

# Transfer Degree Pathways for Baccalaureate Completion



January 28, 2015

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system is an Equal Opportunity employer and educator.



# 2014 Transfer Legislation

- The Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities shall develop a plan to
  - implement multi-campus articulation agreements
  - that lead to baccalaureate degree completion
  - upon earning the number of credits required for the degree minus 60 credits at a system university after transfer to the system university
  - by a student with an associate in arts degree, associate of science degree, or an associate of fine arts (AFA) degree from a system college. ...

# 2014 Transfer Legislation

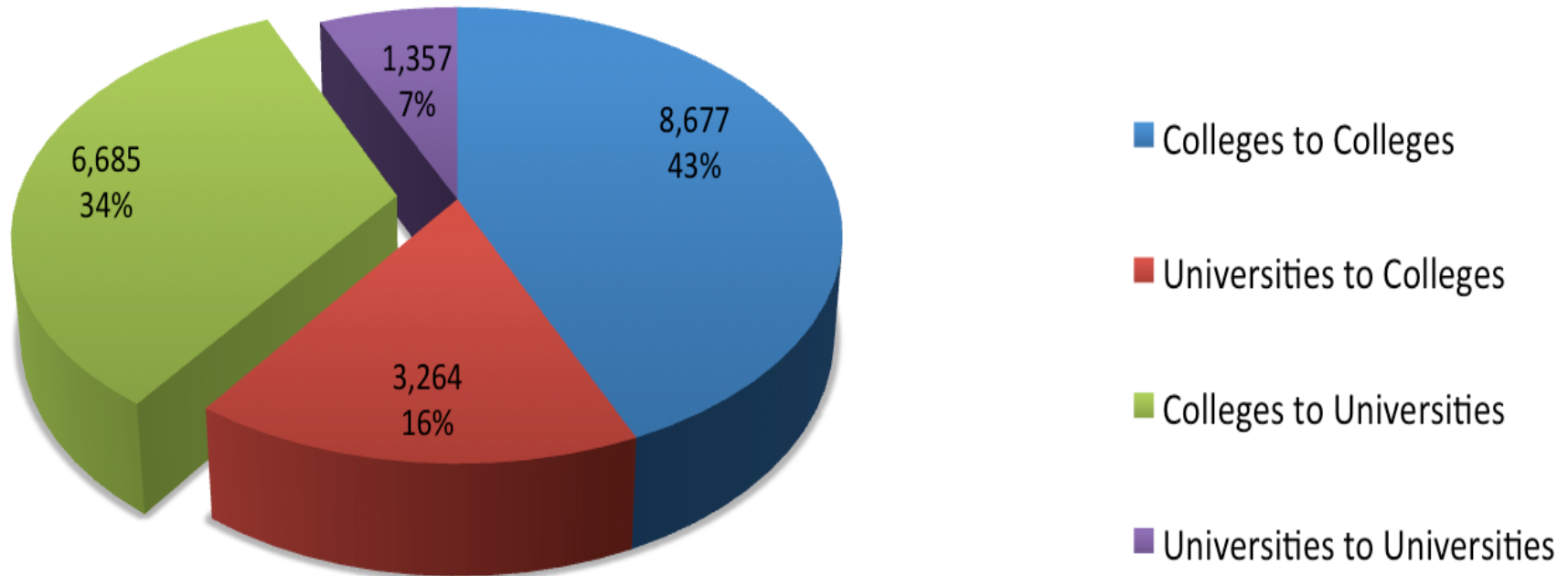
- The board shall assign the task of developing the plan to the appropriate committee formed under the board's "Charting the Future" initiative.
- The board shall report on this plan to the legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over higher education finance and policy by March 15, 2015.

[- 2014 Session Laws H.F. 3172, Chapter 312, Sec. 12](#)

# Academic Planning & Collaboration Team

- Began work on plan in October, 2014.
- Reviewed system data on transfer
- Conducted literature review on related transfer issues
- Researched other states with multi-campus articulation and “transfer degrees”
- Invited additional subject matter experts

# Target: College to university transfer



**34% of within-MnSCU transfer is from Colleges to Universities**

# Findings and Determinations

- Successful models in other states
  - California, Pennsylvania, Washington, Florida, New York, Kentucky, Arizona
- All-inclusive: all programs, all institutions
- Curriculum “templates” structured by faculty within statewide discipline groups
- Intensive communication systems required
- Fully documented transfer pathway guides help students from year one through four



GET THE DETAILS

FIND YOUR PATH

FIND A CAMPUS

GET STARTED

# Getting an AA-T or an AS-T Degree...

makes it easy to transfer from a California community college into the CSU system.

