



November 2022  
System Office

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# Transfer: Myths, Facts and Policies

ASA Board of Trustees  
Committee Meeting

MINNESOTA STATE

# Roadmap/Agenda



Types of Transfer



Strategic Enrollment Management Strategies that Support Transfer



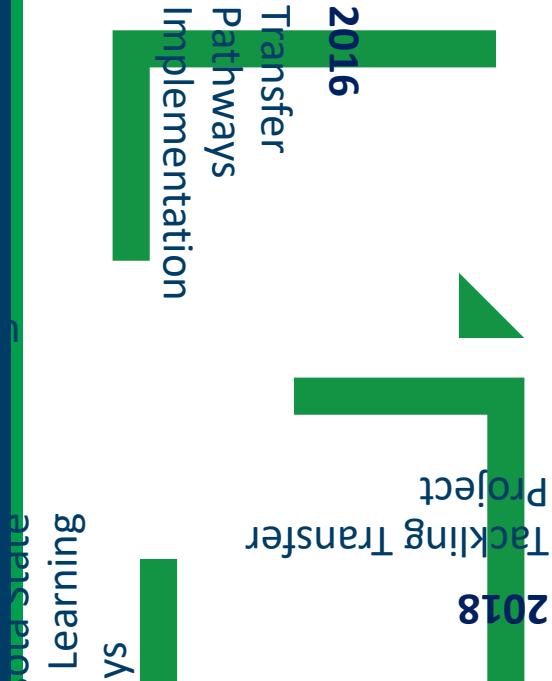
Transfer Myths, Facts and Policies



Transfer Advisement



# Transfer is Critical to Student Success



## **MYTH:**

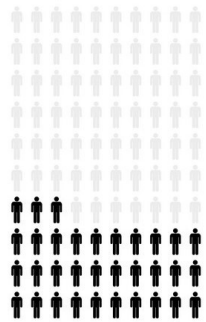
Minnesota State transfer is  
“broken”

## **FACT:**

Minnesota State is similar to  
national transfer data rates and  
trends, but there is **MORE** work to  
be done

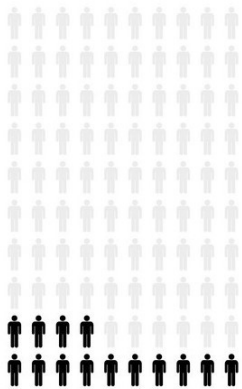


# National Transfer Data



33%

of community college students transfer to a four-year institution

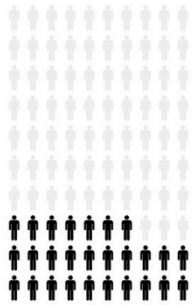


14%

of community college students earn a bachelor's degree within 6 years



# Minnesota Transfer Data



27.5

of community college students transfer to a Minnesota State University



15%

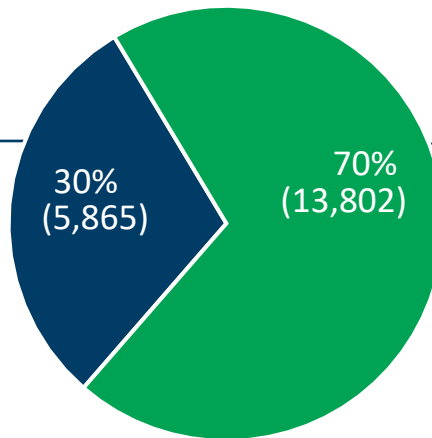
of full-time college students who intend to transfer completed a baccalaureate degree

In FY2020, 19,667 Minnesota State College students transferred to a four-year. 5,865 of these students transferred to a Minnesota State University in FY2020. 13,802 of these students transferred to some other 4-year College or University.

### FY2020 Minnesota State College Students transferred to...

#### Minnesota State U

- 9% Metropolitan State U
- 6% MSU Mankato
- 5% St. Cloud State U
- 3% Winona State U
- 3% Bemidji State U
- 2% MSU Moorhead
- 2% Southwest MSU



#### Other 4-Year

- 15% MN Private Not-for-Profit
- 12% U of M, Twin Cities
- 8% MN Private For-Profit
- 5% Wisconsin
- 4% U of M, Greater MN
- 4% North Dakota
- 3% Iowa
- 1% South Dakota
- 18% Other

Source: Minnesota State System Office ASA – Research

Transfer data included in this presentation is based on data from the National Student Clearinghouse and Minnesota State transfer and enrollment data. Students who attend multiple colleges and universities in the system are resolved to a single two-year/four-year pairing. Students who attended multiple two-year colleges in the Minnesota State system are associated with the most recent college they attended (for credit) prior to their transfer to the four-year. Students who transfer to multiple four-year institutions after their enrollment at a college are associated with the first four-year institution at which they enroll.

