



COLORADO

Department of
Higher Education

1600 Broadway, Suite 2200

Denver, CO 80202

Meeting	General Education Council June 8, 2026 1:00 – 4:00 pm
Location	Virtual Only
Call-In Information	View Meeting Recording
Meeting Participants	The General Education Council (GE Council) is comprised of representatives from each of the 31 public institutions of higher education, including area technical colleges, local district colleges, and dual mission institutions.
Meeting Objectives	The GE Council is a statutorily created entity (CRS §23-1-108.5(3)(a)) with oversight responsibilities for various statewide transfer initiatives, most prominently GT Pathways and Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreements (STAAs). GE Council typically meets monthly, to carry out different statutory responsibilities assigned by the General Assembly.

AGENDA – NOTES

I. GREETINGS & INTRODUCTIONS

1. Welcome (Brad Griffith)
2. Attendance (Christina Carrillo)

In attendance: Wayne Artis (CCCS-PPSC); Lynette Bates (CCCS-TSC); Hamilton Bean (CU Denver); Kelsey Bennett (WCU); Brad Bowers (CCCS-PCC); Helen Caprioglio (CSUP); Liz Cox (CSM); Rachelle Davis (CCCS-NJC); Maureen Durkin (CU-SYS); Kelly Emick (CCCS-LCC); Stephani Etheridge-Woodson (UNC); Michael Galchinsky (CSU); Theresa Groff (CCCS-ACC); Sara Holzberlein (EGTC); Danen Jobe (CCCS); Paul Langston (CCCS-CCA); Kyle Lasley (CCCS-OC); Todd Laugen (MSU Denver); Pete McCormick (FLC); Connie Mitchell (CCCS-MCC); Kate Monteith (CCCS); Katherine Olson (CSUG); Jessica Peters (CCCS-RRCC); Kathryn Regjo (CMC); Scott Reichel (Aims); Nick Saenz (ASU); Mary Jo Stanley (CMU); Nicholas Swails (CCCS-CNCC); Patrick Tally (CU Boulder); Susan Taylor (UCCS); Kaylah Zelig (CCCS-CCD); Suzanne McGurk (College Board); Christina Carrillo (CDHE); Carl Einhaus (CDHE); Spencer Ellis (CDHE); Brad Griffith (CDHE); JB Holston (CDHE)

II. Adoption of last meeting's notes

1. [See handout: 2026-05-11–GE Council-DRAFT NOTES.docx]
Notes approved

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Review of May 2026 proposal votes
Brad provided a quick review of the results from last month's voting form. Brad indicated strong participation (23 responses) last month, with all Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) GT Pathways waiver requests approved to move forward to the Commission, alongside unanimously approved GT Pathways course proposals. While limited dissenting feedback was received on waivers, the Commission signaled openness to continued dialogue as the policy framework evolves. Brad also noted that additional clarification of the waiver process is forthcoming through Transfer Subcommittee policy updates, which are expected to be reviewed with the Council in July.
2. Proposed Removal of Red Rocks Community College from the STAA in Geology
Christina informed Council members that the proposed removal of Red Rocks Community College from the Geology STAA was approved to advance to public comment; however, initiation of the 30-day notice will be delayed until late summer due to limited faculty availability. Christina will resume outreach in August when faculty return, ensuring appropriate disciplinary review prior to formal action.

IV. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Introduction of JB Holston as new Executive Director of CDHE
Council members welcomed JB Holston, Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Higher Education, who provided brief introductory remarks and expressed appreciation for the Council's ongoing work supporting statewide transfer and student success efforts. At the request of staff, Executive Director Holston also shared a high-level overview of [House Bill 26-1317](#) (Unified Postsecondary Talent Development System). This legislation includes the formation of a 27-member Transition Advisory Committee (TAC), an anticipated July–November 2026 work timeline, and the longer-term goal of launching a reimagined department in July 2028.
2. 2026 Legislative Session Recap
Brad provided an overview of key 2026 legislative actions affecting higher education. This included new initiatives related to institutional performance designations ([HB26-1006](#)), continuation of OER funding (HB26-1016), expanded student representation on the Commission ([HB26-1029](#)), updates to the higher education funding allocation model ([HB26-1345](#)), and the broader system alignment effort under [HB26-1317](#). Members

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were encouraged to coordinate with institutional legislative liaisons and to engage in opportunities to provide input as implementation progresses.

