COS Cal-GETC (AB 928) Implementation FAQs

Information is up-to-date as of March 2024 and follows Cal-GETC Version 1.1 and AB 928 Guidance

1. **What is Cal-GETC?**

   The California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC) is the singular transfer general education pathway for California Community College (CCC) students to fulfill lower-division general education requirements for transfer and admission to the CSU and UC systems.

2. **When does Cal-GETC start?**

   Cal-GETC shall be used for new incoming COS students in Fall 2025.

3. **Cal-GETC is not intended for students who:**
   a. are not transferring and only getting the AA/AS degrees using Local GE
   b. maintained continuous enrollment at the CCC prior to Fall 2025
   c. earned an ADT
   d. met the full GE Certification for CSU GE Breadth or IGETC, whether transcribed on the official CCC transcript or in other forms.

4. **Cal-GETC applies to the following:**
   a. New incoming students to the CCC Fall 2025 and thereafter
   b. Students with external credits from the UC, In-State-Private, and/or Out-of-State institutions with no claim to catalog rights

5. **What if a CCC student has catalog rights to use CSU GE Breadth or IGETC?**

   a. For any student who begins at the CCC prior to Fall 2025, please refer to Appendix A.

   b. The CSU GE Breadth is still an option for students with continuous enrollment who meet the requirements so long as they don't stop out/lose catalog rights. There has not been further discussion of when to sunset this transfer general education pattern. It is still yet to be determined.

   c. The IGETC pattern is still an option for students with continuous enrollment who meet the requirements so long as they don't stop out/lose catalog rights. This pattern is similar to Cal-GETC and is highly advised for students who are unsure about the UC/CSU. There has not been further discussion of when to sunset this transfer general education pattern. It is still yet to be determined.

6. **Are Counselors advising students about the American Institution (AI) requirements for CSU transfer-bound students?**

While these requirements are outside Cal-GETC, Counselors will still highly recommend the American Institution requirement courses for CSU/UC-bound students. Per Cal-GETC standards, CSU campuses have the discretion on whether to allow courses used to satisfy the CSU AI requirements. UC may require students to meet (some) AI graduation requirements if the student did not graduate from a high school in California.

7. **Are Counselors advising students about Language other than English (LOTE) for UC transfer-bound students?**

While these requirements are outside Cal-GETC, Counselors will still highly recommend transfer students to complete the LOTE for UC-bound students who do not meet the requirements through Advanced Placement, high school coursework, or others listed in the Cal-GETC standards. Per Cal-GETC standards, UC campuses have the discretion on whether to allow courses used to satisfy GE requirements to also count for UC LOTE.

8. **Are counselors advising students into ADT if the path exists? How do counselors advise local degrees vs. ADT degrees in the same department? (Music ADT vs. Music AA and Studio Arts ADT vs. Art AA)**

It depends on the scenario and is case-by-case. A counselor can assist the students in navigating the best option that will benefit them.

There are many criteria that a counselor reviews with the student, such as, but not limited to:
- Is the ADT accepted (deemed similar) by the institution the student wants to apply and transfer to?
- Is there admission coursework "pre-requisite" students have to complete first before they can apply and transfer and not listed on the ADT?
- Is there coursework outside of the ADT that will extend a student's time at the CCC?
- Is the student a returning CSU/UC student who does not need to earn an ADT degree with us, as they don't earn the benefits of being a transfer student?

Ultimately, the counselor will educate the student to make the best-informed decision that benefits the student. If completing additional coursework causes undue hardship, increases units, and lengthens the student's time at COS, the student may be exempted from the Auto-ADT placement and meet statutory exceptions, "The student's educational pathway is better served by a local associate degree." The student would be placed on a local degree pathway instead. Refer to Appendix B.

9. **Why do all students have to be on the ADT degree? How will counselors opt out of UC-bound students?**

   Per AB928, if an ADT pathway exists, students would be placed into it unless they meet the statutory exceptions.

