



# Transfer Degree GUARANTEE

A Clear Path to Success

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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



# Transfer Degree GUARANTEE



Louisiana Board of Regents  
1201 N. Third Street  
Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, La 70802  
225-342-4253  
info@latransferdegree.org

[www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org)



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

The 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 course work 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?

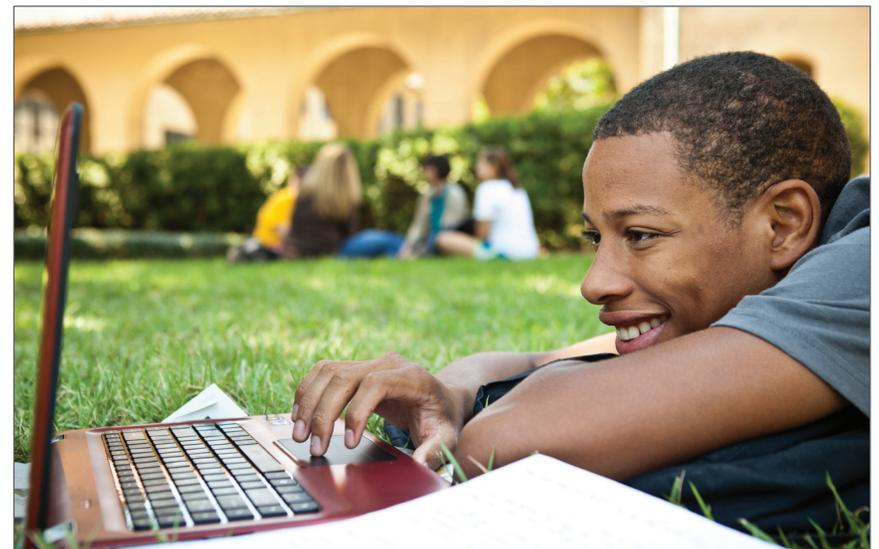
When you graduate with the Louisiana Transfer associate degree, you are eligible to enter a Louisiana 4-year public university as a Junior, with all 60 (non-developmental) credits transferring to the receiving university.

## 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. (See helpful information on pages 1–10.)
- 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 in which you wish to enroll. Learn about the course requirements for your major and the admission requirements. (See helpful information on page 6.)
- 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; and
- 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 course work. 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/
- 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
- Cultural and Social Anthropology
- Economic Principles
- Entertainment and Media
- Fundamental Issues of Politics
- Gender, Race, and Nation
- Geography
- World Ethnography
- Human Societies
- International Politics
- Macroeconomics
- Microeconomics
- Physical Anthropology
- Political Theory
- Psychology
- Sociology
- State and Local Government
- World Archaeology

### 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

WWW.LATRANSFERDEGREE.ORG

## 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. To qualify for block transfer guarantees, you must earn a grade of "C" or better in each course of the 60 hours applied toward the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree.
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.

## WHERE CAN I GO FOR MORE HELP?

Talk to an advisor. You can check specific university transfer and program admission information at the articulation web site [www.latransferdegree.org](http://www.latransferdegree.org). Also, you can visit the web site of the university in which you are interested, or you can talk with a university admissions officer for more details.



## 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.