas Common Course  
Numbering System

**Course Crosswalk**



[HOME](#) | [FIND A COURSE](#) ▾ | [REPORTS](#) ▾ | [DOWNLOAD](#) ▾ | [RELATED LINKS](#) ▾



# Program Articulation



## General Education Package

All colleges and universities participating in IAI agree to accept a "package" of IAI general education courses in lieu of their own comparable lower-division general education requirements. Keep in mind, the IAI general education transfers as a package. Any course-to-course transfer credit is not guaranteed. You should work with your institutions to see exactly how your courses will transfer beyond the IAI package.

UNIVERSITY  
OF  
CALIFORNIA Admissions

## IGETC

The Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) is a series of courses that California community college students can complete to satisfy freshman/sophomore level general education requirements before transferring to most colleges and majors at UC campuses.

If you choose to follow IGETC, we recommend that you complete all the IGETC courses **before** you transfer. Otherwise you'll need to satisfy the specific freshman/sophomore level general education requirements of your UC college or school.



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[Pathways » General Education Requirements](#)

**General Education Requirements**

## General Education Requirements

# IGETC

### Common Core

#### Required Common Core (12 credits / 4 courses) \*\*

- English Composition (2 courses)
- Mathematical and Quantitative Reasoning (1 course)
- Life and Physical Sciences (1 course)

#### Flexible Common Core (18 credits / 6 courses) \*\*

- World Cultures and Global Issues (1 course)
- U.S. Experience in Its Diversity (1 course)
- Creative Expression (1 course)
- Individual and Society (1 course)
- Scientific World (1 course)
- One additional course will be taken from one of the above areas.\*\*\*

Subject area	Required courses
<b>1. English Communication</b>	2 courses
One course in English composition and one course in critical thinking/English composition.	
<b>2. Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning</b>	1 course
<b>3. Arts and Humanities</b>	3 courses
Three courses with at least one from the arts and one from the humanities	
<b>4. Social and Behavioral Sciences</b>	3 courses
Three courses from at least two disciplines, or an interdisciplinary sequence	
<b>5. Physical and Biological Sciences</b>	2 courses
One physical science course and one biological science or course, at least one of which includes a laboratory	
<b>6. Language Other than English *</b>	Proficiency
Proficiency equivalent to two years of high school courses in the same language.	
<b>Total:</b>	11 courses*

# Transfer Guarantee Programs



## UW System Guaranteed Transfer Admission

The UW System Guaranteed Transfer Admission Program provides “guaranteed” admission to students who start at any UW university or branch campus and directly transfer to another UW university. Students must fulfill certain credit, course, and grade point average requirements of the receiving institution in order to be eligible for the Guaranteed Transfer Admission Program.

You are guaranteed admission to the UW transfer university if you:

1. Begin college as a freshman at a UW System campus
2. Earn a minimum of 24 transferable degree credits
3. Earn a minimum 2.0 grade point average [3.0 for UW-Madison]



**A Degree With A Guarantee.com**  
Associate Degree for Transfer

Brought to you by the California Community Colleges

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[Success Stories](#)

[FAQ](#) ▾

[About the Program](#)

[Find Your Path](#)

## ABOUT THE GUARANTEE

The California Community Colleges and partnering institutions created this transfer program to make it easier for students like you to start at a community college, transfer to a guaranteed saved spot at a participating four-year university and earn a bachelor’s degree.





The official transfer and articulation  
system for California's public colleges  
and universities

*"Articulation System Stimulating Interinstitutional  
Student Transfer"*



The official transfer and articulation system for California's public colleges and universities

## Course-by-course articulation

Leverages the power of the Internet to provide students with precise information.


Shows how courses completed at a community college transfer to four-year colleges and universities in California.

Provides students with confidence that the courses they complete at a community college will transfer to a four-year institution.

## Your transfer resource.


Get the information you need to find the best path to your degree.


[New to ASSIST?](#)

[Frequent Questions](#) 

### Transfer Information

Academic Year 

2020-2021 

Institution 

Select an Institution 

Agreements with Other Institutions 

Select an Institution 




The official transfer and articulation system for California's public colleges and universities

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## Transfer Information

Academic Year ?

2020-2021

Institution ?

Cosumnes River College

Agreements with Other Institutions ?

To: California State University, Sacramento

**2020-2021**

to **California State University, Sacramento**  
from Cosumnes River College

View Agreement by:

Major



Search

Political Science and Journalism, BA

Political Science, BA

**Psychology, BA** >

Social Science, BA

Agreement by Major

**Psychology, BA**

To: California State University, Sacramento | From:  
Cosumnes River College  
ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-2021

View Agreement  
(PDF)

Download  
Agreement

\* For UC campus and major information not currently available, visit the **UC Admissions website.**

\* For CSU campus and major information not currently available, visit the **CSU Updates website.**



The official transfer and articulation system for California's public colleges and universities

Articulation Agreement: Courses on the right are from CRC (the community college) and show how they correspond to courses at CSU, Sacramento (the four-year institution).