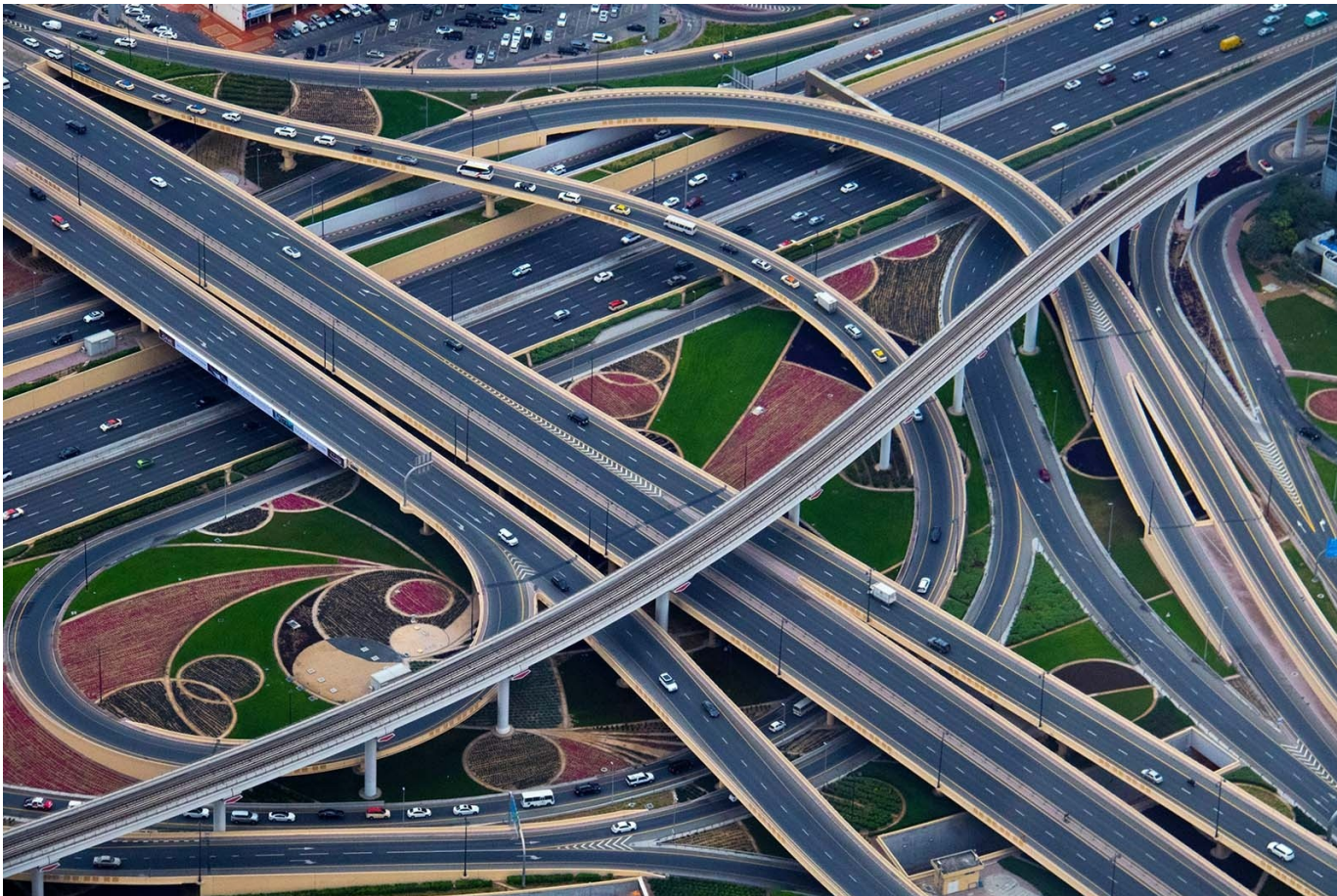
**MYTH:** There is only one path to transfer and our students only take one path in transferring in course credits





**FACT:**

**There are multiple paths to Transfer and transferring in credits**



# 1<sup>st</sup> Path to Transfer: Reverse Transfer

Reverse Transfer is the process of transferring a student's university coursework back to a previously attended community college in order to award the student an Associate of Arts (AA) degree.

Credit When Its Due increased conferral of AA degrees

In 2015, Minnesota State began a process of sustainable Reverse Transfer review process.

Since 2015, 2,847 AA degrees have been awarded to students through the Reverse Transfer Process.



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Path to Transfer: Transfer Agreements

- Formal transfer agreements (formerly known as articulation agreements) between two or more colleges and universities allow a “receiving” school to accept transfer credits from another school toward a specific academic program.
- Transfer Agreements can be found at The logo for Minnesota Transfer, featuring the word "Minnesota" in blue and "Transfer" in orange, both enclosed in a blue rectangular border.
- Broad Field Agreements:
  - [Engineering](#)
  - [Health Sciences \(Addendum\)](#)
  - [Nursing](#)



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Path to Transfer: Tribal College Agreements

- Minnesota State and the [four tribal colleges](#) of Minnesota have developed a partnership that paves the way for seamless transfer between the 2-year tribal colleges and any of the seven Minnesota State universities.
- **Tribal Colleges:**
  - Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College
  - Leech Lake Tribal College
  - Red Lake Nation College
  - White Earth Tribal and Community College



# 4<sup>th</sup> Path to Transfer: Military Training Credits

- Minnesota State uses the [Veterans Education Transfer System](#) (VETS) to find out how a student's military training and experience transfers into academic programs at Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.
- VETS was created by the Minnesota State.
- VETS is an online application that helps past, present and future servicemen and servicewomen determine how their military training can count for credit at Minnesota State colleges and universities.



