TO: California Community Colleges, California State University, and University of California System Partners

FROM: Vice Chancellor John Stanskas, California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office
Assistant Vice Chancellor Brent Foster, California State University Chancellor's Office
Vice President and Vice Provost Yvette Gullatt, University of California Office of the President

DATE: February 14, 2024

RE: Cal-GETC Administrative Implementation Guidance

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Background

Assembly Bill 928, Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2021 (Berman, 2021) established the provision for a single general education pattern. The bill required the Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates (ICAS) of the University of California (UC), the California State University (CSU), and the California Community Colleges (CCC), on or before May 31, 2023, to establish a singular lower division general education pathway that meets the academic requirements necessary for transfer admission to the CSU and the UC. This pathway was established and named Cal-GETC; a version 1.0 Standards Manual was approved May 22, 2023. The bill also required that this singular lower division general education pathway, commencing with the fall term of the 2025–26 academic year, be the only lower division general education pathway used to determine eligibility and sufficient academic preparation for transfer into both university segments.

This legislation established a transition phase between the currently approved Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) and CSU GE Breadth patterns and the newly approved Cal-GETC pattern. Thus, complementing these curricular efforts is the need for management and infrastructure planning to operationalize Cal-GETC. An Intersegmental Administrative Implementation Workgroup was convened in Fall 2023 to determine and clarify the requirements for a successful implementation, resulting in the following guidance to all three segments along with other key concerned parties.

Initial Essential Elements

Cal-GETC Standards During Transition Phase

All system partners agree to use Cal-GETC Standards Version 1.1 for now based upon the ICAS Cal-GETC Standards Committee determination made December 31, 2023. While standards will be addressed by ICAS and updates included in subsequent releases (likely in May 2024), they will be, for now, deemed as non-impactful on the work necessary to transition the state's general education transfer system solely to Cal-GETC.

Submission Cycles

December 2023: The final course submission cycle via ASSIST.org to request CSU GE Breadth and IGETC area approvals. Consider curriculum planning for the broader needs of the Cal-GETC transition, which could include ASSIST "terminations" and "phase outs."

December 2024: The initial course submission cycle via ASSIST.org to request Cal-GETC area approvals for academic year 2025-2026. Consider planning for future course submissions for the broader needs of the Cal-GETC transition phase.

Area 1C Priority

ICAS Cal-GETC Standards Manual (version 1.1, section 5.1.4 Review of new course submissions, page 9) requires all Area 1C courses to be reviewed. Thus, 1C submissions will receive priority review by discipline faculty within the cycle. It is anticipated that community colleges should plan appropriately as reviewers will ensure efficient decisions returned in a timely manner.

Migration of Existing Courses with IGETC Area Approvals to Cal-GETC Areas

Courses approved for an IGETC area in ASSIST.org as of August 1, 2024, with the exception of Area 1C, will migrate to the corresponding Cal-GETC area by ASSIST.org. Please note that review of Area 1C submissions will receive priority status over review of other Cal-GETC submissions for the 2024 submission cycle.

The following table visualizes the planned ASSIST activity and submission requirement for initial Cal-GETC pattern development.

IGETC Area	Cal-GETC Area	Action
1A	1A	ASSIST Data Migration
1B	1B	ASSIST Data Migration
1C	1C	Colleges Submit Dec. 2024
2A	2	ASSIST Data Migration
3A	3A	ASSIST Data Migration
3B	3B	ASSIST Data Migration
4	4	ASSIST Data Migration
5A	5A	ASSIST Data Migration
5B	5B	ASSIST Data Migration
5C	5C	ASSIST Data Migration

IGETC Area	Cal-GETC Area	Action
6	N/A	N/A
7	6	ASSIST Data Migration

ASSIST.org

Courses migrated from IGETC to Cal-GETC areas by ASSIST.org are anticipated to be published in May 2025.

Area 1C submissions occurring by December 2024 will be published by May 2025. Technical appeals will occur, as usual, in June, with specific one-time allowances for Area 1C (e.g., nontechnical resubmission). Further detail will be provided in the annual GE Review communication from the CSU Chancellor's Office and UC Office of the President.

Other options may be considered after Cal-GETC implementation in Fall 2025. Other legislation (e.g., AB 1111) may have potential impact and may alter this submission process in the future.

CSU GE Breadth, IGETC, Language Other Than English (LOTE) and American Institutions (AI) courses will continue to be available for public view and reports with no sunset date at this time.

Language other than English (LOTE)

The current LOTE courses (IGETC 6A) will be maintained on ASSIST.org. Plans for the future display of these courses as a UC graduation requirement have yet to be determined.

Certification

Students transferring using the Cal-GETC pattern may receive only full certification. Partial certification is not permitted per the Cal-GETC Standards, Policies, and Procedures Manual (version 1.1, section 10.3 Instructions for Completing the California General Education Transfer Curriculum Certification (Cal-GETC) Form, page 32).

Students transferring using either the IGETC or CSU GE Breadth pattern may continue to receive both full or partial certification based on their catalog rights (see Appx. A).

Catalog Rights and Continuous Enrollment
- For any student who begins at a California community college prior to Fall 2025: Students may present an IGETC certification beginning with the version that was current when they began at a California community college. For example:
    - If the student begins in the 2022-2023 academic year, they may follow IGETC 2.3 or beyond.
    - If the student begins in the 2023-2024 academic year, they may follow IGETC 2.4, which includes the new Area 7 – Ethnic Studies (3 units) and the modified Area 4 – Social and Behavioral Sciences (6 units), or beyond.

