



# Transfer Degree **GUARANTEE**

A Clear Path to Success

## **ADVISOR'S GUIDE**

FOR LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREES



## LOUISIANA TRANSFER DEGREE GUARANTEE ADVISOR'S GUIDE FOR LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREES

*The goal of the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree is to maximize the transfer process, meet the needs of students who enroll at a 2-year college with the intent to work toward a baccalaureate, and develop a universal transfer program for which the coursework completed in pursuit of the degree will be accepted by all public universities in the state.*

*This Advisor's Guide is the first in a series of guides for the transfer degree. Subsequent guides will be more specific to a student's potential major. Because the course guides in Phase I are general in nature and provide maximum flexibility, it is essential that students take an active role in researching options and creating their path. In Phase II, more specific degree tracks will be created with the first group ready for full implementation in Fall 2011.*

### OVERVIEW

The Louisiana Transfer Degree Guarantee (TDG) refers to a guaranteed and smooth transfer for students from a 2-year community college to a Louisiana 4-year public university. Course requirements to earn an Associate of Arts/Louisiana Transfer Degree (AA/LT) or an Associate of Science/Louisiana Transfer (AS/LT) Degree are listed in curriculum tracks to majors in five academic discipline groups.

The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree is designed to provide students with an opportunity to complete the first 60 hours of coursework toward a baccalaureate degree at a 2-year or community college. Students who successfully complete a designated transfer associate degree program are eligible to enter a 4-year Louisiana public university as a junior, with all 60 (non-developmental) credits transferring to the receiving university.

The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree consists of 39 hours of General Education (GenEd) and 21 hours of additional coursework. Students who enter a four-year public university with this degree in hand will have met the institution's general education requirements and will be granted upper division (junior) status, with all of its concomitant rights and privileges. This guarantee applies to those who successfully complete the degree with the required grade of "C" or better in each course.

Students may complete either an Associate of Arts (AA/LT) or Associate of Science (AS/LT), depending on interests and aspirations for further study toward the bachelor's degree. Upon deciding on a prospective major, it is important that students do some research and seek advice about what the program's prerequisite courses are so that they may be completed as a part of the AA or AS degree.

IN SUMMARY, the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree guarantees:

- Admission to a Louisiana 4-year public university;
- Transfer of all 60 hours; Junior-level standing;
- Completion of General Education block requirements at any Louisiana public university;
- Equal opportunity to compete against 'native' students for admission to limited access programs.

The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree does *not* guarantee:

- Admission to *every* university or degree program: a student must meet institutional or degree program admission requirements (e.g., GPA, specific course completions, etc);
- That the courses taken for the transfer degree will meet specified course requirements of the major.

***Check specific university transfer and program admission requirements at [www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org).***

## ADVISING

*Advising and planning are key* to a student's success in maximizing the transfer experience. All students who might be considering an eventual transfer from one institution to another should develop, with an advisor's assistance, **a written degree plan** of courses to take.

Guides for course selection are offered in this document as tools to help develop a plan for graduation: pathways within selected major areas. Students might also follow links to specific university curricula, readily available at the statewide transfer website: [www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org). For example, a student interested in healthcare would follow the biological sciences track and check for specific courses that would optimize the transition from the transfer associate in science to a university science major.

It is the student's responsibility, with professional advice, to choose courses that will optimize preparation for admission into specific senior colleges and timely completion of expected degree programs. Review of the degree plan will provide an opportunity to reflect on the qualifications conferred by the two-year transfer associate, which awards junior standing in a Louisiana public university.

## GRADES

Graduates of the designated transfer Associate of Arts or Associate of Science Degree programs must have achieved a grade of "C" or better in each course of the 60 hours applied toward the degree to earn the degree and qualify for block transfer guarantees. (Developmental courses do not apply to degree requirements.)



## -1- THE GENERAL EDUCATION BLOCK

The statewide General Education (GenEd) block is designed to assure that graduates of undergraduate degree programs attain a broad-based common educational experience. The faculty at each state institution has designated courses to fulfill the 39-hour GenEd requirement that are suited to that institution but that share common characteristics essential to the study of academic disciplines. The specific GenEd courses offered may vary from one institution to another.

**If a student graduates with the Associate of Arts/Louisiana Transfer or Associate of Science/Louisiana Transfer Degree** from any SACS accredited Louisiana public college, the GenEd block will be accepted in total by any other public postsecondary institution in Louisiana, and no further courses will be required to meet the *General Education* component. (The graduate must still meet any program- or college-specific admission or degree requirements.) However, if a student transfers prior to completing the degree, s/he may be required to take additional courses to meet the General Education core at the receiving university.

### GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS\*

Rather than a fixed set of courses that requires constant revision, following is a list of topical subject areas of courses that may be used to fulfill each requirement in the GenEd block. The student should consult the local course catalog to determine which courses are available and designated as General Education in the college at which s/he is enrolled. The GenEd Block of the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree must include the components summarized in the following table.