# 5<sup>th</sup> Path to Transfer: Dual Credit

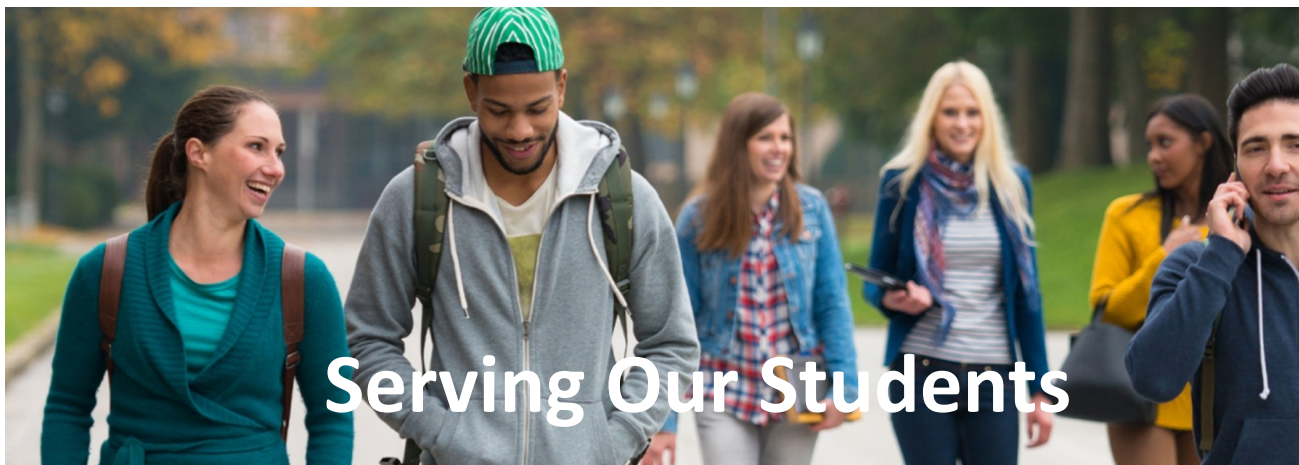
- **Traditional PSEO:** Students who are enrolled in courses at the college/university or online and for which the college/university is reimbursed by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).
- **PSEO by Contract/Other:** Students who are enrolled in courses at the college/university or online via an agreement between the college/university and a school board or governing body covers the costs of PSEO courses.
- **Concurrent Enrollment PSEO:** Students who are enrolled in a college or university course taught by a high school instructor made available through the PSEO program offered at a high school site or online through an agreement between the high school/school district and the college/university for which school districts and charter schools are reimbursed from MDE.



# Transfer and Equity 2030

We served over **46,000** students in 2021 and more students of color in our concurrent enrollment programming than anyone else in the state.

- Total of **46,279** Students
- **8,513** students of color



Serving Our Students

# Course Success Rates by PSEO Category and Race/Ethnicity Category

## BIPOC students successfully completing PSEO courses:

- Concurrent PSEO
  - Remained relatively stable between FY13 and FY21 with an average **over 93%**
  - Dropped **1.3%** between FY20 and FY21 (from **95.0%** to **93.7%**)
- Traditional PSEO
  - Remained relatively stable between FY13 and FY21 with an average **over 87%**
  - Dropped **1.4%** between FY20 and FY21 (from **88.9%** to **87.5%**)
- PSEO by Contract
  - Decreased **2.4%** between FY13 and FY21 (Began offering less PSEO by Contract)
  - Dropped **1.1%** between FY20 and FY21 (from **89.5%** to **88.4%**)



# Strategic Enrollment Management: Priority Paths to Transfer



# 6<sup>th</sup> Path to Transfer: Transfer Pathways

**Curriculum Framework:** Minnesota State [Transfer Pathways](#) allow a student to complete one of the 26- discipline transfer pathway associate degree programs and transfer to any of the Minnesota State universities.

**Implementation:** Minnesota State colleges offering one or more Transfer Pathway degree programs were required to offer the degree by fall 2020.

Minnesota State universities that have related degrees are required to designate baccalaureate degrees that align with the Transfer Pathway associate degree programs.



# Policy

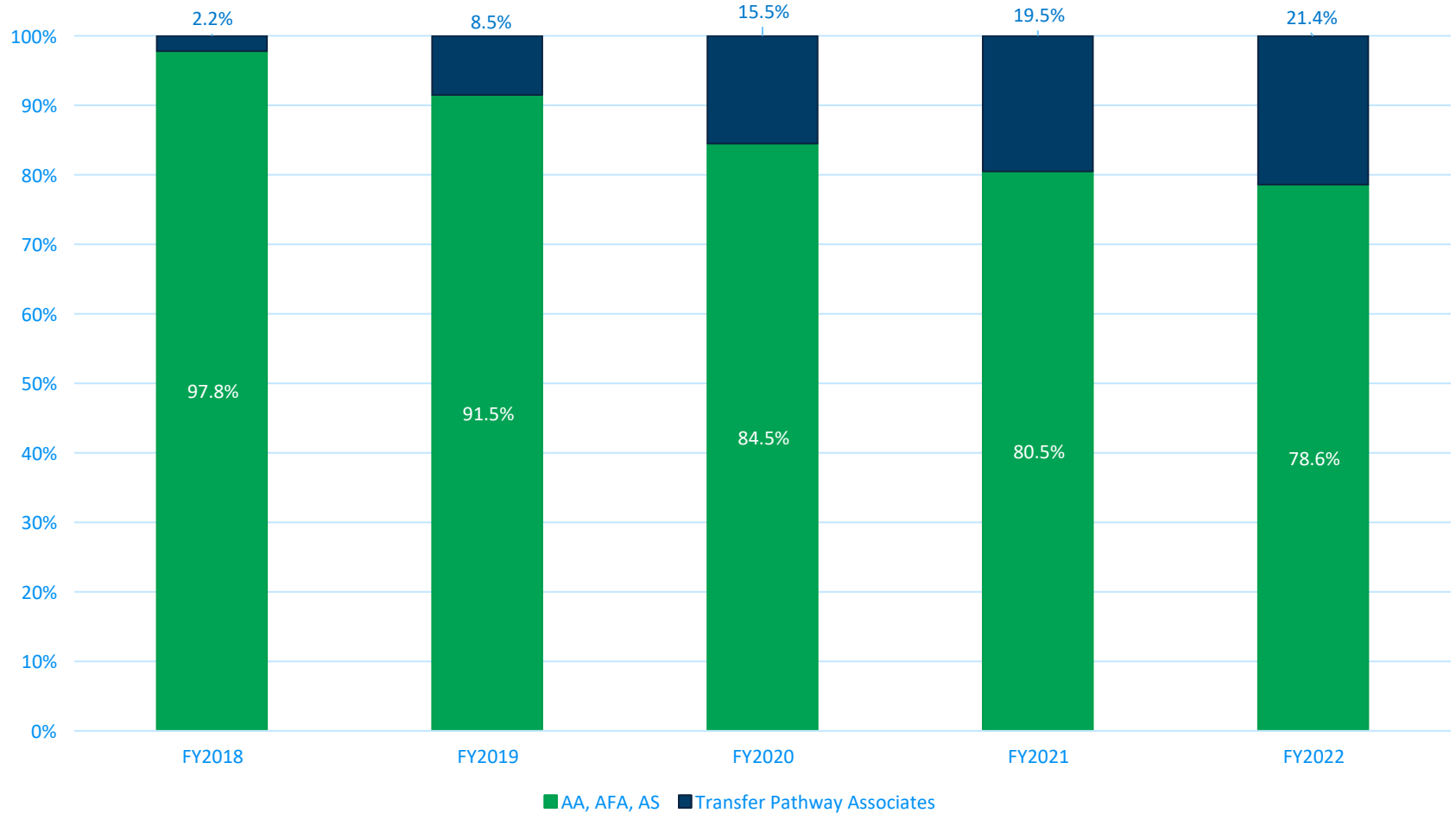
## 3.21 Undergraduate Course and Credit Transfer and the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum



