

D R A F T

SUMMARY

Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission to develop standards related to requirements for associate transfer degree in specific areas of study, including business and engineering.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to associate transfer degrees; amending ORS 341.430.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 341.430, as amended by section 11, chapter 104, Oregon Laws 2012, is amended to read:

341.430. (1) As used in this section:

(a) “Associate transfer degree” means an associate degree that is awarded by a community college and that is intended to allow a student to apply the credits earned for the degree toward a baccalaureate degree.

(b) “Community college” means a community college operated under ORS chapter 341.

(c) “State institution of higher education” means a state institution of higher education listed in ORS 352.002.

(d) “Transfer program” means a one-year program that is designed to allow a student to apply the credits earned through the program toward a baccalaureate degree.

(2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall develop standards related to the ability of students to apply credits earned through courses of study at community colleges to baccalaureate degrees awarded by state institutions of higher education. The standards shall be known as the

1 “Transfer Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities.”

2 (3) The standards developed under this section [*may*] **must** include:

3 (a) Admission standards to state institutions of higher education for stu-
4 dents who have earned an associate transfer degree.

5 (b) The maximum number of credits that students who have earned an
6 associate transfer degree would need to complete prior to receiving various
7 types of baccalaureate degrees at state institutions of higher education.

8 (c) The maximum number of credits that students who have completed a
9 transfer program would need to complete prior to receiving various types of
10 baccalaureate degrees at state institutions of higher education.

11 (d) A process by which a community college would award an associate
12 degree to a student upon completion of necessary credits, regardless of
13 whether the student applied to receive the degree or whether the student
14 earned the credits for the degree at a community college or a state institu-
15 tion of higher education.

16 (e) **Requirements for associate transfer degrees in specific areas of**
17 **study, including business and engineering.**

18 [(*e*)] (f) Any other issues identified by the Higher Education Coordinating
19 Commission that relate to courses of study at community colleges and the
20 ability of a student to transfer credits to a community college or a state in-
21 stitution of higher education, to be admitted to a state institution of higher
22 education or to earn a degree at a community college or a state institution
23 of higher education.

24 [(*f*)] (g) Requirements that students must meet in order to benefit from
25 the standards described in paragraphs (a) to [(*e*)] (f) of this subsection.

26 (4) Each community college and state institution of higher education shall
27 submit annual reports to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission
28 related to:

29 (a) The number of students who attend a community college and then a
30 state institution of higher education, or a state institution of higher educa-
31 tion and then a community college.

1 (b) The number of students who attend one community college and then
2 a different community college.

3 (c) The number of students who transfer from a community college to a
4 state institution of higher education and who have an associate transfer de-
5 gree or have completed a transfer program.

6 (d) The average number of credits students have when they transfer from
7 a community college to a state institution of higher education.

8 (e) The average number of credits students have when they attend one
9 community college and then a different community college.

10 (f) The average number of credits that a student earning an associate
11 transfer degree completed at a community college.

12 (g) The average number of credits students who have transferred from a
13 community college to a state institution of higher education must earn prior
14 to receiving a baccalaureate degree compared to the average number of
15 credits students who did not transfer from a community college must earn
16 prior to receiving a baccalaureate degree.

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