

Procedures for Identifying “Common Degree Programs” for Statewide Articulation Agreements

Colorado Revised Statute §23-1-108(7)(g)(III) stipulates that statewide articulation agreements apply to “common degree programs.” Since the names of baccalaureate degrees in common areas of study vary widely, there will be occasions in which degrees with different names appropriately belong in the same articulation agreement and other occasions in which degrees with similar names appropriately belong in different articulation agreements. We need, therefore, a way to identify common degree programs in ways that go beyond their approved names.

Pursuant to §23-1-108.5(3)(a), C.R.S., GE Council is responsible to “create a process” for recommending statewide articulation agreements to the Colorado Commission on Higher Education. To fulfill that responsibility, the Council recommends the following procedures for identifying “common degree programs.”

GE Council understands the statutory term, “common degree programs,” to mean formally approved degree programs that have designated curricula that disciplinary faculty within the appropriate field of study recognize as belonging to that field of study. When GE Council convenes Faculty-to-Faculty conferences to develop articulation agreements for a particular field of study, all public baccalaureate degree granting institutions in Colorado will be invited to participate. Faculty from those institutions who believe they have an approved baccalaureate degree that should appropriately be included should follow these procedures:

1. Notify the GE Council of their intent to participate in discussions about the development of a possible statewide articulation agreement.
2. Attend the initial Faculty-to-Faculty conference where discussions will take place on the creation of the articulation agreement.
 - A. Forward and bring information about the curriculum in their approved degree program to the Faculty-to-Faculty meeting for comparison and discussion with disciplinary faculty.
 - B. At the conclusion of the initial Faculty-to-Faculty conference, the disciplinary faculty in each group should report to GE Council on whether there are any concerns about the appropriateness of including any of the baccalaureate degrees in the same statewide agreement.
 - C. If there are any concerns about the inclusion of a specific degree in the agreement, faculty are to make a written recommendation to GE Council for inclusion or non-inclusion. The reasons for any such recommendation should be attached.

3. GE Council will examine the information and recommendation provided by the discipline group.
4. GE Council will decide for inclusion or non-inclusion and notify the college of their decision.
5. For a College or University who is not recommended for inclusion they will have the right to request reconsideration and to attend a GE Council meeting for further discussion and examination.
6. Once this process is completed, GE Council's decision is final.