   Statutory exceptions from auto-ADT placement include:
   1. an ADT pathway does not exist in the chosen major at the college.
   2. the student's educational pathway is better served by a local associate degree.
   3. the student plans to apply to transfer to a UC campus or an independent college or university.
   4. the student is seeking to complete a community college baccalaureate degree program.
   5. the student is seeking to complete CTE program that does not have an ADT pathway

   Ultimately, the counselor will educate the student to make the best-informed decision. If the student is transferring to a UC, the student may be exempted from the Auto-ADT placement, "The student plans to apply to a UC campus or independent college or university." The student would be placed on a degree path accordingly. Students who earn an ADT degree are included in the UC comprehensive review process for admission. Refer to Appendix B.

10. **Are there assigned pathway counselors so academic areas know who to go to?**

    Currently, we do not have assigned pathway counselors. The Counseling Department has a list of counselor liaisons that the instructional departments can contact. Please contact the Student Services/Counseling Division Chair for the updated list.

11. **I am not a Counselor. How do I help transfer students if they have additional questions about ADT and Cal-GETC?**

    Navigating the community college transfer landscape is complex and everchanging; therefore, students must be referred to a Counselor to ensure they are given accurate and up-to-date information based on the student's educational goals.

    To list a few things, Counselors can help students create/update their SEPs, assess their educational major/career choices, provide personal counseling related to the student's educational goal, review admission requirements for impacted campuses, change their majors, review specific transfer program requirements, and make recommendations to other student services/programs.

12. **Who will coordinate the Counselor implementation of advising incoming students about Cal-GETC courses?**

The Cal-GETC task force is charged with coordinating district-wide efforts to ensure that proper communication and guidance are given to all constituent members. The Articulation & Transfer Officer will work with Counselors to ensure a seamless transition.

13. **Will there be adequate counselors if the matriculation hold is implemented?**

Ed Code 7822 requires Student Education Plans (SEPs) for all enrolled California Community College students. As part of the matriculation hold, students must see a counselor at least once to develop some version of a SEP. If this is not accomplished, per local protocols, at the earliest census date or at the latest when the 15-unit requirement is triggered (Title 5, 55530), a hold will be placed on the student's enrollment.

Per Title 5, 55530, a first-time student is a student who enrolls at the college for the first time. This excludes students who transferred from another institution of higher education and does not include concurrent/dual enrollment students.

Data is being collected to identify how many students are in this category. The expectation is that this should not disrupt the students' access to see a counselor.

14. **If a student has catalog rights to 24-25 CSU GE Breadth and takes the NUTR 018 or HW 001 course in the Fall of 2025 or Spring of 2026, would the course still count towards CSU GE Area E?**

Yes, the keyword is "catalog rights." A course that fulfills CSU GE Breadth will be retained if the student has maintained continuous enrollment at COS. There has not been further discussion of when to sunset this transfer general education pattern. It is still yet to be determined.

If the student stops out or loses catalog rights and does not complete the CSU GE Breadth, the student would be following the Cal-GETC version that is effective at that time.

15. **We are seeing an increase in the number of high school students in dual enrollment programs who complete CSUGE and/or IGETC by the time they graduate from high school. Given that high school students cannot establish catalog rights to a CSU/UC, if a high school student gets CSUGE/IGETC certified from the community college on their transcript, does this allow them to utilize the CSUGE/IGETC certification, or do they default to Cal-GETC regardless since they are high school students?**

   If the student completes the pattern, the CSU GE/IGETC certification will prevail over the timing issue. Note: The CSU/UC will evaluate the high school students admitted as first-time freshmen differently when establishing a student's catalog rights and, in some cases, will have students follow their campus-specific GE pattern. Refer to Appendix A.

16. **If a new incoming student wants to take classes in the Summer of 2025, which pattern would the student follow?**

   A new student taking a course in the Summer of 2025 must follow the 2024-2025 CSU or IGETC breadth, as Cal-GETC will not start until Fall 2025. A counselor will need to change the student's program and select the catalog year 2024-2025.

17. **Can students request a partial Cal-GETC Certification?**

   Only a full Cal-GETC Certification may be forwarded to the CSU and UC with all areas completed. No partial Cal-GETC Certification will be accepted.

   At this time, no decision has been made with Cal-GETC for STEM majors.

