HIGHER DEGREES
IN OUR FORECAST

Annual report on articulation and transfer for Arizona postsecondary education

2016-2017 ACADEMIC YEAR
“NOW, MORE THAN EVER, WE AS A SOCIETY NEED TO SUPPORT THE HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRESS OF OUR STUDENTS.

Most jobs require a higher education degree and the lack of this degree limits the potential of our state residents and the future of our state as a whole. AZTransfer provides the support and expertise that, together with our Arizona public community colleges and universities, gives options to our students that enable degree accessibility, affordability, and the means to make every college credit count.”

LINDA ELLIOTT-NELSON
VICE PRESIDENT FOR LEARNING SERVICES
ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE
AZTRANSFER STEERING COMMITTEE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE CO-CHAIR

*Representative is also a member of the AZTransfer Executive Committee
2016-2017

CONTENTS

3 ABOUT THIS REPORT
4 MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES
5 YEAR IN REVIEW
7 AZTRANSFER BY THE NUMBERS
9 TRANSFER DATA REPORTING
13 ARTICULATION TASK FORCES
15 TOOLS & RESOURCES
ABOUT
THIS REPORT

FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS, academic leaders from each of Arizona’s public postsecondary institutions have collaborated to support transfer student success. Known as the AZTransfer Steering Committee, this coordinating body ensures Arizona’s students have access to efficient, seamless, and simple ways to transfer from a community college to a university in Arizona.

Born out of legislation passed in 1996, the AZTransfer Steering Committee works to fulfill a promise to provide high-quality educational pathways that lead to baccalaureate degree completion for all Arizonans. This report highlights results, services, and innovations in the 2016-2017 academic year that deliver on that promise and make higher degrees in our forecast a reality.
VISION
College degree pathways are accessible to all Arizonans.

VALUES
The decisions and actions of the AZTransfer Steering Committee demonstrate our:

- Purpose is to promote and support student academic success;
- Leadership is transparent, collegial, collaborative, and proactive;
- Decision making is data-informed and outcome-focused;
- Fiscal stewardship is financially responsible and goal-oriented.

MISSION
The AZTransfer Steering Committee, an organization of academic leaders, supports successful application of transfer credits leading to degree completion for students in all public and tribal higher education institutions in Arizona.

MAKE EVERY CREDIT COUNT
YEAR IN REVIEW

AZTransfer’s major events, milestones, and annual activities in the 2016-2017 academic year.

2016

- Steering Committee Meeting - New Co-Chairs Voted In
- Annual Partnership Reports Published
- College Fair Statewide Tour Begins
- General Education ATF Meeting
- Academic Advising ATF Meeting
- Hosted 18 ATF Meetings

J
- Workshop for Admissions & Outreach Staff

A
- ATF Meeting Facilitators Retreat
- Executive Committee Meeting
- Statewide Faculty ATF Training
- Admissions & Records ATF Meeting

S
- Admissions & Records ATF Meeting

O
- Executive Committee Meeting
- Hosted 22 ATF Meetings

N
- Annual Report Presented to Arizona Board of Regents
- Annual Report Presented to Arizona Community College Coordinating Council
- Hosted 2 ATF Meetings

D
- Steering Committee Meeting
- Annual Reports Distributed to Stakeholders
2017

- Provided data for STEM grant proposal
- Migrated to virtual servers

(J) Steering Committee Meeting
- Academic Advising ATF Meeting
- Marketing collateral updated and printed

(F) Executive Committee Meeting
- AZTransfer Summit transfer advocate award winner announced
- Assist steering committee and users meetings

(M) Strategic plan updated
- Report on transfer rate of first-time community college students published
- Executive Committee meeting

(A) Breakout session at the AZTransfer Summit April 13-14, 2017 Scottsdale, AZ
- Key performance indicators report updated and published
- Published report on baccalaureate degree recipients with Arizona community college credits

(M) Martha Cordova Director of Transfer Services
- Arizona Western College
- AZTransfer Advocate Award recipient
AZTRANSFER
BY THE NUMBERS

EACH ACADEMIC YEAR AZTransfer reaches thousands of Arizonans through its programs and services. Committee memberships, event attendance, data, website analytics, and other numbers paint a picture of the results AZTransfer delivers to stakeholders. It is AZTransfer’s priority to maximize member institutions’ return on their investment in the Arizona Transfer System.
1,751 AZTransfer members statewide