**Subpart D. Transfer Pathway Associate Degrees**  
Minnesota State universities shall accept and apply the transfer pathway associate degrees from Minnesota State colleges toward designated baccalaureate degrees.

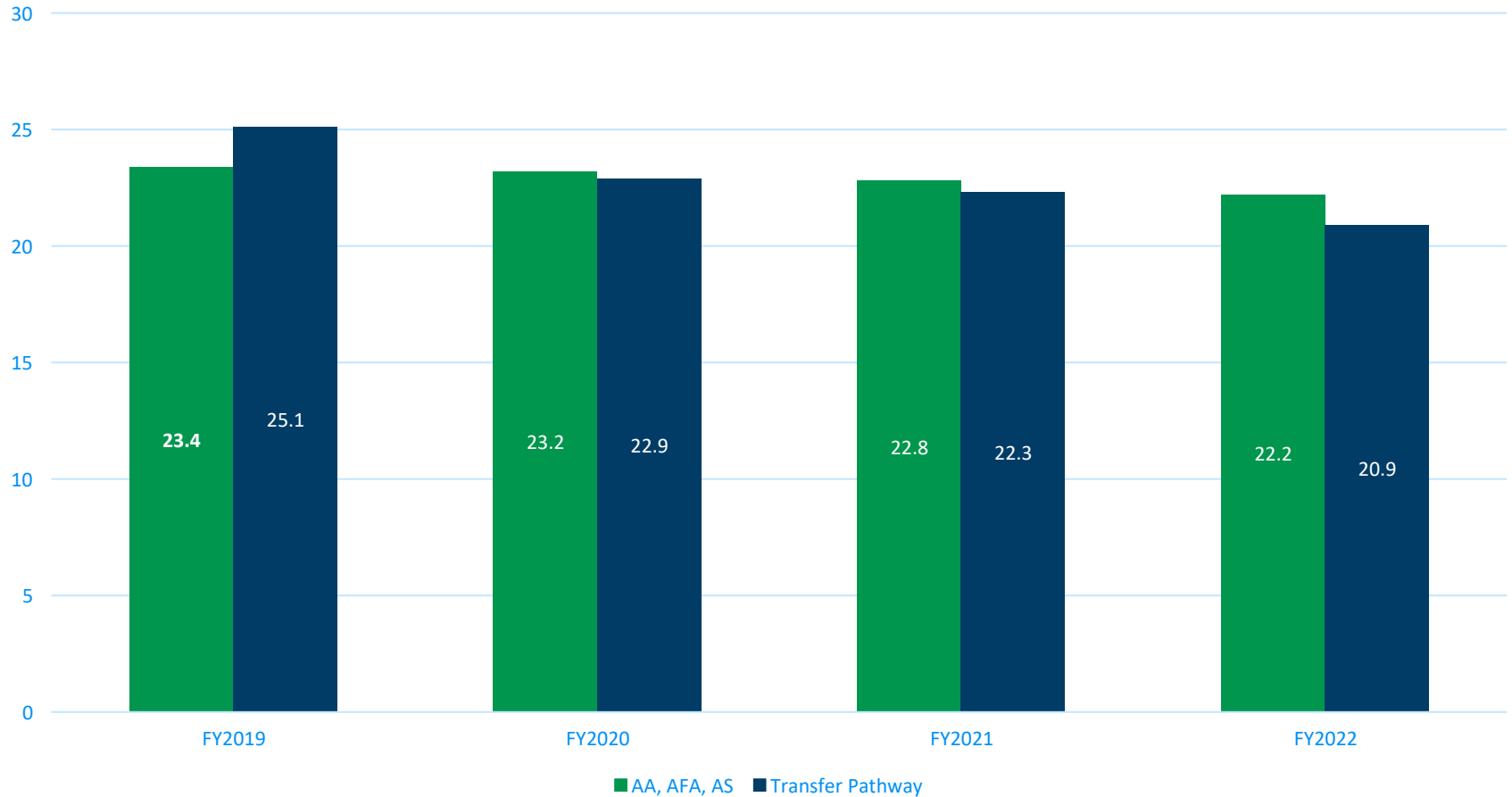
# Data Trends for Transfer Pathways

Students enrolled at Minnesota State Colleges in an associate's degree designed for transfer



# Data Trends for Transfer Pathways

Trend in Average Excess Credits at Completion



# 7<sup>th</sup> Path to Transfer: Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC)

Minnesota State universities have committed to [guarantee admission](#) to Minnesota State college students who complete the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum and earn a minimum GPA in an associate of arts degree—a student will start at their university of choice as a junior.