18. **Can I get a "D" grade in Cal-GETC?**

   Courses for Cal-GETC must be passed with a minimum grade of "C," where a "C" grade is defined as a 2.0 on a 4.0 GPA scale. A "Credit" or "Pass" is acceptable, providing that it is equivalent to a grade of "C" or higher. A college transcript must reflect this policy.

19. **If a student takes a new course for Cal-GETC Area and wants to use it as a reverse pass-along for CSU GE Breadth or IGETC, can the student do that?**

   No, Cal-GETC is only available for students starting in the fall of 2025 and does not go backward.

   Students with catalog rights to the CSU GE Breadth or IGETC pattern must follow those GE patterns instead.

20. Cal-GETC Unit Value

Courses must have a minimum of 3 semesters or 4 quarter units. Lab courses that accompany lecture courses are an exception.

Exception: 3-quarter unit or 2-semester unit Math or English courses that satisfy Cal-GETC Area 1A or Area 2 if:
- They are part of a sequence
- At least two of the 3-quarter units or 2-semester unit courses as part of the same sequence and have each been completed with a "C" grade or higher, and
- The course sequence meets the rigor and breadth of Cal-GETC

Ex: Student takes English 101, 102, and 103 (3 quarters each). The CCC may certify any combination of 101, 102, and 103 that have been completed with a "C" or higher for a total of 6 quarter units (convert to semester = 4 semester units) to satisfy Area 1A.

Ex: Student takes Math 121 and Math 122 (3 quarters each). The CCC may certify both courses that have been completed with a "C" or higher for a total of 6 quarter units (convert to semester = 4 semester units) to satisfy Area 2.

Appendix A: COS Cal-GETC Catalog Rights Chart

Population	Starts Enrollment at CCC Summer following H.S Grad	Starts Enrollment at CCC Sum/Fall following H.S Grad	Catalog Year	Which GE version
High school students, including dual enrollment (currently enrolled in high school) and graduates high school	Summer 2024, Summer 2025, Summer 2026, Summer 2027, Summer 2028, Summer 2029, etc.	N/A The student does not enroll at the CCC in the fall following H.S. grad. The student goes directly to a 4-year university.	N/A The student has no catalog rights because CSU defines dual enrollment as a first-time freshman. *Exception: If a student is earning a degree at COS, the student may elect any catalog year to earn the degree.	N/A Students may be placed on the GE pattern according to the transfer institution to which they were admitted as first-time freshmen. Students can inform CSU/UC they are GE-certified by COS to be exempt from campus-specific GE requirements.
High school students, including dual enrollment and graduates high school	Summer 2024	Fall 2024	2024-2025 *(includes summer 2025)*	IGETC 2.4 or beyond • *this catalog year has an Area 7 Ethnic Studies requirement* • *Reduces Area 4 units to 6 units* or 24-25 CSU GE Breadth
	Summer 2026, Summer 2027, Summer 2028, Summer 2029, and beyond	Fall 2025, Fall 2026, Fall 2027, Fall 2028, Fall 2029, and beyond	2025-2026 2026-2027 2027-2028 2028-2029 2029-2030 and beyond	Cal-GETC version 1.1 or beyond
Continuous CCC enrollment student	Prior to Fall of 2025		2022-2023	IGETC 2.3 version or beyond • *this catalog year does not have Area 7 Ethnic Studies requirement* or 22-23 CSU GE Breadth
			2023-2024 & 2024-2025 **(includes Summer 2025)**	IGETC 2.4 or beyond • *this catalog year has an Area 7 Ethnic Studies requirement* • *Reduces Area 4 units to 6 units* or 23-24 or 24-25 CSU GE Breadth
	Fall 2025		2025-2026 and beyond	Cal-GETC version 1.1 or beyond
Non-credit students			Has no catalog rights	Considered a new student and would follow whatever catalog year and GE pattern that is in place.

Appendix B: Handling Exceptions for Auto-ADT

As of Spring 2024, new incoming students who applied for COS for Fall 2024 have already selected the major in CCCApply. These initial student choices are typically uninformed and may change as they meet with a Counselor.

So, if a student mismatches their transfer with a degree goal with a non-ADT program of study **(ADT → non–ADT degree),** the development of the SEP is the point where documentation and identification should occur.

