

Transfer Student Advising

Pacific University welcomes transfer students. When possible, transfer students should contact the Advising Center as soon as they have made the decision to transfer to Pacific. The Advising Center can help transfer students select classes at their current schools that can best prepare them for meeting Pacific program, core, and degree requirements. For additional information go to:

- <http://www.pacificu.edu/about-us/centers-institutes/advising-center>
- <http://www.pacificu.edu/future-undergraduate/undergraduate-admissions/transfer>

Important Note: Many times students are in progress with courses or a degree (such as the AAOT) when they apply. Any “in progress” work will not count at Pacific until it is completed and you submit an updated transcript to the University. Be sure to submit updated transcripts to the Registrar’s office showing updated coursework and/or the posting of a transfer degree. If you feel transfer credit or your transfer degree is missing on your Academic Evaluation, please contact the Advising Center.

Semester/Quarter Information:

Pacific University is on the semester system (offering two 15 week terms per school year) while many nearby schools are on the quarter system (offering three 10 week terms per school year). In each case the school year is 30 weeks (although both Pacific and the quarter schools offer classes outside of the regular school year, such as Summer and Pacific’s Winter II terms). To convert quarter credits into semester credits, multiply the quarter credits by .67. While this sounds like Pacific is taking away credits, it is not: the required total credit amount for a Bachelor’s Degree in the quarter system is 186 credits while in the semester system it is 124 credits.

Degree Planning and Transfer Credits

General Degree Information

All students are required to take 30 of their last 40 credits at Pacific University.

All transfer students must fulfill the following general degree requirements regardless of transfer status; however, appropriate transfer credit may apply towards meeting these requirements. (See catalog for full details on these requirements.)

- Student must have 40 semester credits of upper division coursework to graduate. Please note: community college transfer credit is lower division only.
- Breadth rule: Students must take 72 credits outside of their major discipline.
 - This refers to the primary discipline in a major. Usually a course prefix indicates a discipline. The exceptions are the groupings below that count as one discipline.
 - EXIP, EXMB, and HPER
 - ENGL and ENGW
 - EDUC, ESOL & SPED

- MUS and MT
- THEA and APTH
- Activity course limitations: students cannot have more than 8 semester credits of activity courses (courses like PE or theatre/music performance) apply to their degree.

Major(s)/Minor(s) requirements

Transfer students are expected to take the majority of credits for their major(s)/minor(s) at Pacific. Appropriate transfer courses may apply to major(s)/minor(s) with the approval of the Department Chair.

Core requirements

Select AA Degrees (and Prior Bachelor's) and Core Requirements

How transfer students meet Core requirements varies depending on if they transfer with or without an AAOT (Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer degree from Oregon Community Colleges), the DTA (Direct Transfer Associates in Arts degree from Washington Community Colleges), the LBRT (Liberal Arts Transfer Associates from the Hawaii Community Colleges), the IGETC Associates, the CSU GE Associates (both from the California Community Colleges) or a prior Bachelor's degree.

Students transferring with an AAOT, DTA, or a prior Bachelor's will meet the majority of their Core requirements automatically except the following:

- Foreign Language Core Requirement
- Civic Engagement Cornerstone
- International and Diverse Perspectives Cornerstone

Students transferring in with the LBRT will meet the majority of their Core requirements except for the following:

- Foreign Language Core Requirement
- Civic Engagement Cornerstone
- Writing Core Requirement

Students transferring in with the IGETC or CSU GE will meet the majority of their Core requirements except for the following:

- Foreign Language Core Requirement
- Civic Engagement Cornerstone
- International Diverse Perspectives Cornerstone
- Writing Core Requirement
- Math Core Requirement

However, appropriate transfer coursework may apply towards these requirements.

Intent to Transfer an AA Degree after enrolling at Pacific

In some cases student may be planning to complete an AA after becoming a current Pacific student. If a student is within three requirements of completing a transferable AA degree then completing the AA after transferring is often the most efficient route. If students have more than 3 requirements left for the AA degree then it is more efficient to follow the Pacific core requirements.

Students planning to complete the AA after transferring to Pacific need to meet with a designated transfer advisor and fill out an “Intent to Earn an Associate’s Degree” form. The form will be submitted to the Advising Center Director for approval or denial.

Transfer Credit for Core without an AA Degree

Students transferring without one of these degrees will have Core requirements met with transfer coursework on a course-by-course basis. Coursework must be reviewed and approved by that discipline’s department chair in order to be directly equivalent. Pacific keeps a record of previously approved equivalencies. Contact either the Advising Center or the Registrar’s Office to see if the class has an approved equivalency. If it does not, to have a course reviewed as to whether it is directly equivalent to a Pacific course, the student must go to that discipline’s department chair. To have a course reviewed to go towards a focal study or the Cornerstones, students must start at the Advising Center. *We recommend students bring a course description and/or syllabus whenever requesting a transfer course review.*

When applying transfer coursework to core requirements Pacific is looking at the following:

- The Math core requirement is fulfilled by course equivalencies or math courses at a certain level.
- The Writing core requirement is fulfilled by specific courses or course equivalencies approved when showing specific content.
- The Foreign Language core requirement is a proficiency requirement shown through the completion of college coursework at the proficiency level or higher (for additional information please read the World Languages section of the Advising Handbook).
- Transfer students do not take First Year Seminar (FYS). Instead they replace it with 4 semester credits of English Literature or Philosophy.
- Transfer coursework to complete the Liberal Arts Requirements of Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities, and Natural Sciences must be at least 4 quarter credits (2.68 semester credits) or higher.
- Civic Engagement is usually a course that is not transferred and is completed at Pacific. If a transfer student wants a transfer course evaluated to meet Civic Engagement she/he needs to submit a petition to the Advising Center which will get reviewed by the Civic

Engagement Review Board. The service component must be at least 40 hours in order for the class to be considered.

- International Diverse Perspectives transfer courses can be reviewed by the Advising Center at any time.
- Transfer coursework can apply to focal studies. Exact equivalencies can automatically be applied. Courses that are not exact equivalencies can be reviewed to see if they meet the spirit of the focal study. Contact the Advising Center to have a course reviewed to apply in a focal study. All focal studies must have at least 10 semester credits to be considered complete. (for additional information please read the Focal Studies Advising section of the Advising Handbook).

General Electives

Transfer courses that meet Pacific's requirements and general degree requirements but do not meet major, minor or core requirements can apply towards general elective requirements. Most technical coursework will not transfer to Pacific, even as an elective class.

Prerequisites for Pacific's Graduate Programs

Transfer students hoping previous coursework can meet some of the prerequisites for Pacific's Health Professions Programs should fill out and submit a prerequisite worksheet (found on the Graduate Admissions web pages) to see what coursework will apply towards prerequisites. It is never too early to fill out a prerequisite worksheet.

Students working towards the Education or Speech-Language Pathology programs should meet with the Graduate Admissions representatives for the College of Education.