### GENERAL EDUCATION COMPONENTS

<b>English Composition</b>	<b>6 Hours</b> (2 courses)
<b>Mathematics/Analytical Reasoning</b>	<b>6 Hours</b> (2 courses)
<b>Natural Sciences</b>	<b>9 Hours</b> (3 courses) 2 courses in a biological or physical science area sequence + 1 in the other area.
<b>Humanities</b>	<b>9 Hours</b> (3 courses) 1 course must be in Literature. Some colleges may specify guidelines for the additional 2 courses.
<b>Social/Behavioral Sciences</b>	<b>6 Hours</b> (2 courses) 1 course must be at/above the sophomore level.
<b>Fine Arts</b>	<b>3 Hours</b> (1 course)

**\* Note: Developmental courses do not qualify for General Education or degree credit.**

### GENERAL EDUCATION COURSE OPTIONS FOR THE LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE

This list provides basic descriptive titles for courses which currently qualify for general education credit. The list aims at clarity and simplicity, but students should follow the guidelines of their campus catalog.

- 1) *Survey* courses cover a wide range of material within a specific discipline or area of inquiry and acquaint students with a large section of the information or skills available in that area of inquiry. Likewise, a broadly defined course (e.g., sociology) might take many forms so long as it serves a genuine introductory purpose and covers a broad range of material.
- 2) *Appreciation* courses (e.g., music appreciation) are not skills courses but must teach the appreciation of work by others.
- 3) Students must achieve a grade of “C” or better in each course to qualify for block transfer guarantees.

### ENGLISH COMPOSITION (6 HOURS: 2 COURSES)

English Composition, first semester

English Composition, second semester

Advanced English Composition (e.g., ENGL 2000)

## MATHEMATICS/ANALYTICAL REASONING (6 HOURS: 2 COURSES)

Analytic Geometry and Calculus (any version)	Contemporary Mathematics	Statistics
Calculus (any version)	Logic	Trigonometry
College Algebra	Mathematics (e.g., finite; nature of)	

## NATURAL SCIENCES (9 HOURS: 3 COURSES, INCLUDING SEQUENCE & BIOLOGICAL/PHYSICAL AREA MIX)

### Biological Sciences:

Ecology	Human Anatomy and Physiology	Plant Systems (Botany)
General Biology (any version)	Microbiology	Zoology
Human Anatomy	Physiology	

### Physical Sciences:

Chemical Fundamentals	General Geology, Historical or Physical	Stellar Astronomy
Chemistry of Life and Environment	General Physics (any version)	The Solar System
General Chemistry (any version)	Physical Science	

### Either Biological or Physical Sciences:

Environmental Science	Oceanography	Science and Society
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## HUMANITIES (9 HOURS: 3 COURSES, INCLUDING 1 IN LITERATURE)

Argumentation and Debate	Interpersonal Communication	Public Speaking
Beginning/ Intermediate courses in any language (e.g., French, German, Italian, Spanish)	Literature (any survey)	Religious Studies (any survey)
Cultural History (any survey)	Mass Media	Rome
Fundamentals of Speech	New Testament	Shakespeare
History (any survey)	Old Testament	Women's and Gender Studies
	Performing Literature	
	Philosophy (any survey)	

## SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES (6 HOURS: 2 COURSES, INCLUDING 1 AT SOPHOMORE LEVEL)

American Government	Fundamental Issues of Politics	Political Theory
Archaeology	Gender, Race, and Nation	Psychology
Comparative Politics	Geography	Sociology
Contemporary Global Issues	Human Societies	State and Local Government
Criminal Justice	International Politics	World Archaeology
Cultural and Social Anthropology	Macroeconomics	World Ethnography
Economic Principles	Microeconomics	
Entertainment and Media	Physical Anthropology	

## FINE ARTS (3 HOURS: 1 COURSE)

Architecture	History of Interior Design	Music Fundamentals and Theory
Cinema and Film	History of Musical Forms (e.g., jazz, classical, folk)	Music History Survey (any version)
Dance Appreciation	Landscape Architecture	Philosophy of Art
Fine Arts	Music Appreciation	Structure of Art
History of Art (any survey)		Theater and Dramatic Arts

## -2- ACADEMIC TRACKS: GUIDES FOR COURSE SELECTION

The 21 remaining credits in the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree are intended not only to focus and intensify a student's preparedness for upper-level study, but also to continue and enrich the initial GenEd experience. The 60-hour degree should give students the foundation to succeed in the baccalaureate and to make intelligent choices regarding majors for which they are best prepared.

A major benefit of the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree is in providing flexibility for a student's selection of a major at the 4-year campus. Historical data indicates that the average student changes majors several times in his or her undergraduate career. In response, the faculty and Statewide Articulation and Transfer Council designed course guides (tracks) that can be applied to any type of degree in the:

- Humanities
- Natural Sciences – Biological
- Natural Sciences – Physical
- Social/Behavioral Sciences
- Fine Arts

The guides will help students prepare for success in a university. Students who are relatively sure of their intended baccalaureate major or university should also go to [www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org) for web links for more specific course advisory tracks. These guides are Phase I of the transfer degree development. The Statewide Articulation and Transfer Council is committed to creating specific statewide degree tracks to help prepare students for success in specific baccalaureate majors at Louisiana public universities, with the first group to be ready for implementation in Fall 2011.