3. Discussion of STAA course modification requests and institutional processes

Council members engaged in a comprehensive discussion regarding course substitutions within STAA Degree with Designation pathways, identifying a lack of consistent statewide policy or documentation. Institutional practices vary, with some relying on internal forms and others requiring approval from receiving institutions. Members noted challenges related to inconsistent acceptance across four-year institutions, potential risks for students who change transfer destinations, and additional review burdens. While the issue appears limited in scale, it reflects a policy gap identified through the statewide transfer audit. The Council expressed interest in exploring a more consistent approach, such as a standardized substitution form or shared framework, while acknowledging the need to preserve institutional autonomy. CDHE will continue collecting input and may revisit this topic in a future meeting.

4. Discussion of annual statutory requirements for [C.R.S. 23-1-108.5](#)

Council members were reminded of its statutory responsibility to submit annual recommendations on GT Pathways to the Commission each October. CDHE encouraged members to develop practical, experience-informed recommendations alongside required data reporting, noting current limitations in available data. A draft analysis on credit hour differentials will be shared for review, and CDHE is exploring opportunities to convene faculty discussions to address alignment challenges. The Council will begin structured discussions in July and August, with a goal of finalizing recommendations in September for October submission.

5. Transfer initiatives updates

- Higher Education Transfer Audit
- CCHE Transfer Subcommittee

Brad provided an update on implementation of the Higher Education Transfer Audit, noting substantial progress by the Transfer Subcommittee on policy revisions tied to 19 accepted recommendations. Draft policy updates are expected to be shared with the Council in July for institutional review and feedback. The subcommittee is anticipated to sunset by August, with final policy implementation required by October 1. CDHE also noted plans to support implementation through guidance materials and webinars, given the anticipated impact on advising, registrar processes, and institutional workflows.

6. STAA Reviews

- Anthropology
- Computer Science

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- Criminal Justice
- Dance
- Early Childhood Education
- Public Health

Christina reported strong progress on the current STAA review cycle across seven disciplines, with most institutions having submitted responses. Remaining items are concentrated among a small number of institutions, allowing for targeted outreach in late summer. GE Council members will be included in follow-up communications to support response completion. If necessary, escalation to institutional leadership may occur to finalize agreements. The goal is to bring completed STAA updates to the Council in the fall and reestablish a regular review cycle.

7. Consider action to recommend Colorado Commission on Higher Education approval of new and closed GT Pathways courses (*Note: **Bold yellow** indicates courses which may require further evaluation of alignment with proposed category.*)
 - New
 - GT-SC2: ANT 130 Introduction to Biological Anthropology (3) – University of Northern Colorado
 - GT-SC2: CCST 1060 Global Climate Change (3) – University of Colorado Denver
 - Closed (Withdrawn from GTP but may still be offered at IHE)
 - None
 - Closed (No longer offered at IHE)
 - GT-AH1: HON 1500 Art and Visual Literacy (3) – Metropolitan State University of Denver
 - GT-AH2: ENG 214 British Literature II (3) – University of Northern Colorado
 - GT-HI1: HON 1211 American History to 1865 (3) – Metropolitan State University of Denver
 - GT-HI1: HON 1221 American History since 1865 (3) – Metropolitan State University of Denver
 - GT-SC2: PHYS 106 Introduction to Spaceflight (3) – University of Northern Colorado
 - GT-SS1: FR 116 Contemporary France (3) – University of Northern Colorado
 - GT-SS1: GER 116 Contemporary German (3) – University of Northern Colorado
 - GT-SS1: HON 2010 Principles of Macroeconomics (3) – Metropolitan State University of Denver

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- GT-SS1: HON 2020 Principles of Microeconomics (3) – Metropolitan State University of Denver
- GT-SS1: HON 2230 Introduction to International Relations (3) – Metropolitan State University of Denver

ACTION ITEMS

Issue	Action / Next Step	Assigned To & Date Assigned
Vote on Proposed Items	Complete June 2026 GE Council Voting Form (voting representatives only)	To be completed by Monday, June 15, 2026