This admissions guarantee ensures that students can seamlessly and reliably transfer from Minnesota State colleges to Minnesota State universities

The [Minnesota Transfer Curriculum](#) is a framework for students completing an associate's degree or planning to transfer from a two-year public college to a four-year public university in Minnesota.



# Policy

## 3.21 Undergraduate Course and Credit Transfer and the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum



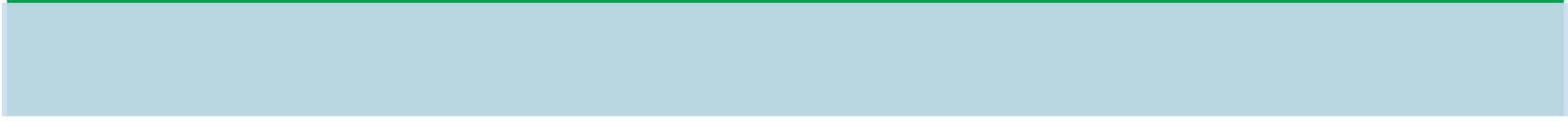
### Part 7. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC)

The Minnesota Transfer Curriculum is a collaborative effort among all Minnesota two- and four-year public colleges and universities to help students transfer their work in general education. Completion of a defined transfer curriculum at one college or university enables a student to receive credit for all lower-division general education courses upon admission to any other Minnesota public college or university.



### Subpart B. Acceptance of Minnesota Transfer Curriculum

Each receiving college and university shall accept:



# MYTH:

Students' courses are not being accepted in transfer.

# FACT:

Students' courses are accepted in transfer and can be applied in three categories:

- Major course
- Elective course
- MnTC required competency



# Policy

## 3.21 Undergraduate Course and Credit Transfer and the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum

### Subpart A. Transfer of courses that are equivalent

A receiving college or university shall accept courses in transfer that it determines to be equivalent to specific courses it offers and shall enter them into the degree audit reporting system.

### Subpart B. Transfer of courses that are not equivalent

College-level courses accepted in transfer by a college or university that are determined not to be equivalent to specific courses taught at the receiving college or university must be designated as electives and entered into the degree audit reporting system.

### Subpart C. Applying courses accepted in transfer

When courses or credits are accepted in transfer, each college or university shall determine how the courses or credits apply to program and graduation requirements.

## **MYTH:**

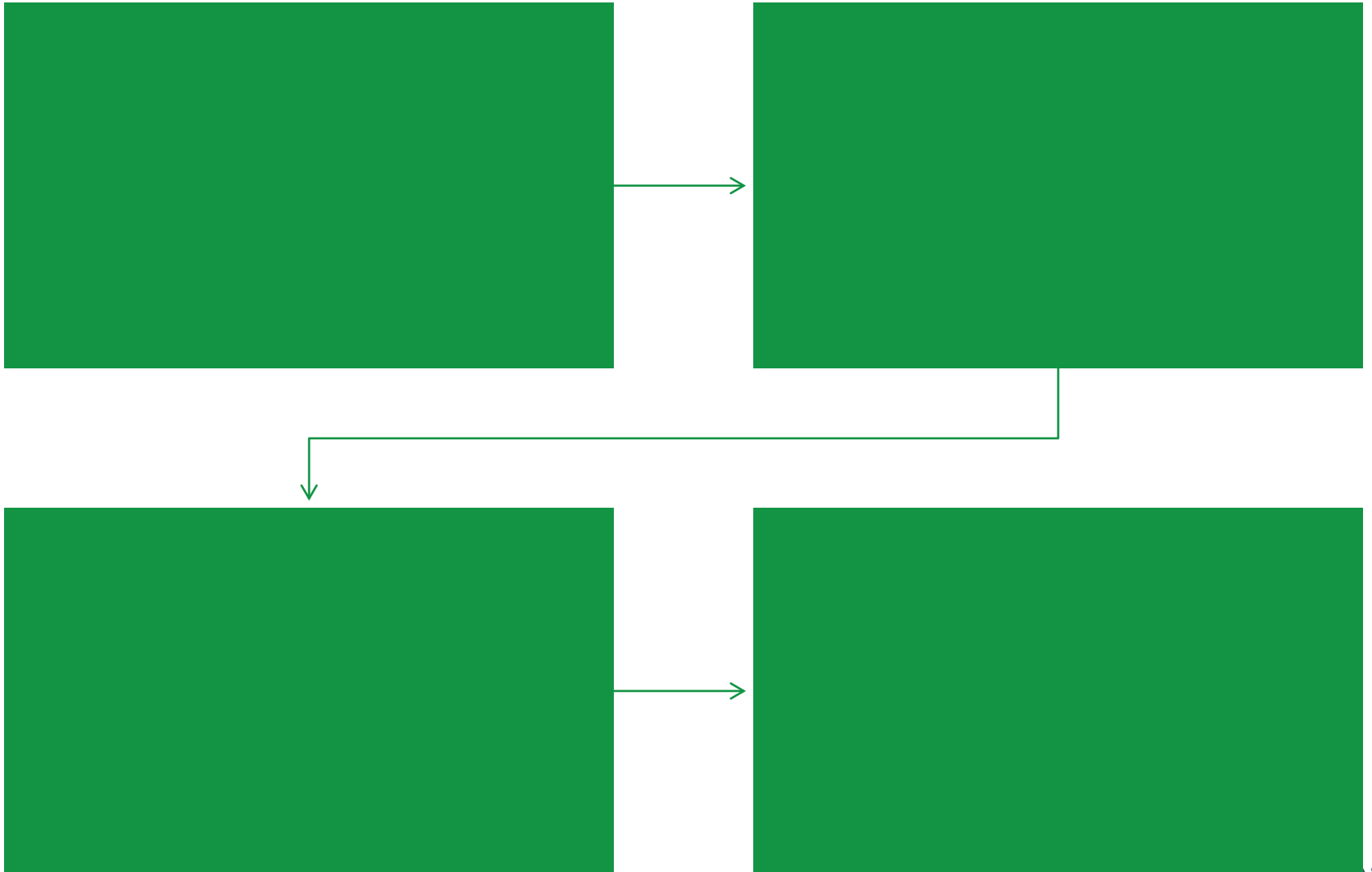
One faculty at an institution can unilaterally prohibit a course to be accepted in transfer.