### DEGREE PLAN

#### **Students should meet with a community college academic advisor before registering for courses!**

**Planning is key** to a student's success in the 60-hour Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree. The guides that follow are tools for developing a written degree plan. It is the student's responsibility to choose the array of courses that will optimize preparation for admission into specific senior colleges and timely completion of expected major programs. For example, a student who has identified an interest in the discipline of English may follow the general humanities track but should also gather information concerning a specific set of courses that would optimize the transition from a transfer associate degree in humanities to a university English major.

Academic advisors must provide guidance to students in developing a degree plan. Orientation resources such as campus catalogs and electronic advising tools must be available on campus and system web sites to help in developing a degree plan. The statewide *transfer* website ([www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org)) includes links to public university information and to individual system or campus transfer sites for advisors and students to review curricular options for guidance toward specific majors.

As the state's public postsecondary colleges develop common prerequisite courses for specific degree programs, that information will be added to the web site. Such course lists will provide students with a centralized information resource regarding the courses they will need to best prepare for upper division coursework. Likewise, students who choose not to complete the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree may check individual course equivalencies on the Transfer Course Guide (previously called the Statewide Articulation Matrix), which is also posted at [www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org) website.

## HUMANITIES TRACK FOR ASSOCIATE OF ARTS/LOUISIANA TRANSFER (AA/LT)

As indicated on the list of General Education course topics, the Humanities area touches everything from communication, history and literature to philosophy and religion. Students should develop a working knowledge of a foreign language and choose a blend of courses across the humanities disciplines, including literature and history. Advisors and the university catalogs and links on the [www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org) website can provide more guidance on specific course recommendations, depending on the student's area of interest and anticipated baccalaureate major.

### HUMANITIES TRACK

#### 60 Hour Core

#### A. English (6 Hours: GenEd)

- |                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1) Engl Comp I                | 3 hours |
| 2) Engl Comp II/Adv Engl Comp | 3 hours |

#### B. Math/Analytical Reasoning (6 Hours: GenEd)

- |                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| 1) College Algebra     | 3 hours |
| 2) GenEd Math Elective | 3 hours |

#### C. Natural Sciences (9-10 Hours = 9 GenEd + 0-1 Lab)

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| 1) Biological & Physical (both, sequence in one) | 9 hours  |
| 2) Lab Course to augment either of the above.    | 0-1 hour |

#### D. Humanities (24-30 Hours= 9 GenEd + 21)

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| 1) Literature, GenEd                    | 3 hours    |
| 2) History Sequence or GenEd Humanities | 6 hours    |
| 3) Foreign Language series              | 6-14 hours |
| 4) Humanities Electives                 | 6-12 hours |

#### E. Social/ Behavioral Science (6-12 Hours = 6 GenEd, include 1 course at Sophomore Level)

- |                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1) Social Science GenEd courses | 6 hours   |
| 2) Social Science electives     | 0-6 hours |

#### F. Fine Arts (3 Hours : GenEd)

- |                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| 1) Fine Arts GenEd course | 3 hours |
|---------------------------|---------|

*Note: The anticipated major or area of interest will impact the type and number of humanities classes that should be completed.*

## NATURAL SCIENCES – BIOLOGICAL TRACK FOR ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE/LOUISIANA TRANSFER (AS/LT)

Natural Science disciplines require skill in mathematics theory and application. Students interested in science fields will need to study calculus and **select the natural science course options offered 'for science majors'** to develop a strong core knowledge in the sciences.

As an alternative to taking all of the science options, a student interested in further study in *biological science* majors may choose to add more courses in the Humanities area, e.g., foreign language (6-12 hours) to the degree plan in preparation for transfer into a baccalaureate program. Advisors and the university catalogs and links on the [www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org) website can provide more guidance on specific course recommendations depending on the student's area of interest and anticipated baccalaureate major.

### BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES TRACK

#### 60 Hour Core

#### A. English (6 Hours: GenEd)

- |                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1) Engl Comp I                | 3 hours |
| 2) Engl Comp II/Adv Engl Comp | 3 hours |

#### B. Mathematics/Analytical Reasoning (6-12 Hours = 6 GenEd + 1-6)

- |                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1) College Algebra/Trigonometry | 0-3 hours |
| 2) Trigonometry/Statistics      | 3-4 hours |
| 3) Calculus I/Statistics        | 0-5 hours |

#### C. Natural Sciences (18-28 Hours = 9 GenEd + 9-19)

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| 1) Biology I & Lab                      | 4 hours    |
| 2) Biology II & Lab                     | 4 hours    |
| 3) Chemistry I & Lab                    | 4 hours    |
| <i>Choose at least 6 hours from:</i>    |            |
| 4) Chemistry (& Lab)                    | 3-8 hours  |
| 5) Microbiology (& Lab)                 | 3-8 hours  |
| 6) Organic Chemistry (& Labs)           | 3-8 hours  |
| 7) Other/Additional Natural Sci Courses | 3-15 hours |

#### D. Humanities (9-21 Hours = 9 GenEd + 0-12)

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| 1) Literature, GenEd                      | 3 hours    |
| 2) History/Communications/Humanities elec | 3-6 hours  |
| 3) Foreign Lang series or Humanities elec | 0-12 hours |

#### E. Social/ Behavioral Science (6 Hours : GenEd, include 1 course at Sophomore Level)

- |                                 |         |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| 1) Social Science GenEd courses | 6 hours |
|---------------------------------|---------|

#### F. Fine Arts (3 Hours : GenEd)

- |                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| 1) Fine Arts GenEd course | 3 hours |
|---------------------------|---------|

*Note: The anticipated major or area of interest will impact the type and number of humanities classes that should be completed.*



## NATURAL SCIENCES – PHYSICAL TRACK FOR ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE/LOUISIANA TRANSFER (AS/LT)

Natural Science disciplines require skill in mathematics theory and application. Students interested in science fields will need to study calculus and **select the natural science course options offered 'for science majors'** to develop a strong core knowledge in the sciences.

