# Introduction

A recent U.S. Government Accountability Office (2017) report, [Higher Education: Students Need More Information to Help Reduce Challenges in Transferring College Credits](https://www.gao.gov/assets/690/686530.pdf), found students lost an estimated 43 percent of their credits on average upon transferring. Awarding general, elective, or “transfer” credit rather than determining a direct course equivalency often leaves students with “excess” credit that does not apply to the degree, adds to their cost of education, and delays their graduation.

# Common Transfer Terminology

* Sending Institution is the initial institution where students enrolled in the course and where the course is completed.
* Receiving, or Transferring, Institution, is the institution to which the student is transferring the credit.
* A direct equivalency occurs when courses articulate as Subject/Number from sending institution to Subject/Number at receiving institution (i.e.  SOC 101 = SOCL 115).  Direct equivalencies provide clarity to students and advisors because they can clearly see how transfer courses apply to program requirements. Direct equivalencies are preferred when the course is intended to apply to program requirements.
* There are reasons why a course cannot be a direct equivalent, most notably when no such course exists at the receiving institution. In this case, clear information about how the course applies to the degree program is helpful.
* General, Elective, Departmental Credit are courses that articulate as Subject/Number from sending institution to general, elective, or departmental credit at the receiving institution (i.e. SOC 101 = SOCL GEN). General, Elective or Departmental Credit is confusing to students because it is unclear how the course applies to program requirements.

# Transfer Credit Evaluation Resources

Two recent publications focus on best practices in awarding transfer credit. The American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) share several recommends in the 2017 publication, [A Guide to Best Practices: Awarding Transfer and Prior Learning Credit](https://www.aacrao.org/docs/default-source/trending-topic-docs/transfer/guide-to-best-practices.pdf?sfvrsn=4820bb55_4). In addition, the [British Columbia Council on Admissions and Transfer](http://bccat.ca/pubs/Learning_Outcomes_and_Credit_Transfer_Feb2014.pdf) prepared a special report in 2014 on the topic learning outcomes and the articulation of credit between institutions.

# Course Equivalency Matrices

The course equivalency matrices report how courses transfer from community colleges to universities using data available in the [Michigan Transfer Network](https://www.mitransfer.org/) (MTN). Secure users with access to the back-end reports on the site will be able to review and download MiTransfer Pathways Course Equivalency matrices on-demand to assist with tracking equivalencies for MiTransfer Pathways participation.

# Using This Document

The next two pages of this worksheet are intended to help colleges and universities track course equivalencies for identified MiTransfer Pathways courses. Institutions can use the [Michigan Transfer Network](https://www.mitransfer.org/) (MTN) to review equivalency for their courses in each pathway. Universities should use the list on page 2 to look up and verify equivalency status with all community college partners. Likewise, colleges can use the list on page 3 to verify equivalency status with their university partners. These lists do not need to be turned in; they are offered as a tool for self-tracking.

# Course Equivalency Worksheet (Universities)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Course 1 | Course 2 | Course 3 | Course 4 | Course 5 | Course 6 |
| Alpena Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bay College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Delta College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Glen Oaks Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gogebic Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grand Rapids Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Henry Ford College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jackson College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kalamazoo Valley Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kellogg Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kirtland Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lake Michigan College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lansing Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Macomb Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mid Michigan College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Monroe County Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Montcalm Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mott Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Muskegon Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| North Central Michigan College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northwestern Michigan College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oakland Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Schoolcraft College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Southwestern Michigan College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| St. Clair County Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Washtenaw Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wayne Co. Community College District |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| West Shore Community College |  |  |  |  |  |  |

# Course Equivalency Worksheet (community colleges)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Course 1 | Course 2 | Course 3 | Course 4 | Course 5 | Course 6 |
| Adrian College |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Albion College |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Alma College |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Andrews University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Aquinas College |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Baker College |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Calvin College |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Central Michigan University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Cleary University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| College for Creative Studies |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Concordia University Ann Arbor |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Cornerstone University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Davenport University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Eastern Michigan University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Ferris State University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Finlandia University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Grand Valley State University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Hope College |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Kalamazoo College |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Kettering University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Lake Superior State University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Lawrence Technological University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Madonna University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Marygrove College |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Michigan State University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Michigan Technological University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Northern Michigan University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Northwood University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Oakland University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Olivet College |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Rochester University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Saginaw Valley State University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Siena Heights University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Spring Arbor University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| University of Detroit Mercy |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| University of Michigan - Ann Arbor |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| University of Michigan - Dearborn |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| University of Michigan - Flint |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Walsh College |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Wayne State University |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Western Michigan University |   |   |   |   |   |   |