## **FACT:**

Faculty at Minnesota State colleges and universities collaborate to support transfer through increased course equivalencies.



# Policy



# Faculty Advisement in Support of Transfer

## Transfer vs. Substitution

- Credits might transfer but not substitute for similar courses

## What do faculty consider when we transfer/substitute courses?

Where is it coming from?

- Transfer within Minnesota State is relatively easy
- Tougher when coming from for-profit or international institution

## Graduation Requirements

- Ex. Writing intensive courses
- Content is not always sole decider of equivalency

## Other accreditation standards

- Need to meet certain learning outcomes, sometimes with certain equipment, etc.

## Possible Faculty Actions to Assist with Transfer

- Discipline meetings across the System– All Math faculty or all Sociologists

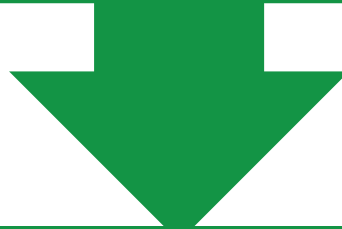
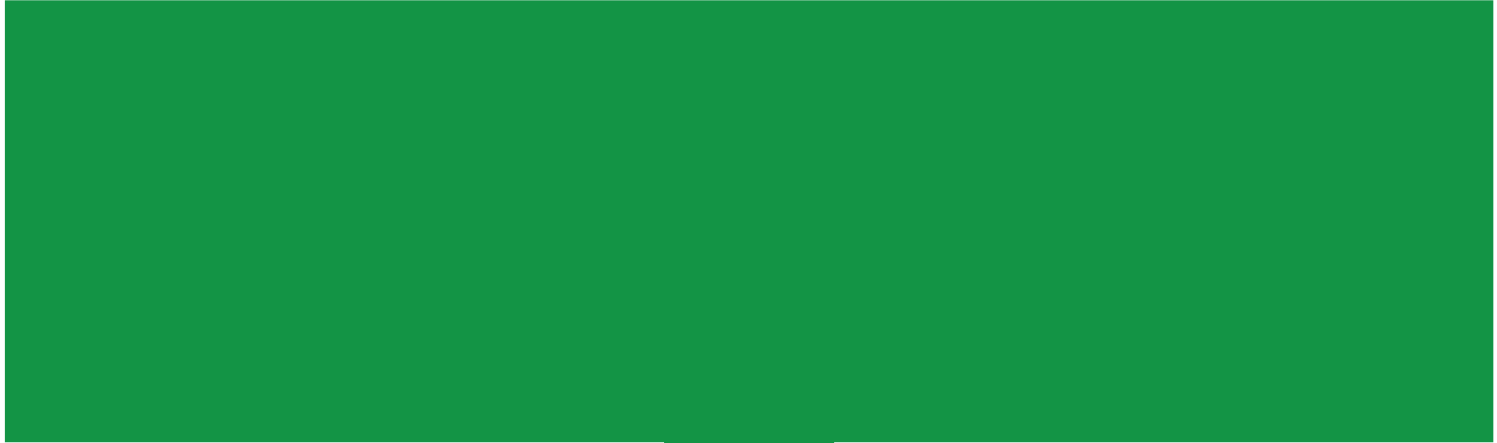
## **MYTH:**

Students do not have any recourse if they believe their course should transfer or transfer differently at the receiving institution.

## **FACT:**

ALL students can appeal any course they perceive should transfer or transfer differently through the Transfer Appeal Process

