

SB261

SENATOR FIELDS

Universal Transferability

THE SITUATION

Today's knowledge economy requires students to complete a credential of value beyond their high school diploma to compete and flourish in our state. Our education partners are bringing more "college to kids" in high school through both career and technical courses as well as academic courses, but we must ensure those classes transfer easily and without hassle. Making sure students have an easy-to-navigate pathway to earn college credit during high school saves both time and money.

THE GOAL

- Transfer credit award decisions must be applied consistently and equitably for all students. These policies and practices must be reasonable, transparent, and easily understood by students considering enrollment. Students shouldn't find out after they've taken a course, that it doesn't contribute to their degree completion.
- A 60-hour transfer pathway curriculum in each major discipline will be created. Universal Transferability will allow students to build courses toward an associate's degree with a <u>guarantee</u> that all 60 hours will count not only as a credit earned but as credit applied to the degree they are seeking, no matter which Louisiana public postsecondary institution they attend. There should be clear pathways that work all the time, for everyone.
- These transfer pathway curricula will not only lead to an associate's
 degree but will guarantee that all college credit earned on the pathway
 will transfer seamlessly, and will count toward the degree plan in that
 major at every four-year public university.

THE OPPORTUNITY

- Students today are more likely to attend multiple colleges and universities as well as to bring with them postsecondary learning acquired outside of a traditional higher education setting, including through dual enrollment, Advanced Placement courses and military training. Unfortunately, many students are unable to carry with them when they transfer the full credits they have already earned and learning they have already completed.
- Consistent and transparent statewide credit transfer policies will help propel students toward completion and contribution to Louisiana's prosperity.

NATIONWIDE.

43%

OF CREDITS
ARE LOST
THROUGH
THE
TRANSFER
PROCESS.

- Transfer Advising, Sharpening a Powerful Tool for College Success and Equity - A Tackling Transfer Report 2021 by HCM, Aspen Institute, SOVA

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