As an alternative to taking all of the science options, a student interested in further study in *physical science* majors may choose to add more courses in the Humanities area, e.g., foreign language (6-12 hours) to the degree plan in preparation for transfer into a baccalaureate program. Advisors and the university catalogs and links on the [www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org) website can provide more guidance on specific course recommendations depending on the student's area of interest and anticipated baccalaureate major.

### PHYSICAL SCIENCES TRACK

#### 60 Hour Core

#### A. English (6 Hours : GenEd)

- |                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1) Engl Comp I                | 3 hours |
| 2) Engl Comp II/Adv Engl Comp | 3 hours |

#### B. Math/Analytical Reasoning (8-10 Hours = 6 GenEd + 2-4)

- |                |           |
|----------------|-----------|
| 1) Calculus I  | 4-5 hours |
| 2) Calculus II | 4-5 hours |

#### C. Natural Sciences (17-27 Hours = 9 GenEd + 8-18)

- |                                      |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 1) Chemistry I & Lab                 | 4 hours    |
| 2) Chemistry II & Lab                | 4 hours    |
| 3) Biology I                         | 3 hours    |
| <i>Choose at least 6 hours from:</i> |            |
| 4) Chemistry (& Lab)                 | 3-8 hours  |
| 5) Biology (& Lab)                   | 3-8 hours  |
| 6) Physics (& Lab)                   | 3-8 hours  |
| 7) Science/Engineering/Math          | 3-16 hours |

#### D. Humanities (9-21 Hours = 9 GenEd + 0-12)

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| 1) Literature, GenEd                      | 3 hours    |
| 2) History/Communications/Humanities elec | 3-6 hours  |
| 3) Foreign Lang series or Humanities elec | 0-12 hours |

#### E. Social/ Behavioral Science (6 Hours: GenEd, include 1 course at Sophomore Level)

- |                                 |         |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| 1) Social Science GenEd courses | 6 hours |
|---------------------------------|---------|

#### F. Fine Arts (3 Hours: GenEd)

- |                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| 1) Fine Arts GenEd course | 3 hours |
|---------------------------|---------|

*Note: The anticipated major or area of interest will impact the type and number of humanities classes that should be completed, or which type of physics class would be most appropriate.*

## SOCIAL SCIENCES TRACK FOR ASSOCIATE OF ARTS/LOUISIANA TRANSFER (AA/LT)

Social and behavioral science disciplines study human behavior and the interrelationship of individuals and societal, political, and economic systems. Within the social science course category, students should choose courses in at least three different areas. Advisors and the university catalogs and links on the [www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org) website can provide more guidance on specific course recommendations.

### SOCIAL SCIENCES TRACK

#### 60 Hour Core

#### A. English (6 Hours: GenEd)

- |                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1) Engl Comp I                | 3 hours |
| 2) Engl Comp II/Adv Engl Comp | 3 hours |

#### B. Math/Analytical Reasoning (6 Hours: GenEd)

- |                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| 1) College Algebra     | 3 hours |
| 2) GenEd Math Elective | 3 hours |

#### C. Natural Sciences (9-10 Hours = 9 GenEd + 0-1 Lab)

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| 1) Biological & Physical (both, sequence in one) | 9 hours  |
| 2) Lab Course to augment either of the above.    | 0-1 hour |

#### D. Humanities (9-21 Hours = 9 GenEd + 0-12)

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| 1) Literature, GenEd                       | 3 hours    |
| 2) History Sequence or Humanities elective | 6 hours    |
| 3) Foreign Language                        | 0-12 hours |
| 4) Humanities or related electives         | 0-6 hours  |

#### E. Social/ Behavioral Science (15-27 Hours = 6 GenEd + 9-21)

- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1) Social Science GenEd courses        | 6 hours (3 at Sophomore Level) |
| 2) Social Science or related electives | 9-21 hours                     |

#### F. Fine Arts (3 Hours: GenEd)

- |                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| 1) Fine Arts GenEd course | 3 hours |
|---------------------------|---------|

*Note: The anticipated major or area of interest will impact the type and number of classes that should be completed. For example, a student interested in business should choose business calculus, economics, communication studies, and introductory accounting courses. For anthropology or psychology, that student might focus more on courses in anthropology, history, psychology, and a foreign language.*

## ARTS TRACK FOR ASSOCIATE OF ARTS/LOUISIANA TRANSFER (AA/LT)

Students concentrating in the Arts area are interested in aesthetic creation and form, e.g., architecture, art history, dance, design, music performance or theory, theatre, visual arts, etc. Prospective arts majors may focus on their particular area of interest but should also choose a blend of courses across disciplines. Students planning to pursue a degree in music (BM/BME) must be prepared to demonstrate proficiency skills in theory, keyboard, music literature, and applied music (via audition/placement exams).