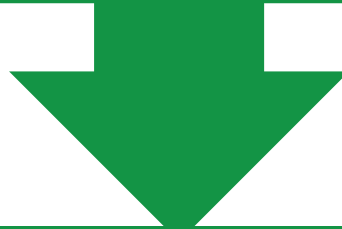
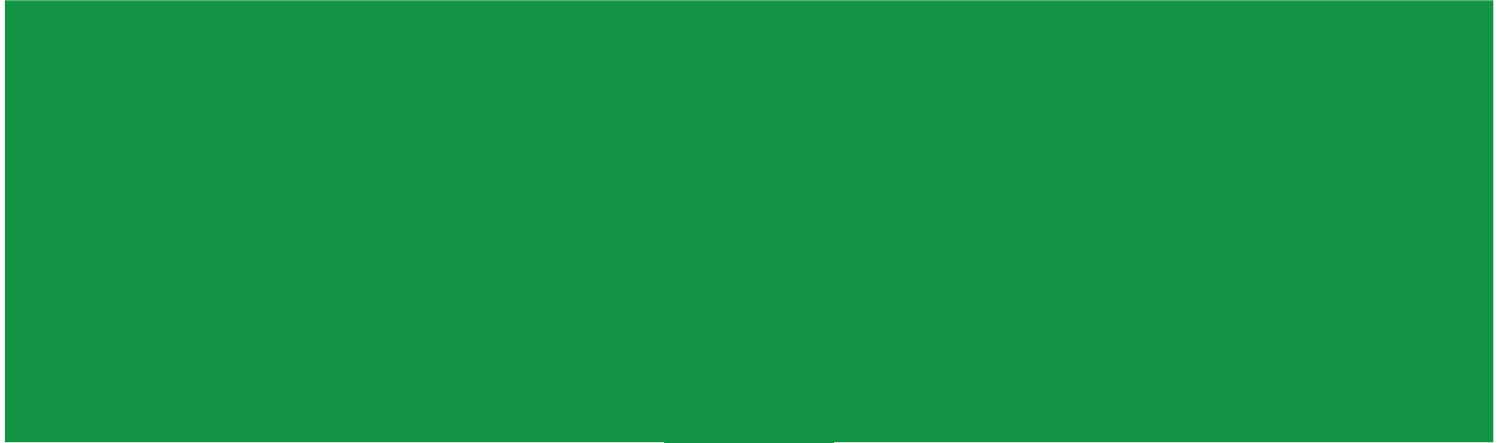
# Policy



# System Level Transfer Appeals

- The Transfer Review and Appeal tool provides an electronic method for students to request a review of course/credit transfer questions and course transfer denials.
- Students are able to provide transfer data, identify missing transfer course work, upload syllabi and/or transcripts.
- This tool is designed to improve communication with students about how their courses transfer.
- This project aligns with the Minnesota States commitment to improving the student transfer experience by providing an efficient, consistent approach for responding to transfer reviews and appeals at Minnesota State colleges and universities.
- The system appeal is used only when the student is not satisfied with the college or university appeal decision. The final decision then rests with the Sr. Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs at Minnesota State.

# Policy





# How Are Students Provided Transfer Information

- [Campus & Programs webpage](#)
- [Transfer Information Webpage](#)
  - Home page of Minnesota State websites in two areas
    - [Carlisle](#)
    - [Bottom page directory](#)
- “Ask US” (Autobot Help Desk)
- Advisement
- Course Catalogs



**MYTH:** Eliminating Barriers to transfer are not a priority for Minnesota State.

**FACT:**

Minnesota State is **ACTIVELY** working to eliminate contributing factors that cause barriers to transfer

# Contributing Barriers to Transfer

## Transfer Complexity

- Misalignment of the MnTC to meet our current transfer needs
- Differences within our Multiple transfer paths
- Transfer student orientation programs

## Transfer Accountability

- Lack of common metrics that describe efficiency of transfer
- Lack of consistency in credit evaluations

## Institutional Autonomy vs. Systemness and collaboration

- Lack of financial incentives to support transfer vs. traditional direct entrant student
- Opt-in versus Opt-out for reverse transfer



# Potential Solutions

Leadership accountability measures for senior leaders to encourage transfer & transfer success

Support for student basic needs

Aligning math requirements across programs

Common course numbering

Staffing, especially advising / advisor load

Reducing transfer complexity within Minnesota State

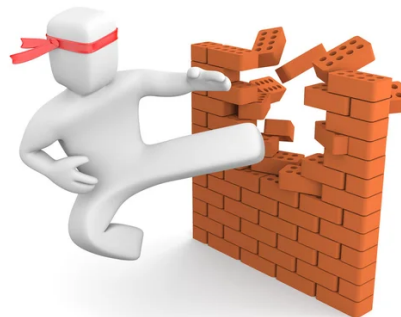
Reduce MnTC variances and inconsistencies

Redesign of MnTC (Lower General Education)

Entering equivalencies in Transferology.

Improving credit evaluation consistency

Revisions to transfer student orientation programs



# Leadership Action Teams (LATs)-



Shared responsibility for all Leadership Council members to engage and to lead



Create opportunities for deeper engagement in discussion around the most pressing topics



Initial areas outlined are where we would like to seek feedback/guidance from Leadership Council



LATs will take a deeper dive in these areas over the next few months; develop recommendations – which will then be brought back to the full LC – as part of our ongoing LC deliberations.



Pilot that we launch this year, evaluate, and make the necessary changes.



# Membership: Leadership Action Teams

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- Co-Chair Ed Inch, President, Minnesota State University Mankato
- Co-Chair, Pat Rogers, President, Lake Superior College
- Member, Joyce Ester, President Normandale Community College
- Member, Robbyn Wacker, President, St. Cloud State University
- Member, Hara Charlier, President, Central Lakes College
- Member, Kumara Jayasuriya, President, Southwest Minnesota State University
- Member, Craig Johnson, President, Ridgewater College
- System Office Liaison, Satasha Green-Stephen, Sr. Vice Chancellor

# LAT Recommendation #1: Transfer Pathways-**APPROVED**

## Recommendation:

- Work with faculty communities of practice to review Transfer Pathways.
- Expand Transfer Pathways
- Review and remediate issues with education pathway programs.

# LAT Recommendation #2: Communication and Training- APPROVED

## Recommendation:

- ASA will develop a series of communications for institutions to ensure compliance with Board policy.
- ASA will update and revise the Transfer Pathways Campus Implementation Toolkit to support campuses in educating and advising students on transfer.



# LAT Recommendation #3: Common Course Numbering- **APPROVED**

## Recommendation:

- Common course numbering
  - The Transfer Governance Team will be convening a workgroup to research options. The workgroup's recommendations will be submitted to SVC Green-Stephen.

