

PRESS RELEASE**November 10, 2014**

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Streamlined California Community Colleges and California State University Transfer Program Confers Nearly 12,000 Associate's Degrees in 2013-14

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – The number of community college students who earned an associate degree through the California Community Colleges and California State University [“A Degree with a Guarantee”](#) transfer program more than doubled to 11,673 in 2013-14, the two college systems announced today. Students who earn an Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) or Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) are guaranteed admission to the California State University. Of the 11,673 students who earned an associate's degree for transfer, 6,905 went on to transfer to a CSU campus.

For comparison, in the 2012-13 academic year, the first full year transfer degrees were available, 5,367 associate degrees for transfer were awarded to California community college students. These included 1,742 AS-T degrees and 3,625 AA-T degrees.

“As these numbers indicate, an increasingly large number of students are opting to take advantage of the tremendous benefits offered through this program,” said California Community Colleges Chancellor Brice W. Harris. “The reasons for this are compelling. Students can earn a second credential to enhance their resumes and boost their workforce competitiveness and much of the uncertainty surrounding the transfer process is eliminated. Our community college faculty and the faculty of the California State University are to be congratulated for the tremendous amount of work and cooperation necessary to bring this ‘Degree with a Guarantee’ to life.”

Students who receive an AA-T or AS-T at a community college are guaranteed priority admission to a CSU to a similar major with junior standing and need only earn 60 more semester units (90, if quarter units) to obtain a bachelor's degree. Though program students are guaranteed admission to a CSU campus, it may not necessarily be a campus or major of their choice.

“The thousands of students who are earning an Associate Degree for Transfer are choosing the best academic preparation for completing the corresponding baccalaureate programs at CSU campuses,” said CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White. “Serving transfer students is a critical part of the university's mission, and we will continue to work with our community college partners to ensure that current community college

students and high school seniors are aware of this fast-track to degree completion,” White added.

The degree program was designed to streamline the transfer admission process between the California Community Colleges and CSU systems to address challenges faced by transfer students, including difficulties transferring outside their region, earning far more units than needed for transfer, and repeating classes at a CSU to meet lower-division prerequisites.

The program offers 1,535 associate degrees for transfer in a wide variety of disciplines, including fields like physics, mathematics, political science, computer science, and English.

For more information about the transfer program and to hear from students who have already earned these degrees and transferred to a CSU campus, visit ADegreeWithAGuarantee.com.

The [California Community Colleges](#) is the largest system of higher education in the nation. It is composed of 72 districts and 112 colleges serving 2.1 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills courses in English and math, and prepare students for transfer to four-year colleges and universities. The Chancellor’s Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.

The [California State University](#) is the largest system of senior higher education in the country, with 23 campuses, approximately 437,000 students and 44,000 faculty and staff. The CSU awards about 96,000 degrees annually and since its creation in 1961 has conferred nearly 2.8 million. 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](#). Show how the CSU matters to you and [take action](#).

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