Example 1: Student A is an incoming first-time student and applied to COS to start Fall 2024. They selected Communications ADT on the CCC application. They saw a counselor and determined that they actually wanted to major in Communicative Disorders. This change in the degree goal meets exceptions (1) and/or (2). An ADT pathway does not exist in the chosen major, and the student's educational pathway is better served by a local associate degree (ASL or Liberal Arts Educ. Occupations AA); therefore, the counselor will change the major to a more appropriate degree path, create a SEP based on the new major, and document the exception on the SEP.

Example 2: Student A is an incoming first-time student and applied to COS to start Fall 2024. They selected Elementary ADT on the CCC application. They saw a counselor and determined they were interested in Fresno Pacific University (FPU) Liberal Studies. Following the requirements for the Elementary ADT will result in additional units and will lengthen the student's time at COS. This change in the degree goal meets exception (3) since FPU is a private university; therefore, the counselor will change the major, create a SEP based on the new major, and document the exception on the SEP.

Example 3: Student A is an incoming first-time student and applied to COS to start Fall 2024. They selected Biology ADT on the CCC application. They saw a counselor and determined that they actually wanted to complete the Respiratory Therapy baccalaureate program offered at one of the community colleges. This change in the degree goal meets exceptions (1) and/or (4). An ADT pathway does not exist in the chosen major, and the student's educational pathway is better served by a local associate degree, and the student is seeking a baccalaureate degree; therefore, the counselor will change the major to a more appropriate degree path, create a SEP based on the new major, and document the exception on the SEP.

Example 4: Student A is an incoming first-time student and applied to COS to start Fall 2024. They selected Biology ADT on the CCC application. They saw a counselor and determined that they actually wanted to do Welding. This change in the degree goal meets exception (5); therefore, the counselor will change the major, create a SEP based on the new major, and document the exception on the SEP.
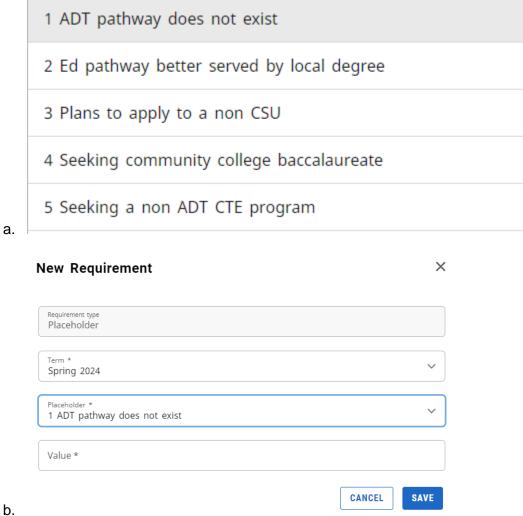

Do not use the auto-exceptions placeholders for students who are:

- ADT to another ADT (ex: Elementary Educ to Child & Adol. ADT)
- Were non–ADT and going into the ADT pathway (ex: Human Services → Sociology ADT)

Directions for counselors:

1. During the counseling session, if the student selected Educational Goal 1 on CCCApply – Transfer and earn a degree and their major lists one of the COS ADT degrees, and you determine the student originally selected an ADT major and is better served not being on the ADT path due to one or more of the following:

    1. **an ADT pathway does not exist in the chosen major at the college.**
    2. **the student's educational pathway is better served by a local associate degree.**
    3. **the student plans to apply to transfer to a UC campus or an independent college or university.**
    4. **the student is seeking to complete a community college baccalaureate degree program.**
    5. **the student is seeking to complete CTE program that does not have an ADT pathway**

2. Change the student's major in "BannerWeb – Student Program Change"

3. Create the SEP in DegreeWorks and indicate one of the placeholders that is built

a.

> 1 ADT pathway does not exist
>
> 2 Ed pathway better served by local degree
>
> 3 Plans to apply to a non CSU
>
> 4 Seeking community college baccalaureate
>
> 5 Seeking a non ADT CTE program

b.

New Requirement   ✕

Requirement type
Placeholder

Term *
Spring 2024

Placeholder *
1 ADT pathway does not exist

Value *

CANCEL   **SAVE**

Counselors can choose to write more in the "Value" area, or simply put a period or other character since a value is required to save.