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*Chair of the Assembly of the Academic Senate
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December 16, 2022

**VIRGINIA MAY, CHAIR
INTERSEGMENTAL COMMITTEE OF THE ACADEMIC SENATES (ICAS)**

Re: UC Assembly Approval of Senate Regulation 479 (Cal-GETC)

Dear Chair May:

At its December 8, 2022 meeting, the Assembly of the UC Academic Senate voted to approve a new UC Senate Regulation 479, creating a new transfer curriculum consistent with the California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC). As you know, the Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates (ICAS) designed Cal-GETC in response to State Assembly Bill 928 (AB 928), a new law calling for the establishment of a “singular lower-division general education pathway” that meets the academic requirements necessary for transfer admission from the California Community Colleges (CCC) to both UC and the California State University (CSU). AB 928 also limits the number of units in the pathway to a 34-unit ceiling.

The Cal-GETC proposal underwent a systemwide UC Academic Senate review, and the approved wording of the regulation is attached. The UC Senate agrees that Cal-GETC is yet another step forward in supporting successful student transfer by developing a revised set of common general education requirements for the CSU and UC. The new pathway will provide clearer guidance for students who are unsure about where they will transfer.

As you know, Cal-GETC is based on the longstanding Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC, UC Senate Regulation 478¹). Cal-GETC aligns UC and CSU transfer requirements without increasing the 34-unit ceiling for the general education course pattern and will take effect for students entering a community college beginning in fall 2025.

The major change for UC with the introduction of the Cal-GETC pathway is the removal of a language other than English (LOTE) requirement for transfer students, although LOTE will remain a graduation requirement for UC transfers, as it is for all first year admits. Cal-GETC also includes a new requirement for a course in oral communication, a longstanding CSU requirement, which will add a third course to the English Communication subject area. Senate

¹ <https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/bylaws-regulations/regulations/rpart2.html#r478>

Regulation 478 will sunset eventually, after Cal-GETC replaces it as the primary lower-division general education pathway used by prospective CCC transfer applicants to the CSU and UC systems.

The UC Senate review also helped to surface issues for additional ICAS consideration as it develops the final wording and implementation guidelines for Cal-GETC. These issues include guidelines for partial Cal-GETC certification and Cal-GETC for Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) majors.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this important student-centered and faculty-led initiative—a model of intersegmental collaboration that will strengthen and streamline the transfer path for California students. We look forward to continued work with you and ICAS on additional issues of common concern to the three systems of California public higher education that promote student access and success.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,



Susan Cochran, Chair
Academic Council

Cc: President Drake
Provost Brown
Vice President Gullatt
Assembly of the Academic Senate
Chief of Staff Kao
Chief Policy Advisor McAuliffe
Campus Senate Executive Directors
Executive Director Lin

Encl.

Regulations of the UC Academic Senate

Part II. Admission

Chapter 4. Admission to Advanced Standing

Article 1. General Provisions

479. Students who begin at a California Community College in fall 2025 or later and are planning for admission to the University by transfer can fulfill the lower-division Breadth and General Education (B/GE) requirements by completion of the California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC) or by fulfilling the specific requirements of the college or school to which the student will apply.

A. Cal-GETC Course and Unit Requirements

All courses used in satisfying Cal-GETC must be accepted for baccalaureate credit at the University and be of at least 3 semester units or 4 quarter units. The laboratory portion of science courses must be of at least 1 unit. English and mathematics/statistics courses that are 2 semester units or 3 quarter units can satisfy the English Communication or Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning subject areas, respectively, if they are part of a sequence. All courses that are part of such a sequence must be completed to satisfy Cal-GETC.

B. Cal-GETC Subject Requirements

The minimum number of courses and units in each of the following six subject areas constitute the California General Education Transfer Curriculum:

1. English Communication. 3 courses: 9 semester units, 12 quarter units. One course must be in English Composition. The second course must be in Critical Thinking and Composition, and the third course must be in Oral Communication; these latter two courses must have English 1A or its equivalent as a prerequisite. Courses designed exclusively for the satisfaction of composition at lower than the college level cannot be counted toward fulfillment of the English Composition requirement.
2. Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning. 1 course: 3 semester units, 4 quarter units. This course should be in mathematics or statistics, including courses in the application of statistics to specific disciplines.
3. Arts and Humanities. 2 courses: 6 semester units, 8 quarter units. One of the courses must be completed in the Arts and one of the courses must be completed in the Humanities. Courses that are primarily focused on technique, skills, or performance, with little emphasis on the integration of history, theory, and criticism, cannot be used to fulfill this requirement.
4. Social and Behavioral Sciences. 2 courses: 6 semester units, 8 quarter units. Courses must be from two different disciplines.

5. Physical and Biological Sciences. 2 courses: 7 semester units, 9 quarter units. One course must be in a physical science, the other in a biological science, and at least one must include a laboratory.
6. Ethnic Studies. 1 course: 3 semester units, 4 quarter units. This course must be in ethnic studies or in a similar field provided that the course is cross-listed with ethnic studies.

C. Scholarship Requirements

Only courses in which a grade of C or better has been attained can be used for fulfillment of Cal-GETC. Credit by external exams may satisfy portions of the Cal-GETC pattern of courses upon approval of the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools.

D. University Policy for the Cal-GETC

1. Students must have their coursework fulfilling Cal-GETC certified by the last California Community College they attended for a regular term prior to transfer.
2. If the lower-division B/GE requirements are not fully satisfied prior to transfer, the student will be subject to the regulations regarding B/GE lower-division requirements of the school or college of the campus to which the student transfers, with the following two exceptions.
 - a. A transfer student accepted into a college or school that recognizes Cal-GETC as satisfying the B/GE requirements may complete a maximum of two courses of the Cal-GETC pattern after transfer (i.e., "Partial Cal-GETC Certification") if all other conditions in Section 479.B are met. Neither of the courses to be completed after transfer may be in English Communication or Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning (Cal-GETC Areas 1 & 2).
 - b. A transfer student intending to major in science, engineering, or mathematics in a college or school that recognizes Cal-GETC as satisfying the B/GE requirements may complete up to two courses after transfer. The courses to be completed after transfer may consist of at most one in each of Area 3 - Arts and Humanities and Area 4 - Social and Behavioral Sciences.
3. A student who has been approved to complete the Cal-GETC after transfer may take a certified Cal-GETC course in the areas remaining to be completed at any California Community College subject to the UC campus rules regarding concurrent enrollment or, at the option of the UC campus, may take approved substitute courses at that UC campus.
4. The Cal-GETC must be completed no later than the summer before senior year once the student transfers to UC.
5. Consistent with SR 414, each college or school retains the right to accept or not accept Cal-GETC as satisfactory completion of its lower-division B/GE requirements.