Advisors and the university catalogs and links on the [www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org) website can provide more guidance on specific course recommendations.

## FINE ARTS TRACK

### 60 Hour Core

#### A. English (6 hours : GenEd)

- |                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1) Engl Comp I                | 3 hours |
| 2) Engl Comp II/Adv Engl Comp | 3 hours |

#### B. Math/Analytical Reasoning (6 Hours : GenEd)

- |                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| 1) College Algebra     | 3 hours |
| 2) GenEd Math Elective | 3 hours |

#### C. Natural Sciences (9-10 Hours = 9 GenEd + 0-1 Lab)

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| 1) Biological & Physical (both, sequence in one) | 9 hours  |
| 2) Lab Course to augment either of the above     | 0-1 hour |

#### D. Humanities (9-12 Hours = 9 GenEd + 3)

- |                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1) Literature, GenEd            | 3 hours   |
| 2) Humanities GenEd courses (2) | 6 hours   |
| 3) Related elective             | 0-3 hours |

#### E. Social/Behavioral Science (6-9 Hours = 6 GenEd, w/ 1 course at Sophomore Level, + 3)

- |                                     |           |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1) Social Science GenEd courses (2) | 6 hours   |
| 2) Related elective                 | 0-3 hours |

#### F. Fine Arts (15-24 Hours = 3 GenEd + 20)

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 1) Choose 15-24 hours (5-8 courses), including one from at least three of the areas below. One course (3 hours) must be from the campus' GenEd Fine Arts course list. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• History (e.g., Art, Architecture, Design, Music, Theatre)</li><li>• Appreciation (e.g., Art, Drama, Music)</li><li>• Theory (e.g., Color, Composition, Design)</li><li>• Basic Skills (Drawing, Keyboard, Painting, Performance)</li></ul> |           |
| 2) Free elective course (any area)   | 0-3 hours |

Note: The anticipated major or area of interest will impact the type and number of fine arts classes that should be completed. Many majors in music and the arts have selective admission based on audition or portfolio; successful completion of the transfer associate degree does not guarantee admission to the desired baccalaureate.

## STUDENT BENEFITS & RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE

- 1) The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree guarantees admission to a Louisiana public 4-year university. However, admission to some high demand programs is competitive and can be based on grade point average and other academic requirements.

It is the student's responsibility to research and fulfill the admission requirements for such programs.

- 2) The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree guarantees that transfer students will have an equal opportunity to compete with 'native' students to enter limited access programs at 4-year universities.

It is the student's responsibility to know the transfer admission requirements and to be as prepared as possible to compete for a place in the program.

- 3) The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree guarantees that all 60 credits will transfer to a Louisiana public 4-year university.

However, if a student transfers prior to completing the 60-credit transfer associate degree, s/he may find that some courses do not transfer or that s/he is required to take additional courses to meet the general education requirement at the receiving 4-year university.

- 4) Students in the Transfer Associate of Arts or Associate of Science Degree programs must achieve a grade of "C" or better in each course of the 60 hours applied toward the degree to qualify for the degree and block transfer guarantees.

- 5) The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree is a 2-year portable academic credential which awards junior standing in any Louisiana public university.

Advising and planning are key to success. All students who might be considering an eventual transfer from one campus to another should develop, with an advisor's assistance, a written degree plan. It is the student's responsibility to choose the array of courses that will optimize preparation for admission into specific senior colleges and timely completion of the expected bachelor's degree.

- 6) The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree is a valuable educational credential that lets employers know that the student has performed and completed a standardized college course of study.

Completion of the Associate of Arts/Science Louisiana Transfer (AALT/ASLT) Degree guarantees that the student has met, in full, all lower division general education requirements at the receiving Louisiana public university. Graduates transferring with the transfer degree will have junior status. Courses or GPA requirements for specific majors, departments, or schools are not automatically satisfied by the AALT/ASLT Degree.

## **PARTICIPATING 2-YEAR AND 4-YEAR INSTITUTIONS FOR LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE**

### **LOUISIANA 2-YEAR COLLEGES:**

Baton Rouge Community College  
Bossier Parish Community College  
Delgado Community College  
Fletcher Technical Community College  
Louisiana Delta Community College  
LSU Eunice  
Nunez Community College  
River Parishes Community College  
South Louisiana Community College  
Southern University Shreveport  
SOWELA Technical Community College [when SACS accredited]

### **LOUISIANA PUBLIC 4-YEAR UNIVERSITIES:**

Grambling University  
LSU A & M (Baton Rouge)  
LSU Alexandria  
LSU Shreveport  
LSU Health Sciences Center-New Orleans  
Louisiana Tech University  
McNeese State University  
Nichols State University  
Northwestern State University  
Southeastern University  
Southern University A & M (Baton Rouge)  
Southern University New Orleans  
University of Louisiana Lafayette  
University of Louisiana Monroe  
University of New Orleans

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Associate of Arts/Louisiana Transfer Degree Associate of Science/Louisiana Transfer Degree

### WHAT IS THE LOUISIANA TRANSFER DEGREE GUARANTEE (TDG)?

The Louisiana Transfer Degree Guarantee refers to a guaranteed and easy transfer for students from 2-year community colleges to Louisiana 4-year public universities. Course requirements for the Associate of Arts/Louisiana Transfer degree and the Associate of Science/Louisiana Transfer degree are outlined in five curriculum options. If a minimum grade of “C” is achieved in each course and the AALT or ASLT is earned, then all 60 hours of coursework will transfer to a Louisiana public 4-year university. Additional information is available at [www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org).