15,924 bachelor's degree recipients in 2015-16 who earned credits at an Arizona community college

148 faculty and staff with 15 or more years of service to AZTransfer

27 community college and university visits

42,400 pieces of marketing collateral distributed to community colleges and universities

4,383 stakeholders on the AZTransfer email list

10,853 new transfers from Arizona community colleges

1,235,612 unique page views on AZTransfer.com

5,816,648 student records loaded into the ASSIST database

1,290 faculty engaged in articulation task forces

276 AZTransfer Summit attendees in 2017

89 high schools visited
TRANSFER DATA REPORTING

THE ARIZONA STATE SYSTEM FOR INFORMATION ON STUDENT TRANSFER (ASSIST) is a relational database containing enrollment and degree information on students attending Arizona’s public universities and community college districts. Using this data, AZTransfer provides a statewide snapshot of progress toward improving transfer and degree attainment in Arizona. This report includes five data sets that are published in each academic year’s report.
NEW TRANSFERS
WHO ENTERED ARIZONA PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES FROM ARIZONA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE RECIPIENTS
WHO ENTERED AS NEW TRANSFERS FROM ARIZONA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

NEW TRANSFERS are defined as the number of students entering an Arizona university in a fall or spring semester with 12 or more credits from one or more of the Arizona public community colleges.
# Credit Hours Transferred at Entry

**By New Transfers from Arizona Community Colleges**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12-23 Hours</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-34 Hours</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-59 Hours</td>
<td>33.0%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>30.3%</td>
<td>30.5%</td>
<td>29.9%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60+ Hours</td>
<td>51.5%</td>
<td>53.9%</td>
<td>54.2%</td>
<td>53.5%</td>
<td>54.4%</td>
<td>52.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate's Degree</td>
<td>54.0%</td>
<td>54.9%</td>
<td>54.8%</td>
<td>56.0%</td>
<td>55.5%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGEC Only</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# Ethnic Distribution

**Of 2016-17 New Transfer Students**

- **White**: 53%
- **Hispanic**: 30.8%
- **African American**: 5.4%
- **Asian American**: 4.6%
- **Unknown**: 0.9%
- **International**: 1.9%

*New transfers are defined as the number of students entering an Arizona university in a fall or spring semester with 12 or more credits from one or more of the Arizona public community colleges.*
BACCALAUREATE DEGREE GRADUATION RATE
OF ARIZONA COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRANSFER STUDENTS

LEGEN

- TOTAL
- FULL TIME WITH TRANSFER ASSOCIATE OR AGEC
- PART TIME WITHOUT TRANSFER ASSOCIATE OR AGEC
- TRANSFER ASSOCIATE
- AGEC
- 60+ HOURS WITHOUT ASSOCIATE OR AGEC
- FULL TIME WITHOUT TRANSFER ASSOCIATE OR AGEC
- PART TIME WITH TRANSFER ASSOCIATE OR AGEC

Graduation rates are cumulative. Students graduating within three years are also included in the six years column.
ARTICULATION TASK FORCES (ATFs) are the heart of AZTransfer’s faculty-driven transfer model. Each fall, 1,290 faculty in 43 academic disciplines convene to evaluate course transferability and discuss curricular alignment. The outcome of these meetings provides the content for the tools and resources on AZTransfer.com that students, advisors, and counselors use to plan a seamless transfer. In addition to the discipline specific ATFs, academic advising, admissions and records, and general education ATFs meet several times a year to address issues and trends in student support and general studies.
ATF FACULTY MEMBERS BY INSTITUTION

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY 181
NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY 103
ARIZONA 67
AZ 49
Central Arizona College 69
COCHISE COLLEGE 45
Coconino Community College 43
Dine College 35
EASTERN ARIZONA 35
MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGES 445
MCC 38
Northland Pioneer College 46
Pima Community College 75
Yavapai College 19
Yavapai 45

STATEWIDE AZTRANSFER MEMBERSHIP

TOTAL MEMBERS 1,751
ATF FACULTY 1,290
ADMISSIONS & RECORDS ATF 64
ASSIST 84
GENERAL EDUCATION ATF 39
ACADEMIC ADVISING ATF 75
COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST 148

“...I value the collaboration and innovation in working with AZtransfer. Members represent higher education needs and opportunities for students across the state, and I appreciate the shared commitment to improving programs and services.”

