



Illinois Board of Higher Education

James L. Kaplan, Chairman • Judy Erwin, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Academic Leadership
FROM: Rick Pearce
DATE: January 26, 2007
RE: Illinois Articulation Initiative Revisions

As the Illinois Articulation Initiative entered its second decade of helping students transfer among participating Illinois institutions, the Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Board of Higher Education responded to requests from several stakeholders for a comprehensive review of the initiative.

The review included several fact-finding techniques, including focus groups, surveys, studies, and discussions with transfer coordinators, institutional administrators, faculty, and students. Based on these findings, the ICCB and IBHE staffs formulated revisions to the IAI.

On April 4, 2006 the IBHE and on May 19, 2006 the ICCB endorsed these revisions and asked their respective staffs to move forward with implementation. Although many of the revisions were minor and fell under the purview of the IAI panels, two revisions require your attention.

General Education Core Curriculum completion post-matriculation

Under the following circumstances, institutions will offer transfer students the option of satisfying lower-division general education requirements by completing a GECC curriculum while enrolled in the receiving institution.

- When the transfer student has completed a statewide articulated associate degree such as the AFA, AES, AAT; or
- When the transfer student has been granted 30 semester hours of transfer credit by the receiving institution without having completed the GECC. (Although not specified, the nature of lower-division curricula indicates that 30 semester hours of *transfer credit* from an IAI institution will likely incorporate GECC credits.)

Identification of Institutional Review Process

- Each participation institution will develop an institutional review process for IAI courses. This process may be stand-alone or may incorporate existing curriculum development processes.
- When an institution has developed a course for review, course materials (at minimum a syllabus) must be reviewed and approved through the institutional review process prior to submission to the panel.
- Once a course has been approved through the institutional review process, the appropriate submission forms and course materials are forwarded by the institutional contact person to the ICCB or IBHE staff liaison.

These revised policies are being put into place in order to better facilitate the transfer of credits through the Illinois Articulation Initiative process. We appreciate your help in ensuring those individuals at your institution who deal with articulation and transfer are made aware of these revisions.