### WHAT IS THE LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE?

The Associate of Arts/Louisiana Transfer Degree and the Associate of Science/Louisiana Transfer Degree are offered by 2-year or community colleges as an interim step to the bachelor’s degree. They allow you to complete the first 60 hours of college work toward a 4-year degree while you attend a 2-year or community college. The degrees are designed to give you the foundation to earn a bachelor’s degree and to help you to make wise choices about the majors that are best for you.

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

When you graduate with the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree, you are eligible to enter a Louisiana 4-year public university as a Junior, with all 60 (non-developmental) credits transferring to the receiving university.

### HOW CAN THE LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE HELP ME?

You might find that as you consider college, you’re not sure what field or fields of study you’d like to pursue. That’s okay. Deciding on a major might take you a year or two because college offers an array of interesting studies and learning experiences. The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree can help you make the most of your first two years of college, especially if you’re not sure about a major. When you earn the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree (**39 hours of general education courses and another 21 hours of related courses**), that 60-hour block of courses will transfer to the Louisiana public university of your choice. While you won’t lose any credits, the university might require you to meet other admission standards or course requirements for certain majors. You should visit with an advisor early as a Freshman and chart the coursework that’s best for you.



## WHAT STEPS DO I NEED TO TAKE TO ACHIEVE A LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE?

- Step 1** Learn about the curriculum for the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree that fits with your intended major course of study.
- Step 2** Meet with your counselor or advisor and set out a written degree plan for the community college in which you are enrolled or considering enrollment.
- Step 3** Visit the website of the 4-year university at which you wish to enroll. Learn about the course requirements for your major and the admission requirements.
- Step 4** Schedule the right courses at your community college and maintain a minimum grade of “C” in **each** course and a high enough GPA to meet the admission requirements of your selected Louisiana public university.
- Step 5** Follow your degree plan and check with your counselor each semester for updated information.
- Step 6** Graduate with an Associate of Arts/Louisiana Transfer Degree (AA/LT) or an Associate of Science/Louisiana Transfer Degree (AS/LT).
- Step 7** Apply to the Louisiana public university of your choice. You are on the right path to achieve a bachelor’s degree.

## WHAT DOES THE LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE GUARANTEE?

- Admission to a Louisiana 4-year public university (you must meet that university’s standards);
- Transfer of all 60 hours, and junior level standing;
- Completion of the General Education block; and
- Equal opportunity to compete with ‘native’ university students for admission to limited access programs

## WHAT DOESN’T THE LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE GUARANTEE?

- Admission to *every* university or degree program: you must meet university-specific or degree-specific admission requirements (e.g., GPA, specific course completions, etc);
- That the courses taken for the Louisiana Transfer Associate degree will meet specified course requirements of all university majors; you need to consult an advisor or the university to confirm specific requirements.



## WHAT AREAS OF STUDY CAN I PURSUE?

You may complete either an Associate of Arts/Louisiana Transfer (AA/LT) or an Associate of Science/Louisiana Transfer (AS/LT) degree, depending on the type of bachelor's degree you want to earn. In every case, you should do some research, consider the career you want to pursue, seek advice from a college advisor, and learn which transfer degree program is best for you.

## HOW MANY HOURS MUST I TAKE TO EARN A LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE?

You must complete at least 60 hours (non-developmental) of coursework, as prescribed in the curriculum guide that matches your degree aspirations.

## WHAT GRADES MUST I MAKE TO EARN A LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE?

You must earn a "C" or higher in each course that applies to the degree. If you earn less than a "C" in any course, you must either retake that course or earn at least a "C" in an equivalent (replacement) course. Only the "C" (or higher) grades are guaranteed to transfer with the degree.

## WHAT COURSES ARE INVOLVED?

The Transfer Associate degree consists of 39 hours of general education courses (called the GenEd block listed later in this document) and another 21 hours of more focused coursework. The 21 hours of more focused courses are intended to help you prepare for upper-level study and to enrich your initial GenEd experience.

## WILL I REALLY ENTER THE FOUR-YEAR UNIVERSITY AS A JUNIOR?

Yes, as long as you complete the 60-hour transfer degree with a "C" or better in each course **AND** meet the university's transfer admission requirements.

## IS THE TDG APPROACH THE SAME AS A "2+2" COLLEGE PROGRAM?

No. Both help assure students of a smooth transfer from a community college to a Louisiana public university. The "2+2" programs are cooperative agreements for specific courses of study at specific institutions. These agreements are offered by some community colleges and universities to assist students majoring in specific fields to transfer without losing credits. Check the website or admissions office of your selected college for more information.

## DOES THE TDG REALLY GUARANTEE THAT I CAN TRANSFER FROM A COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO A PUBLIC UNIVERSITY IN LOUISIANA WITHOUT LOSING CREDITS?