SUSAN JOHNSTAD
ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT
FOR OFF-CAMPUS EDUCATION
NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY
AZTRANSFER STEERING COMMITTEE
UNIVERSITY CO-CHAIR
AZTRANSFER DEVELOPS AND MAINTAINS web services and other resources directly related to operating the Arizona Transfer System and promoting transfer opportunities and programs. These tools and resources ensure faculty, staff, and students have access to transfer information from anywhere in the state. Many tools are refreshed daily while others are updated annually or as needed.
STUDENT ADVISING RESOURCES

COURSE EQUIVALENCY GUIDE

The Course Equivalency Guide (CEG) is a statewide database that provides detailed information on how community college courses transfer to the three public universities. Users can search for course equivalency by subject, institution, and course number. Course data from each of Arizona’s public and tribal community colleges and universities is represented in the CEG.

DUAL ENROLLMENT GUIDE

Dual Enrollment courses are community college courses taken in high schools. The Dual Enrollment Guide shows how these courses transfer to Arizona’s three state universities.

EXAM EQUIVALENCY GUIDE

The Exam Equivalency Guide (EEG) shows users how exam scores may translate to college credit at Arizona community colleges and state universities. The EEG provides information on five testing programs—Advanced Placement (AP), Cambridge International Examination (CIE), College Level Proficiency Exam (CLEP), Dantès (DSST), and International Baccalaureate (IB).

MAJOR & DEGREE GUIDES

For students who have selected a major but not a university, Major & Degree Guides link associate’s degrees to their related bachelor’s degrees for majors that are offered by two or more of Arizona’s public universities. Major & Degree Guides provide a list of recommended lower division courses at the student’s community college that will meet the requirements for that major at any of the three universities.

MARKETING COLLATERAL

AZTransfer provides marketing collateral and promotional items to each member institution by request. The materials are used in orientation packets, during advising sessions, as a compliment to recruitment and outreach efforts, and more. A general transfer brochure and a handout specifically about the Arizona General Education Curriculum are currently available.

MOBILE APP

The AZTransfer mobile app offers on-the-go course planning and is available for both iOS and Android devices. The mobile app includes data from the Arizona General Education Curriculum, Course Equivalency Guide, Exam Equivalency Guide, and the Majors &Degrees Guide.
FACULTY & STAFF RESOURCES

ARIZONA COURSE EQUIVALENCY TRACKING SYSTEM

The Arizona Course Equivalency Tracking System (ACETS) is a web-based application that tracks course equivalency decisions, including SUN courses, as the courses move through the statewide evaluation and articulation process (Figure 1). ACETS supports all decision-making required to establish equivalencies in Arizona beginning with the initial request for an equivalency evaluation and ending with the creation of a report to be used by Arizona university encoders. ACETS tracks the timeframe for course equivalency from source institution to target institution and triggers a report to target institutions when timelines are outside normal boundaries. A target school records its decision in ACETS within 45 days and encodes it within 15 days. Institutions can check recent information activity by querying the database.

ARIZONA STATE SYSTEM FOR INFORMATION ON STUDENT TRANSFER

The Arizona State System for Information on Student Transfer (ASSIST) is a relational database containing enrollment and degree information on students attending Arizona’s public universities and community college districts.

USER MANUALS

AZTransfer publishes four web-based user manuals: the ATF Handbook & Policy Manual, Website Users Manual, Technology Users Manual, and the ASSIST Users Manual. These manuals can be accessed online via the Faculty/Staff portal page (Figure 4).

ACADEMIC CURRICULUM REVIEW AND EVALUATION SYSTEM

The Academic Curriculum Review and Evaluation System (ACRES) is available for Arizona institutions to use for their formal internal curriculum review and evaluation process (Figure 2). Curriculum approved through ACRES can be submitted directly to ACETS with single click. Other institutional processes can also be deployed in ACRES such as Program Approval forms, Institutional Degree/Certificate forms, Employee Development and more.

ARTICULATION TASK FORCE PORTALS

A comprehensive resource which allows both institutional and statewide staff to maintain membership databases, curriculum (prefixes, degrees and pathways), meeting reports, and the master statewide calendar for AZTransfer’s Articulation Task Forces (Figure 3).
AZTRANSFER STAFF

Kelly Robles
Executive Director

Helena Babiski
Program Coordinator

Rebecca McKay
Sr. Director of Technology & ASSIST

Tracy Salter
Sr. ASSIST Data Analyst

Erin Woodell
Director of Marketing & Communications