# LAT Recommendation #4: Automatic e-transcript –**APPROVED**

## Recommendation:

- Provide for this functionality in our NextGen implementation.
- In the short-term:
  - use existing e-transcript resources implemented in 2019
  - add to Minnesota State transfer toolkit resources about how to use existing technology e.g., uAchieve

# LAT Recommendation #5: Monitoring and oversight of Transfer Pathways –**APPROVED**

## Recommendation:

- Develop an accountability framework to ensure that Minnesota State continues to progress on improving transfer and to ensure our colleges and universities are in full compliance with board policy and our overall goals.
  - Transfer data by institution will be added to the Minnesota State external website.
  - Internal Audit reviewing compliance with Transfer Pathways. Will be presenting a report to the Board of Trustees Audit Committee

# LAT Recommendation #6: Review the MnTC and redesign of the lower division General Education –**APPROVED**

## Recommendation:

- Create a workgroup to develop a process and parameters for re-envisioning the Minnesota State lower division general education curriculum.

# Lower General Education Redesign

## Purpose and Scope

- The ad hoc workgroup was convened between **May 2022** and **July 2022** and met bi-weekly.
- The workgroup was charged with developing a recommended process and parameters for re-envisioning the Minnesota State lower division general education curriculum.
- The scope of this workgroup was limited to lower division general education and its transfer across institutions.
- Upper division general education fell outside the scope of the workgroup, as it falls within the purview of individual universities.

# Membership

The workgroup was co-led by Ron Anderson, previous SVC and the presidents (or designees) of the two teaching faculty associations.



Membership included the following:

# Redesign Framework Phases

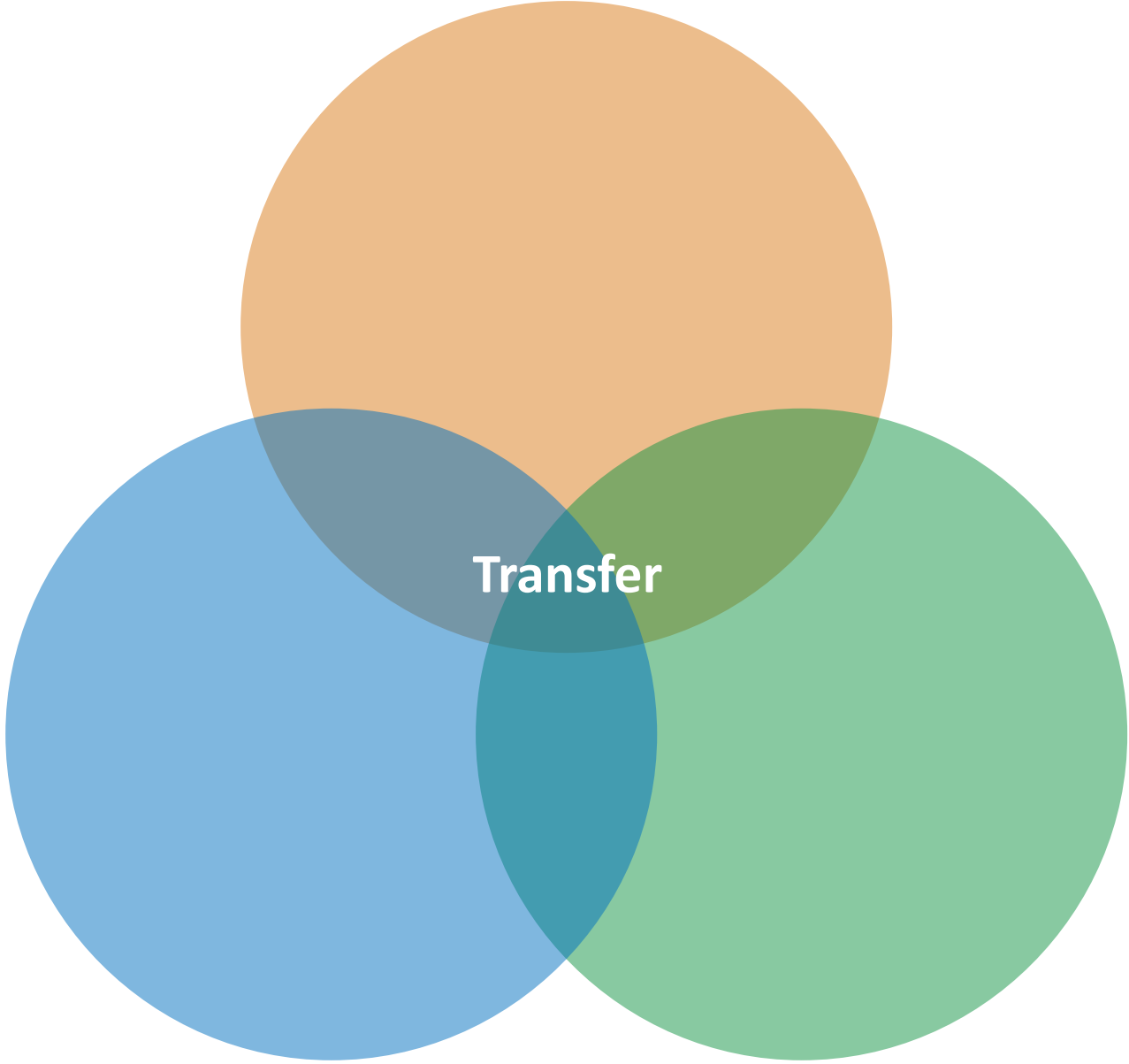
There are four phases of this work:

**Phase 1:** Research and Parameter Development

**Phase 2:** Framework Development

**Phase 3:** Stakeholder Vetting and Campus Engagement

**Phase 4:** Curriculum Development and Implementation





# Discussion- Q & A





# MINNESOTA STATE

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