Yes. When you earn either an Associate of Arts/Louisiana Transfer (AA/LT) or an Associate of Science/Louisiana Transfer (AS/LT) Degree, you can be assured that your 60 course hours will transfer for credit. Four-year university faculty have participated in the process of identifying General Education courses that will transfer as a block. **Remember that in addition to earning the transfer degree, you must satisfy the university-specific admission requirements and know what courses will actually apply to your major when you transfer.** Please talk with a college advisor as soon as possible to chart your course work.

## DOES THE TDG GUARANTEE THAT I CAN TRANSFER FROM A COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO A PRIVATE UNIVERSITY IN LOUISIANA WITHOUT LOSING CREDITS?

No. TDG was specifically designed to smooth the transition from public community colleges to public universities in Louisiana. However, many of Louisiana's private universities have transfer agreements with community colleges. The AALT and ASLT Degrees will be evaluated by Louisiana's private universities on an individual student basis.

## WHAT HAPPENS IF A STUDENT STARTS A LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE CURRICULUM AND DOES NOT GRADUATE WITH AN AA/LT OR AS/LT DEGREE?

In this case full transfer of course credits is not guaranteed from a community college to a Louisiana 4-year public university. The student should consult with a college advisor and the Transfer Course Guide (formerly the Articulation Matrix) at [www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org) to determine which courses may transfer, especially for General Education credit.



## WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE?

You are eligible once you enroll in one of these colleges:

- Baton Rouge Community College
- Bossier Parish Community College (Bossier City)
- Delgado Community College (New Orleans)
- Fletcher Technical Community College (Houma)
- Louisiana Delta Community College (Monroe)
- LSU - Eunice
- Nunez Community College (Chalmette)
- River Parishes Community College (Sorrento)
- South Louisiana Community College (Lafayette)
- Southern University – Shreveport
- SOWELA Technical Community College [when SACS accredited]

## WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO ENROLL IN A 2-YEAR COLLEGE?

Louisiana’s community colleges are “open admissions.” To enroll, you must have graduated from high school, or earned a G.E.D. certificate, or be able to demonstrate your ability to benefit by taking a placement test at the college. There are no other admissions requirements (such as a minimum ACT score or minimum grade point average).

## WHICH FOUR-YEAR UNIVERSITIES WILL HONOR THE GUARANTEE?

All of the following public universities in Louisiana will accept your transfer degree, as long as you also meet their university-specific admission requirements:

- Grambling State University (Grambling)
- LSU (Baton Rouge)
- LSU-Alexandria
- LSU-Shreveport
- LSU Health Sciences Center-New Orleans
- Louisiana Tech University (Ruston)
- McNeese State University (Lake Charles)
- Nicholls State University (Thibodaux)
- Northwestern State University (Natchitoches)
- Southeastern Louisiana University (Hammond)
- Southern University (Baton Rouge)
- Southern University at New Orleans
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- University of Louisiana at Monroe
- University of New Orleans

## AS I’M PLANNING FOR MY LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE, WHERE CAN I FIND THE UNIVERSITY-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS I WOULD HAVE TO MEET TO QUALIFY FOR ADMISSION?

You can find links to transfer admission requirements through the university pages linked to the TDG website: [www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org).

## WHAT TYPES OF COURSES ARE REQUIRED FOR THE 39-HOUR GENERAL EDUCATION BLOCK?

<b>English Composition</b>	<b>6 Hours</b> (2 courses)
<b>Mathematics/Analytical Reasoning</b>	<b>6 Hours</b> (2 courses)
<b>Natural Sciences</b>	<b>9 Hours</b> (3 courses) <i>2 courses in a biological or physical science area sequence AND 1 in the other area.</i>
<b>Humanities</b>	<b>9 Hours</b> (3 courses) <i>1 course must be in Literature. Some colleges may specify guidelines for the additional 2 courses.</i>
<b>Social Sciences</b>	<b>6 Hours</b> (2 courses) <i>1 course must be at or above the sophomore level.</i>
<b>Fine Arts</b>	<b>3 Hours</b> (1 course)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39 HOURS</b>

**\* Note: Developmental courses do not qualify for General Education or degree credit.**

## WHAT SPECIFIC COURSES CAN I TAKE FOR THE 39-HOUR GENERAL EDUCATION BLOCK?

You have plenty of choices that will provide you with an excellent start in college. Check the catalog (or see an advisor) in the 2-year college you attend for the list of specific GenEd course offerings. Here are the options by category:

### ENGLISH COMPOSITION (6 Hours: 2 courses)

- English Composition (first semester)
- English Composition (second semester)
- Advanced English Composition (e.g., ENGL 2000)

### MATHEMATICS/ANALYTICAL REASONING (6 Hours: 2 courses)

- Analytic Geometry and Calculus (any version)
- Calculus (any version)
- College Algebra
- Contemporary Mathematics
- Logic
- Mathematics (e.g., finite, nature of)
- Statistics
- Trigonometry

### NATURAL SCIENCES (9 hours: 3 courses, including sequence & biological/physical area mix)

#### Biological Sciences:

- Ecology
- General Biology (any version)
- Human Anatomy
- Human Anatomy and Physiology
- Microbiology
- Physiology
- Plant Systems (Botany)
- Zoology

