PRESS RELEASE

For Spring Term, California Community College Students Now Have More Than 1,600 Streamlined Transfer Degrees to Choose From Statewide

Admission to California State University Guaranteed with Associate Degree for Transfer program

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – California community college students aspiring to earn an associate degree guaranteeing admission to California State University (CSU) through a streamlined transfer program will have more than 1,600 degrees available starting this spring session, according to the California Community Colleges and CSU. The California Community Colleges exceeded its goal of developing 1,600 Associate in Arts for Transfer and Associate in Science for Transfer degrees throughout the 112-college system by January 1, 2015.

The Associate Degree for Transfer program, now in its third year, provides community college students with priority admission to a CSU campus. Once admitted, students complete an additional 60 units to earn a bachelor’s degree.

“The landscape of disciplines covered by the Associate Degree for Transfer program has expanded exponentially thanks to the work of the faculties of our two systems, and students now have a remarkable number of options available. This is a true success story in public higher education,” said California Community Colleges Chancellor Brice W. Harris.

“Students earning transfer associate degrees arrive at California State University campuses well-prepared for upper-division coursework and are on-track to graduate in two short years,” added CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White.

To support the Associate Degree for Transfer program, the CSU has undergone a system-wide effort to reduce the number of units required to earn a bachelor’s degree without compromising quality. Ninety-four percent of all BA and BS degrees now require only 120 units, and at 10 campuses every BA/BS program requires only 120 units.

The two higher education systems have also made it easier for students to chart their path to a bachelor’s
degree with a new search tool on the program’s website, www.adegreewithaguarantee.com. The tool allows students to search degree disciplines offered at different community colleges and identify CSU campuses as potential transfer destinations for earning bachelor’s degrees in the same discipline.

The transfer program’s popularity soared in the 2013-14 academic year, with nearly 12,000 associate transfer degrees conferred by community colleges, more than twice as many as the previous year. Of the 12,000 degrees conferred about 7,000 students enrolled in CSU campuses to complete bachelor’s degrees. The degree program was designed to address the challenges faced by transfer students, including difficulties transferring outside their region, earning far more units than needed for transfer, and repeating classes at a California State University campus to meet lower-division prerequisites.

The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation composed of 72 districts and 112 colleges serving 2.1 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills education and prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions. The Chancellor’s Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. For more information about the community colleges, please visit http://californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/, https://www.facebook.com/CACommColleges, or https://twitter.com/CalCommColleges.

The California State University is the largest system of senior higher education in the country, with 23 campuses, more than 450,000 students and 45,000 faculty and staff. Created in 1961, the CSU awards more than 100,000 exceptional degrees annually and this spring will be celebrating the milestone of reaching 3 Million alumni. The CSU is renowned for the quality of its teaching and for the job-ready graduates it produces. The mission of the CSU is to provide high-quality, affordable education to meet the ever changing needs of the people of California. With its commitment to excellence, diversity and innovation, the CSU is the university system that is working for California. Connect with and learn more about the CSU at CSU Social Media.

###