



NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

Dr. William S. Carver, II

Interim President

NUMBERED MEMO CC22-056

TO: Chief Academic Officers
Chief Student Development Administrators

FROM: Dr. James W. Kelley
AVP – Student Services

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Articulation Agreement Report & Revisions

DATE: December 16, 2022

Background:

The North Carolina Comprehensive Articulation Agreement (CAA) applies to all 58 North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) institutions and to all 16 University of North Carolina (UNC) System institutions. The CAA is applicable to all NCCCS students who successfully complete a course designated as transferable or who graduate with an Associate in Arts (AA) or an Associate in Science (AS) degree and then transfer to a UNC System institution. The original CAA was implemented in August 1997. In February 2014, the UNC System Board of Governors (BOG) and the State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC) adopted many significant revisions. Since that point, multiple refinements and minor changes have been made by the Transfer Advisory Committee (TAC) according to the authority vested in them by the CAA. Substantive changes, however, like those of 2014 and 2022, must go before the UNC BOG and the SBCC for their formal approval.

At their regularly scheduled October 2022 meetings, the UNC BOG and the SBCC each approved the [annual report](#) and proposed [substantive revisions](#) to the CAA. These changes are in effect immediately and are outlined below.

Changes in the October 2022 Version of the CAA:

One of the responsibilities of the TAC is to provide general counsel and recommendations to the NCCCS and the UNC System in matters leading to optimal transfer between the two systems. As part of the TAC's review process and annual legislative report, multiple changes in clarity and three substantive changes were recommended and subsequently approved. The three substantive changes were found in the following sections:

1. *V.A.9. Transfer of Courses Not Originated at North Carolina Community Colleges:* The new section no longer restricts the number of non-NCCCS courses to 14 semester hours of credit (SHC) as part of the AA or AS degree in order to be eligible for the protections of the CAA. The

TAC found no current justification for this statement that is significantly more restrictive than SACSCOC standards regarding transfer credit applying to degrees awarded.

2. *V.A.10. Transfer of Advance Placement (AP) Course Credit:* The new section adds the option for NCCCS institutions to offer “local credit by exam or by placement exam”. The TAC found the lack of this option prevented NCCCS institutions from providing all students with similar opportunities to demonstrate knowledge of course competencies.
3. *V.D. Students Enrolled Prior to Fall Semester 2014:* This section has been removed from the new version of the CAA. The TAC found this section irrelevant now that eight (8) years have passed since this version’s inception.

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