

# From 2-year college to 4-year degree

## How to transfer in Washington

Washington's public community and technical colleges offer associate degrees that easily transfer to four-year colleges and universities. Students generally enter with junior standing, sometimes with priority admission status. Students with transfer degrees complete bachelor's degrees at a higher rate than students who transfer without a degree.

### Washington's transfer degrees



#### Direct Transfer Agreement (DTA) Associate Degree

- Washington's most popular and flexible transfer degree.
- Meets most lower division general education requirements at four-year colleges.
- Transfers to all public, and many private, four-year colleges.



#### Associate of Science – Transfer (AS-T) Degree

- For students who want to earn a bachelor's degree in engineering or science.
- Fewer general education courses than the DTA so that students can take lower division major classes at the community or technical college. Students take remaining general education and major requirements at the four-year college after transfer.
- Transfers to all public, and many private, four-year colleges.



#### Major Related Programs (MRPs)

- DTA and AS-T course plans that prepare students for bachelor's degrees in:
  - biology
  - business
  - computer science
  - construction management
  - engineering
  - engineering technology
  - math education
  - music
  - nursing
- Degree offerings differ among colleges. Four-year colleges that do not participate in a certain MRP will treat the MRP like a basic DTA or AS-T degree.

### Other transfer options

#### Associate of Applied Science-Transfer (AAS-T)

Prepares students for immediate employment, for transfer to applied baccalaureate degrees offered at Washington's community and technical colleges, and for transfer to some four-year colleges. Students should ask their advisor which colleges and universities accept this degree.

#### Associate of Applied Science (AAS)

Prepares students for immediate employment. Some credits may transfer depending on the four-year college. Some colleges even accept the entire degree. Students should contact colleges they're interested in to find out what will transfer.

#### Transferring without a degree

Four-year colleges will generally accept individual transfer courses that are similar to those they offer. Students may also be able to complete their associate degree after transferring to a four-year college through a process called reverse transfer.



Learn more at [www.wsac.wa.gov/transfers](http://www.wsac.wa.gov/transfers)

# Know before you go

You know you want to transfer. Now what?

## Before you transfer

### As soon as you start your two-year degree:

- Talk with advisors at your current and future colleges to create a transfer degree program plan—then follow the plan carefully.
- Ask about prerequisites and GPA requirements for your major at the four-year college you plan to attend.
- Get to know your faculty—they can provide guidance in your chosen field and help with future references.

### Getting closer to transfer:

- Visit or contact the four-year colleges you are interested in to ask for application materials, timelines, and transfer admission requirements. Some majors may require separate admission.

### Keep in mind:

- Avoid advising yourself using college websites. Talk to colleges directly for the best information.
- The earlier you choose a major, the fewer credits you'll likely need at your four-year college. Be sure to explore your interests and career goals so you can make an informed decision about your major.
- If you transfer without a transfer degree, your four-year college may not accept all of your credits.
- You must apply to graduate in order to earn your transfer degree.

## Financial aid for transfer students

Financial aid is available for transfer students, so check with the four-year colleges you are applying to for deadlines. To be considered for federal and state aid, be sure to complete the **FAFSA** at [fafsa.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov). If you are ineligible for the FAFSA due to immigration status, complete the **WASFA** at [readyssetgrad.org/wasfa](https://readyssetgrad.org/wasfa) to be considered for state aid.

Note that many types of aid have eligibility time limits, so earning credits as a transfer student will affect the length of time you can continue to receive aid after transfer.

More information is available at [www.readyssetgrad.org/fin-aid](https://www.readyssetgrad.org/fin-aid).

## Transfer student rights and responsibilities

Students have the right to accurate transfer information and the right to seek clarification or resolution. They have the responsibility to meet admission requirements and to create and follow an academic plan.



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