Partnering for Student Transfer Success

For nearly 50 years, Washington’s public and private, not-for-profit four-year colleges and universities and community and technical colleges have worked to make transferring easier for students.

**Washington students transfer with an associate’s degree and earn bachelor’s degrees at much higher rates than students nationally.**

- Washington ranks **1st in the nation** for the percentage of CTC transfer students who finish a bachelor’s degree within six years of entering higher education.
- Washington ranks **5th in the nation** for the average rate at which a community college transfer student earns a credential before transferring to a four-year institution.

**Washington’s colleges and universities create clear transfer pathways for students.**

Statewide transfer agreements allow students to transfer two-year’s worth of college-level credit to universities with general education requirements, already completed (for DTA).

- **Direct Transfer Agreement associate’s degree (DTA)** with Major Related Programs in Biology, Business, Computer Science, Construction Management, Math Education, Music, Nursing and Pre-Nursing.
- **Associate of Science-Transfer (AS-T)** with clear pathways biological sciences, environmental/resource sciences, chemistry, geology, earth science, engineering, computer science, physics and atmospheric sciences.

**Washington works to make sure students’ academic credits transfer.**

- In Washington, transfer students graduate with a bachelor’s degree with approximately the same total credits as those who start at four-year universities as freshmen. This is not true nationally, where “lost” credits result in far more total credits for the average transfer student.
- With few exceptions, completion of a bachelor’s degree is equally efficient across degree programs for those entering through the CTC transfer pathway in Washington or through direct entry.
- Graduates who completed associate degrees aligned with specific majors were very likely to complete a bachelor’s degree in a related field:
  - **83% of CTC transfers completing the Business DTA/MRP earned a bachelor’s degree in business.**
  - **93% of CTC transfers completing an AS-T degree earned a bachelor’s degree in a STEM or health related major.**

### Median Quarter Credits to Degree by Entry Status

<table>
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<th>Arts &amp; Letters</th>
<th>Business</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Other</th>
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Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges • Council of Presidents • Independent Colleges of Washington
Washington’s nationally recognized transfer work is led by multi-sector groups to solve emerging issues.

- The **JOINT TRANSFER COUNCIL (JTC)** is a collaborative multi-sector standing committee that includes the community and technical colleges and public and private baccalaureate institutions. The Council is involved in the development of new transfer pathways and new multi-institution agreements and guides college-transfer policy across the state. Its members continually look at emerging issues and opportunities to reduce barriers for all students.

- The **INTERCOLLEGE RELATIONS COMMITTEE (ICRC)** is a collaboration that includes community and technical colleges and public and private baccalaureate institutions to facilitate transfer between institutions for all students pursuing a bachelor’s degree in Washington.

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**Key Facts**

- **15,528** Washington students transferred from community and technical colleges to Washington public and private, not-for-profit four-year institutions in 2015-2016.

- **Nearly 40%** of those who earned a bachelor’s degree from Washington’s public college and universities transferred from a community or technical college, including:
  - 45% of education graduates
  - 44% of health field graduates
  - 42% of social science graduates
  - 39% of business graduates
  - 37% of STEM majors graduates
  - 36% of humanities graduates

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**University bachelor’s degrees are also available at most of Washington’s 34 community and technical colleges.**

**Campus-based partnerships (degrees vary by location)**

1. Bellevue College – EWU
2. Big Bend Community College – CWU
3. Cascadia College – UW
4. Centralia College – City U/Saint Martin’s
5. Clark College – EWU
6. Columbia Basin College – WSU/Heritage
7. Edmonds Community College – CWU
9. Grays Harbor College – Evergreen
10. Highline College – CWU
11. Lake Washington Institute of Technology – CWU
12. Lower Columbia College – EWU/WSU/City U/Warner Pacific Univ.
13. North Seattle College – CWU/EWU
14. Olympic College – Brandman Univ./Old Dominion Univ./WSU/WWU
15. Peninsula College – CWU/WWU/Evergreen/City U
16. Pierce College Ft. Steilacoom – CWU
17. Shoreline Community College – UW
18. South Seattle College – EWU
19. Tacoma Community College – Saint Martin’s
20. Walla Walla Community College – WSU
21. Wenatchee Valley College – CWU
22. Yakima Valley Community College – CWU/WSU

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