

MEMORANDUM

TO: Matt Hudelson, Executive Secretary
Faculty Senate

FROM: Becky Bitter, Registrar's Office

FOR: Academic Affairs Committee

DATE: 24 February 2021

SUBJECT: Proposal to Revise Rule 6, Transfer Credit

At its meeting on February 23, 2021, AAC approved the following changes to Rule 6, Transfer Credit. The revisions are prompted by the Department of Education, which ruled that postsecondary institutions may no longer use the term "regional accreditation" as a way to describe which schools meet the requirements for awarding transfer credit.

The Transfer Center, in consultation with the Provost's Office, is proposing that the language be revised to state that transfer credit is awarded from schools which are "nationally recognized postsecondary institutions with institutional accreditation." For the sake of transparency to students and others, the rule will list the institutional accreditations that are accepted by WSU.

AAC understands that the change to this terminology does not change how transfer credit is awarded.

AAC also agreed that the Transfer Center and the Registrar's Office could update other instances in the transfer credit rules to change this wording. Specifically, "regional accreditation" will be replaced with the new terminology "institutions with approved accreditation; see Rule 6", and references to "national accreditation" will be changed to "institutions without approved accreditation."

Current text to be replaced:

6. TRANSFER CREDIT

For regionally accredited, college-level academic transfer credit, one set of transfer course articulation tables will be used for course evaluation by all campuses in the WSU system. The tables used by all campuses for evaluation of transfer courses is maintained and monitored by WSU Pullman Admissions transcript evaluators and the Transfer Clearinghouse in consultation with academic units. Transfer credit is awarded based on appropriateness for WSU's academic programs and comparableness in nature, content, academic rigor, and quality to WSU's curriculum. Transfer credit equivalencies are subject to change.

- a. Colleges and universities must be regionally accredited for transfer credit to be awarded. Transfer credit awarded from regionally accredited institutions on the quarter system is converted to 0.67 semester credits.

Proposed --

6. TRANSFER CREDIT

Transfer credit is awarded for college-level academic credit earned based on appropriateness for WSU's academic programs and comparableness in nature, content, academic rigor, and quality to WSU's curriculum. One set of transfer course articulation tables will be used for course evaluation by all WSU campuses. The transfer course search tool articulation tables for courses from approved domestic and international institutions is maintained and monitored by WSU Pullman Admissions transcript evaluators and the Transfer Center in consultation with academic units. Transfer credit equivalencies are subject to change.

- a. Transfer credit is awarded from nationally recognized postsecondary institutions with institutional accreditation from the following approved accreditation agencies (or equivalent for international institutions).
 - Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) Western Association of Schools and Colleges
 - Higher Learning Commission (HLC)
 - Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE)
 - New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE)
 - Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)
 - Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)
 - WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC)

See Rule 14 for information on credit processes for postsecondary institutions with nationally recognized institutional accreditation that is not from an approved accreditation agency.

- b. Transfer credit awarded from approved institutions on the quarter system is converted to 0.67 semester credits.
- c. Ninety semester hours shall be the maximum allowed by transfer toward a baccalaureate degree.
- d. The maximum combined lower-division transfer credit allowed [from approved accredited institutions, CLEP (College Level Examination Program), AP (Advanced Placement), IB (International Baccalaureate), Cambridge International, military, and any other source] shall be 73 semester credits toward a baccalaureate degree irrespective of when those credits were earned.
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At this time, Faculty Senate review and approval is recommended, to be effective fall 2021.