

**CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES
CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE**

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November 30, 2012

TO: Chief Instructional Officers
Chief Student Services Officers

FROM: Barry Russell
Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs

SUBJECT: SB 1440 Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act and
SB 1415 Common Course Numbering System

This memorandum provides information regarding SB 1440 *Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act* and SB 1415 *Common Course Numbering System*, the timeline to amend all active AA-T and AS-T degrees to include C-ID descriptors, and a new AA-T and AS-T proposal submission process.

BACKGROUND

The passage of SB 1440 *Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act* and SB 1415 *Common Course Numbering System* serve as catalysts for cross-cutting systemic changes that positively impact the transfer pathway and the course articulation process to better serve California students. Although not included in SB 1440, Transfer Model Curricula (TMC) were developed as a means of establishing common degree requirements. SB 1415 initiated the *Course Identification Numbering System* (C-ID) as a way to establish course to course articulation among the community colleges and between the California State Universities.

As noted in previous memos and pursuant to SB 1440, the Academic Senates for the California Community Colleges and the California State University continue to develop statewide Transfer Model Curricula (TMC) in the most popular 120-unit transfer majors to the California State University. The development of these TMC requires an alignment with common course numbering through the *Course Identification Numbering System* (C-ID) process. To date, all 22 issued TMC templates include a series of approved C-ID descriptors and all future TMC templates under review will include C-ID descriptors.

The use of common course numbering has been debated in academic and legislative circles for many years, and the legislature has long wanted to impose a common course number system to facilitate the transfer path among the segments of higher education. Most recently, SB 1415 (Brulte), *Common Course Numbering System*, mandated that, "...not later than June 1, 2006, the California Community Colleges and the California State University shall adopt, and the University of California and private postsecondary institutions may adopt, a common course numbering system for the 20 highest-demand majors in the respective segments..." The C-ID system was established to meet the legislated mandate for a common course numbering system among California's public colleges and universities and offers a means of one-to-many articulation with four-year universities and across all 112 community colleges.

TIMELINE TO AMEND ACTIVE AA-T AND AS-T DEGREES

The initial set of AA-T and AS-T implementation instructions permitted community colleges to self-certify that courses listed by the college on the AA-T and AS-T TMC template aligned with the C-ID descriptor. It also permitted the use of course-to-course articulation with one California State University in lieu of an approved C-ID descriptor.

In an effort to assure statewide articulation and to better align the implementation of AA-T and AS-T degrees, colleges are now required to adopt C-ID descriptors where applicable. Colleges may no longer use articulation in lieu of an approved C-ID descriptor. Articulation will only be permitted if no C-ID descriptor exists. Colleges will need to review and amend all active AA-T and AS-T degrees where “self-certification” of C-ID was used and where course-to-course articulation was used in lieu of a C-ID descriptor.

NEW AA-T AND AS-T DEGREE APPROVAL PROCESS

Effective January 1, 2013, all AA-T and AS-T proposals submitted to the Chancellor’s Office for review and approval must demonstrate that courses included in the degree have been submitted for C-ID numbers, where descriptors exist. The course’s C-ID number may be in pending or final status. Articulation may only be used for courses where no C-ID descriptor exists.

REPLACE SELF-CERTIFICATION WITH C-ID EXISTING AA-T AND AS-T DEGREES

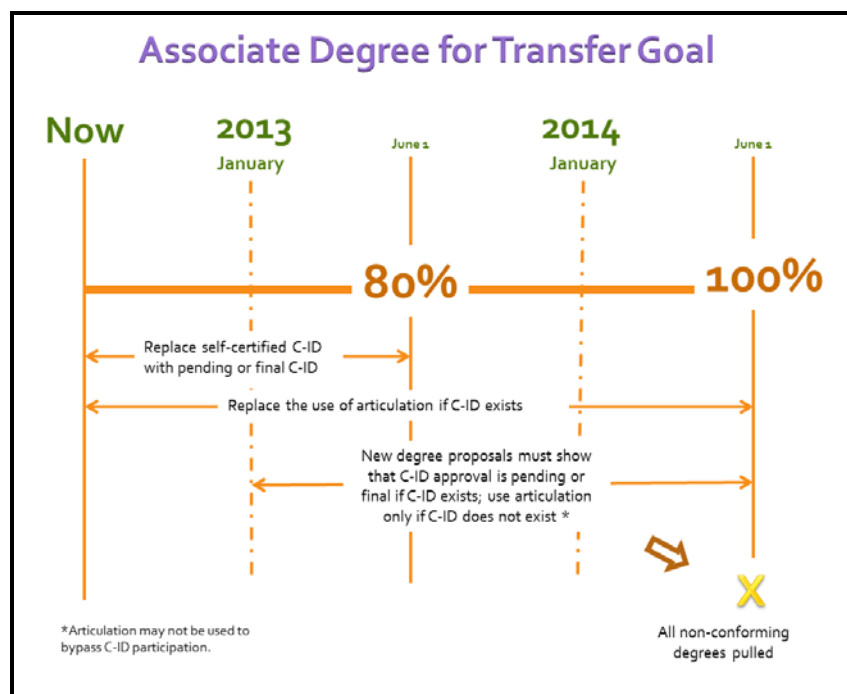
By June 1, 2013, for any existing AA-T and AS-T degrees that included a self-certification that a course or courses matched a C-ID descriptor, colleges are required to submit those courses for C-ID approval where descriptors exist.

REPLACE ARTICULATION WITH AA-T AND AS-T WITH PENDING C-ID NUMBERS

By June 1, 2014, colleges must replace all course-to-course articulation used for all AA-T and AS-T degrees by showing that all course(s) have awarded pending or final C-ID status. Articulation may only be used where no C-ID descriptor is available. The Chancellor’s Office will begin deactivating all noncompliant AA-T and AS-T degrees beginning June 2014 that do not have approved C-ID numbers for courses where descriptors exist.

The illustration below depicts the implementation of the timelines noted:

Figure 1. Illustration of the AA-T and AS-T CID Adoption Timeline
Shared at the CCC CIO Conference



CONTACT: Submit written inquiries to curriculum.cccco.edu.

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