

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Policy Manual

SUBJECT: External (Non-Regental System) Accredited University/College Transfer of Credit

NUMBER: 2.2.2.3

A. PURPOSE

The Board of Regents governing the six public universities has established a policy on the transfer of credits from accredited external universities and colleges. Students will be required to complete all requirements as outlined in the academic catalog.

B. DEFINITIONS

See BOR Policy 2.2.2.1.

C. UNDERGRADUATE TRANSFER

1. Independent General Education/Common Course Transfer

- 1.1. All individual general education courses will have a course evaluation.
- 1.2. Approved equivalent courses and grades are recorded on the transcript; once the course is recorded, the equivalency will not change.

2. Block General Education Transfer

- 2.1. A student who has completed general education requirements that are consistent with the six (6) goals and credit hour requirements outlined in BOR Policy 2.3.7 will enter the Regental system having fulfilled the General Education program requirements.
- 2.2. A student who has completed the WICHE (Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education) Interstate Passport, or other approved general education agreement requirements as outlined in AAC Guidelines will have successfully fulfilled the General Education Requirements.
- 2.3. A student who has completed bachelor's degree at an accredited institution will have successfully completed the General Education Requirements.
- 2.4. Degree and graduation requirements to meet one of the System General Education Requirements (SGR)s may stipulate that students' complete credits/courses toward the degree program. Any such requirement will be outlined in the program articulation agreement.
- 2.5. Approved transfer courses, number and name as well as grades are recorded on the transcript. Credit will be identified in the student information system that general education has been satisfied and transcribed.

3. Program Major Specific, Elective Transfer

3.1. Independent Major, Common or Elective Courses

- 3.1.1. The university-specific degree or plan of study requirements determine if the requested courses are applicable to the student's degree program at that university and if they meet the minimum grade criteria required by the program.
- 3.1.2. University discretion is permitted in acceptance of courses.
- 3.1.3. Approved transfer courses will be entered into the student information system, the equivalency will not change once approved.
- 3.1.4. Remedial courses (as identified on the sending institution's transcript) received in transfer are recorded, transcribed, and assigned an equivalency. Remedial courses transferred will not be applied toward a student's graduation requirements.
- 3.1.5. Approved courses, grades and credit hours are recorded on the transcript.

3.2. Major Specific Block Transfer of Credit by Articulation Agreements

- 3.2.1. Universities may enter into an articulation agreement including transfer of a cluster of courses for block credit toward the student's degree program with the approval of the Board of Regents.
- 3.2.2. Following a course evaluation ensuring the agreement was adhered, credits will be transferred as a block and a grade of CR applied.
- 3.2.3. All approved equivalent courses and credit hours are recorded as a block on the transcript; the grade earned at the sending institution is not recorded or calculated into the grade point averages.
- 3.2.4. Students and the receiving university may utilize a course-by-course equivalency upon request instead of the block credit (see Sections C.3.1).

3.3. Program-to-Program Transfer by Articulation Agreements

- 3.3.1. Universities may enter into a program-to-program articulation agreement with the approval of the Executive Director, or designee, and the Board of Regents.
- 3.3.2. A program-to-program agreement may provide for proactive/guaranteed admission to the receiving institution upon a student completing the requirements at the sending institution. (i.e., Associates to Bachelors [A2B] where the first two years are completed at a non-baccalaureate institution [AS degree] toward the receiving institution's baccalaureate degree).
- 3.3.3. A program-to-program agreement will define the requirements of the program, major emphasis, credit hours received and a pathway to degree attainment.
- 3.3.4. Approved transfer courses, grades and credit hours are recorded on the transcript.

4. Reverse Transfer

- 4.1. Universities may enter into an articulation agreement for reverse transfer with the approval of the Board of Regents.
- 4.2. Reverse transfer is utilized primarily for attainment of degrees through credits earned at the receiving institution and degree awarded by the sending institution. This reverse transfer can be utilized for any academic credential as defined by the agreement.

D. GRADUATE PROGRAM MAJOR SPECIFIC AND ELECTIVE TRANSFER

1. The receiving university-specific plan of study requirements determines if the course requests are applicable to the student's degree program.
2. Transfer credits will have a course evaluation completed by the receiving institution.
3. After the course evaluation is completed, courses will be recorded as either specific major course equivalencies or courses may be recorded as electives, and equivalencies granted.
4. Approved grades and credit hours will be recorded on the transcript.

FORMS / APPENDICES:

None

SOURCE:

BOR August 2022; October 2023 (Clerical).