- For any student who begins at a California community college in Fall 2025 or beyond: Students may present a Cal-GETC certification (as opposed to an IGETC certification) if they wish to use this pattern to help fulfill their GE preparation.
  - Students beginning prior to the 2025-2026 academic year may, as an option, fulfill their GE pattern using Cal-GETC, beginning with Cal-GETC course availability in Fall 2025.

Catalog Rights Chart for Student Scenarios

The Cal-GETC Catalog Rights Chart, appended to this memo, supplies the relevant determinations for the Cal-GETC transition phase that encompasses regulatory parameters and the scope of common student situations. Note that while the UC does not maintain a corresponding systemwide policy, there is a standard statement containing the UC position on catalog rights for Cal-GETC.

Mixed General Education Pattern Usage

Cal-GETC, which has numerous course overlaps with IGETC, is a distinct general education pattern that commences in Fall 2025. During the time when multiple general education patterns are available to students, as outlined above, students may be able to choose one general education pattern to follow for their undergraduate requirements.

Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) Compliance

The California Community College Chancellor's Office (Chancellor's Office) has created a streamlined process for embedding ADTs with the new Cal-GETC pattern. This process has been established to ensure that colleges can concentrate their efforts on those degrees that will not meet requirements or may require changes. Further, this process allows colleges to submit a certification letter of compliance to the Chancellor's Office by June 1, 2025. For reference, updated ADT templates are available on the Chancellor's Office website.

Submitting an ADT certification for administrative updates with the Cal-GETC inclusion does not impact any existing articulation agreements.

Common Course Numbering (AB 1111)

While the implementation of common course numbering, a legislated mandate, is ongoing, its impact on Cal-GETC remains to be seen. As implementation progresses, and a review process is defined, the impact on courses must be acknowledged and anticipated.

We are committed to providing support and guidance throughout this transition phase. Your cooperation and diligence in preparing for these changes are highly appreciated.

For any inquiries or clarifications, please reach out to transfer@cccco.edu for assistance.

Appendix A: Cal-GETC Catalog Rights Chart

Cal-GETC certification is NOT required for:
- Students with continuous enrollment prior to Fall 2025 (see Title 5, section 40401).
- Students with official transcripts indicating GE certification:
  - Conferral of an Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT)
  - Full GE certification for CSU GE Breadth or IGETC

Cal-GETC certification applies to the following:
- Fall 2025 and thereafter if students do not have continuous enrollment (no catalog rights).
- Students from UC, in-state-private and/or out-of-state institutions with no claim to catalog rights.
- Students who have catalog rights prior to Fall 2025 may elect to complete Cal-GETC but it is not required.

	Enrolled at CCC Summer 2025 or earlier	Enrolled at CCC Fall 2025 or later
High school students including dual enrollment (currently enrolled in high school)	Student has no catalog rights because CSU defines dual enrollment as a first-time freshman (see Admission Handbook Frequently Asked Questions).	Considered a new student on the Cal-GETC pattern.
High school graduates including dual enrollment who enroll in college after graduation	Student has no catalog rights because CSU defines dual enrollment as a first-time freshman (see Admission Handbook Frequently Asked Questions).	Considered a new student on the Cal-GETC pattern.
Continuous CCC student	Student has CCC and CSU catalog rights if attendance in regular terms.	Student has CCC and CSU catalog rights if attendance in regular terms.
Continuous CSU student	Student has CSU and CCC catalog rights if attendance in regular terms.	Student has CSU and CCC catalog rights if attendance in regular terms.
Non-credit student	Has no catalog rights.	Considered a new student.

Note: The UC has no systemwide catalog rights policy. UC will continue to accept appropriate CCC certifications of IGETC and Cal-GETC for incoming students for the time being.

This memorandum is being routed to the following groups and individuals.

California Community Colleges	California State University	University of California
- Chancellor - Executive Vice Chancellor (ESLEI) - Vice Chancellors (ESLEI) - Deans (ESLEI) - CEOs (Chancellors and Presidents) - CIOs - CSSOs - Admissions & Records (evaluators) - Transfer Center Directors - Articulation Officers - Counselors - Student Senate - Academic Senate	- Brent Foster, Assistant Vice Chancellor and State University Dean of Academic Programs, Academic and Student Affairs - April Grommo, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management Services, Academic and Student Affairs - Mildred Garcia, Chancellor - Nathan Evans, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs - Dilcie Perez, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs - Beth Steffel, Chair, Academic Senate of the California State University - Darlene Daclan, Director of Academic Affairs Business Systems - CSU Presidents - CSU Associate Vice Presidents, Academic Programs and Deans of Undergraduate Studies - CSU Associate Vice Presidents, Enrollment Management - Academic Technology Services - Articulation Officers - Common Management Systems (CMS) - Directors of Admissions - Registrars - Directors of Advising - Student Association (CSSA)	- UC Office of the President - UCOP Undergraduate Admissions - UCOP Institutional Research and Planning - UCOP SAPEP Office - Associate Vice Chancellors of Admissions - Articulation Officers - Admissions Directors - Admissions Associate Directors - Registrars - Transfer Center Directors - Academic Senate - Student Senate