<b>CHDV 30</b> - Human Development (3.00)	←	<b>FCS 324</b> - Human Development: A Life Span (3.00)
<b>PSYC 2</b> - Introductory Psychology (3.00)	←	<b>PSYC 300</b> - General Principles (3.00)
<b>PSYC 4</b> - Navigating Psychology: The Major and Careers (1.00)	←	No Comparable Course
<b>PSYC 8</b> - Methods of Psychology (3.00)	←	<b>PSYC 335</b> - Research Methods in Psychology (3.00)
<b>PSYC 9</b> - Introductory Statistics for Psychology (3.00)	←	Not Articulated



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# Takeaways

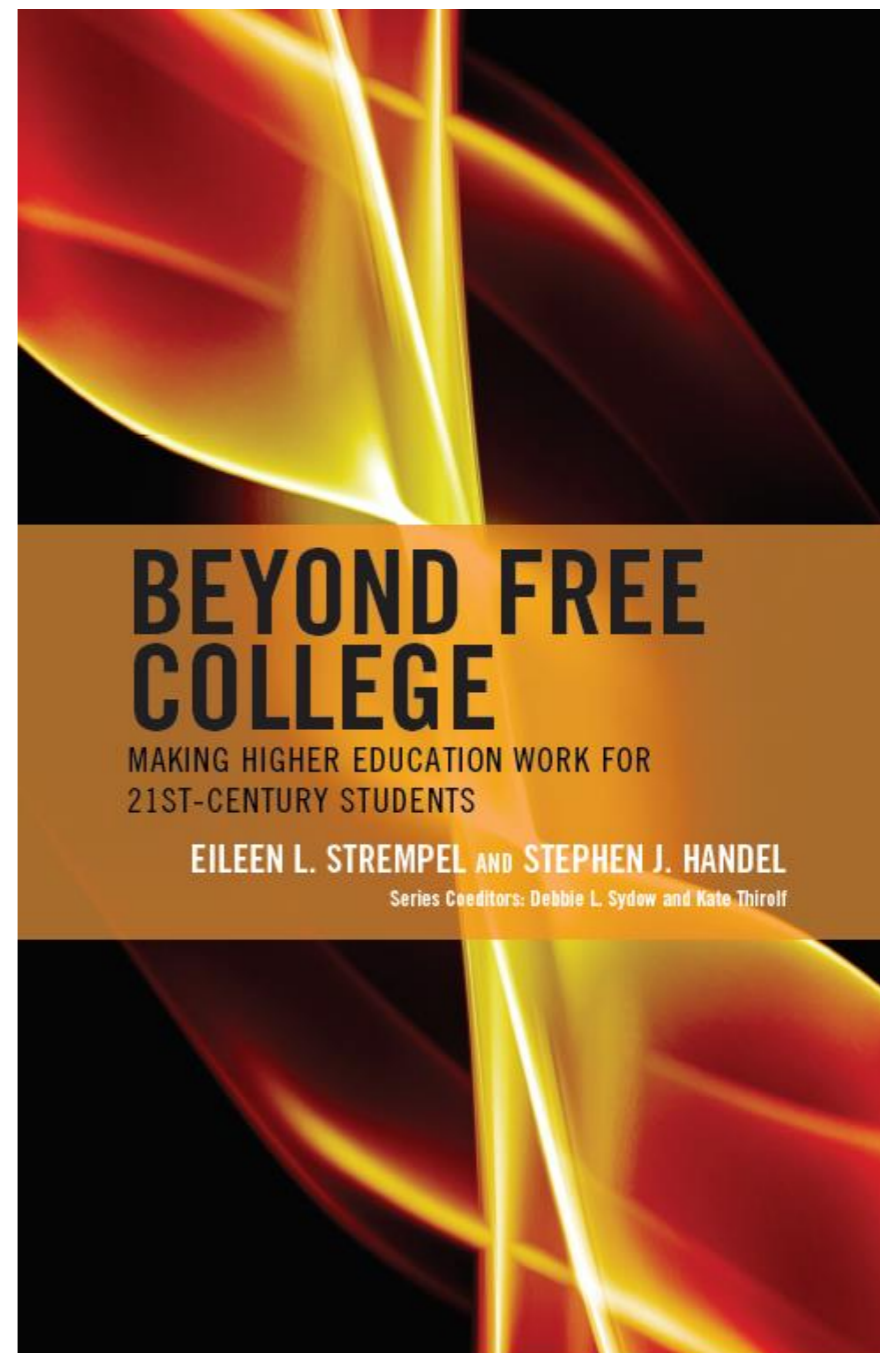
- *Emphasize student learning and progression above-all.*
- *Highlight curricular coherence.*
- *Build transfer credit systems that are transparent and provide students with direct access to the information.*



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*Due in February 2021 by Eileen Strempel and Stephen Handel...*

*Our new book addresses a number of issues regarding student and credit-transfer.*





# Thank You!

*Stephen Handel*

*Executive Director—Higher  
Education*

*The College Board*

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