#### Physical Sciences:

- Chemical Fundamentals
- Chemistry of Life and Environment
- General Chemistry (any version)
- General Geology, Historical or Physical
- General Physics (any version)
- Physical Science
- Stellar Astronomy
- The Solar System

#### Either Biological or Physical Sciences:

- Environmental Science
- Oceanography
- Science and Society

### HUMANITIES (9 hours: 3 courses, including 1 in literature)

- Argumentation and Debate
- Beginning/Intermediate Courses in any Language (e.g., French, German, Italian, Spanish)
- Cultural History (any survey)
- Fundamentals of Speech
- History (any survey)
- Interpersonal Communication
- Literature (any survey)
- Mass Media
- New Testament
- Old Testament
- Performing Literature
- Philosophy (any survey)
- Public Speaking
- Religious Studies (any survey)
- Rome
- Shakespeare
- Women's and Gender Studies

### SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES (6 hours: 2 courses, including 1 at Sophomore Level)

- American Government
- Archaeology
- Comparative Politics
- Contemporary Global Issues
- Criminal Justice
- Cultural and Social Anthropology
- Economic Principles
- Entertainment and Media
- Fundamental Issues of Politics
- Gender, Race, and Nation
- Geography
- Human Societies
- International Politics
- Macroeconomics
- Microeconomics
- Physical Anthropology
- Political Theory
- Psychology
- Sociology
- State and Local Government
- World Archaeology
- World Ethnography

### **FINE ARTS** (3 hours: 1 course)

- Architecture
- Cinema and Film
- Dance Appreciation
- Fine Arts
- History of Art (any survey)
- History of Interior Design
- History of Musical Forms (e.g., jazz, classical, folk)
- Landscape Architecture
- Music Appreciation
- Music Fundamentals and Theory
- Music History Survey (any version)
- Philosophy of Art
- Structure of Art
- Theater and Dramatic Arts

### **WHAT KINDS OF COURSES ARE REQUIRED FOR THE REMAINING 21 HOURS?**

It depends on your expected major for the bachelor's degree. You may choose from a variety of courses in the following areas, and remember that you must earn a "C" or better in each of the courses to earn the transfer degree. Please consult with your college advisor when choosing courses in these areas:

- Humanities
- Mathematics
- Natural Sciences – Biological
- Natural Sciences – Physical
- Social Sciences
- Fine Arts

### **WHAT IF I ALREADY KNOW THE MAJOR I WANT TO PURSUE AND THE UNIVERSITY I WANT TO ATTEND?**

If you are relatively sure of your intended major or of the university that you would like to attend, you should tell your advisor and chart your specific coursework for that major at that university. You should also bookmark the university's web site where you can follow a major-specific degree plan and prepare to meet the standards that you will need to achieve to graduate from that university.

### **I UNDERSTAND WHAT THE STATE OF LOUISIANA GUARANTEES, BUT WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES AS A STUDENT?**

- 1. The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree guarantees your admission to a Louisiana public 4-year university; however, admission to some high-demand programs is competitive and can be based on grade point average and other academic requirements. It is your responsibility to research and fulfill the admission requirements for such programs.**
- 2. The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree guarantees that you will have an equal opportunity to compete with 'native' students to enter limited access programs at 4-year universities. It is your responsibility to know the admission requirements and to be as prepared as possible to compete for a place in the program.**
- 3. The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree guarantees that all 60 credits will transfer for credit to a Louisiana public 4-year university. However, if you transfer before completing the Associate Transfer degree, you might find that some courses don't transfer or that you are required to take additional courses to meet the general education requirements at the receiving 4-year university.**
- 4. The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree guarantees that all 60 credits will transfer for credit to a Louisiana public 4-year university. However, if you transfer before completing the Associate Transfer Degree, you might find that some courses don't transfer or that you are required to take additional courses to meet the general education requirements at the receiving 4-year university.**
- 5. The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree is a two-year portable academic credential that awards junior standing in a Louisiana public university. *Advising and planning are key to your success.* Consult with a college advisor and develop a written degree plan. It is your responsibility to choose the courses that will best prepare you for a specific college and major and to complete your bachelor's degree in a timely manner.**



## HOW WAS THE LOUISIANA TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE CREATED?

The Louisiana Board of Regents has been actively involved with college-course transfer issues since 1995, when the Statewide Articulation Committee was first established. In 1997 the first Statewide Articulation Matrix (now called the Transfer Course Guide) was published, listing approximately 25 courses. Since then, Louisiana's colleges and universities have identified 200 courses that transfer easily. The guide can be accessed at [www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org) website. Even with that progress, more work was needed. In 2009, Senator Ben Nevers sponsored legislation that became Act 356 and established a requirement to develop a statewide transfer associate degree. That new law set into motion unprecedented cooperation among faculties and institutions to eliminate barriers that would prevent students from successfully transferring between and among postsecondary institutions.

**Completion of the Associate of Arts/Science Louisiana Transfer (AALT/ASLT) Degree guarantees that the student has met, in full, all lower division general education requirements at the receiving Louisiana public university. Graduates transferring with the transfer degree will have junior status. Courses or GPA requirements for specific majors, departments, or schools are not automatically satisfied by the AALT/ASLT Degree.**





**Transfer Degree  
GUARANTEE**



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