Check out our degree options to find one that's right for you.

## What's New

### New Find Your Path Tool

Use our new [search tool](#) to find your path to earning both an associate and bachelor's degree with no wasted units!

[Try the New Search Tool](#)

## Success Stories

Mirella Campos – San Bernardino Valley College To CSU, San Bernardino – AS-T

## Important Dates

### October 1, 2014

The initial application period for admission to a California State University (CSU) campus for...

[Read More](#)

### November 1, 2014

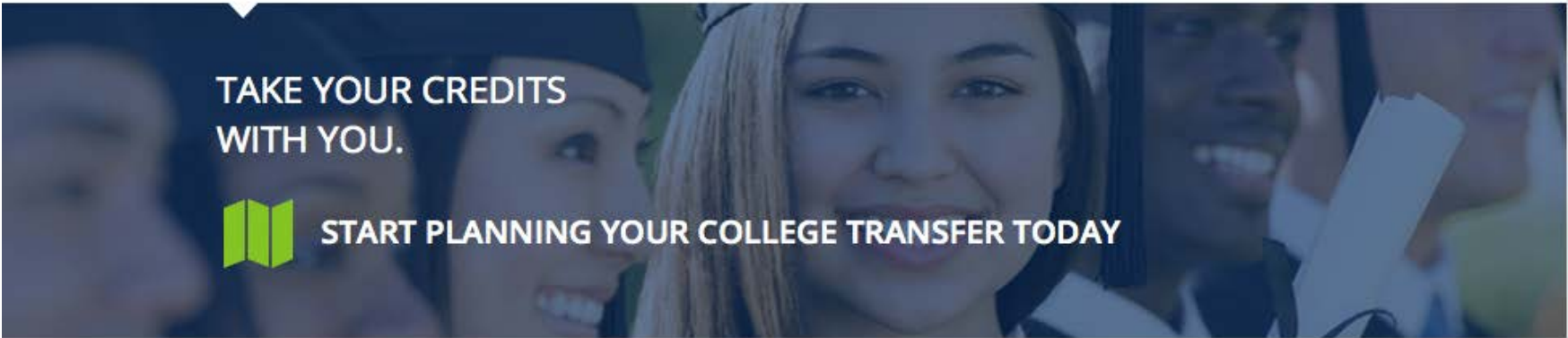
The application submission period for admission to a University of California (UC) campus for...

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For High School Students

The Pennsylvania Transfer and Articulation Center (PA TRAC) enables students to easily identify courses and degrees that transfer to the participating colleges and universities.



# Principles and Goals

- Students are the primary and fundamental focus of the plan
- Quality education is the core.
- Student success will be facilitated
- Degree pathways will be clear
- Students can complete degrees in a minimum timeframe
  - Two years for an associate degree and four years for a baccalaureate
  - Part-time completion is available
- Transfer students who meet admission requirements will be given the same opportunities and consideration as direct-entry students of junior standing.



# Principles and Goals

- All universities and colleges will participate if they offer associate degrees for transfer or baccalaureate degrees.

# Program Articulation Committees

- Discipline-specific; full autonomy to achieve the goals
- Co-chaired by college and university faculty
  - equal number of representatives from each
- Campus members who regularly work with transfer students (transfer specialists, registrars, financial aid)
- Advisors/counselors
- Students (college and university)
- CAO or dean in discipline



# Program Articulation Committees

- Determine assurances and guarantees available
- Create pathways where, as capacity permits, students who meet or exceed requirements are admitted
- Create options for students to better plan and prepare
- Ensure accessibility for all qualified students
- Ensure completion of lower-division general education
- Strongly consider 2+2 and dual-enrollment options



# Transfer Degree Pathways

- Three new multi-campus transfer pathways
- Faculty in PACs will create templates for three new transfer-assured pathways into parallel studies for the
  - AA (Associate of Arts – Discipline Name)
  - AS (Associate of Science – Discipline Name)
  - AFA (Associate of Fine Arts – Discipline Name)
- Faculty will be expected to consider how current degrees can be integrated or aligned with these.



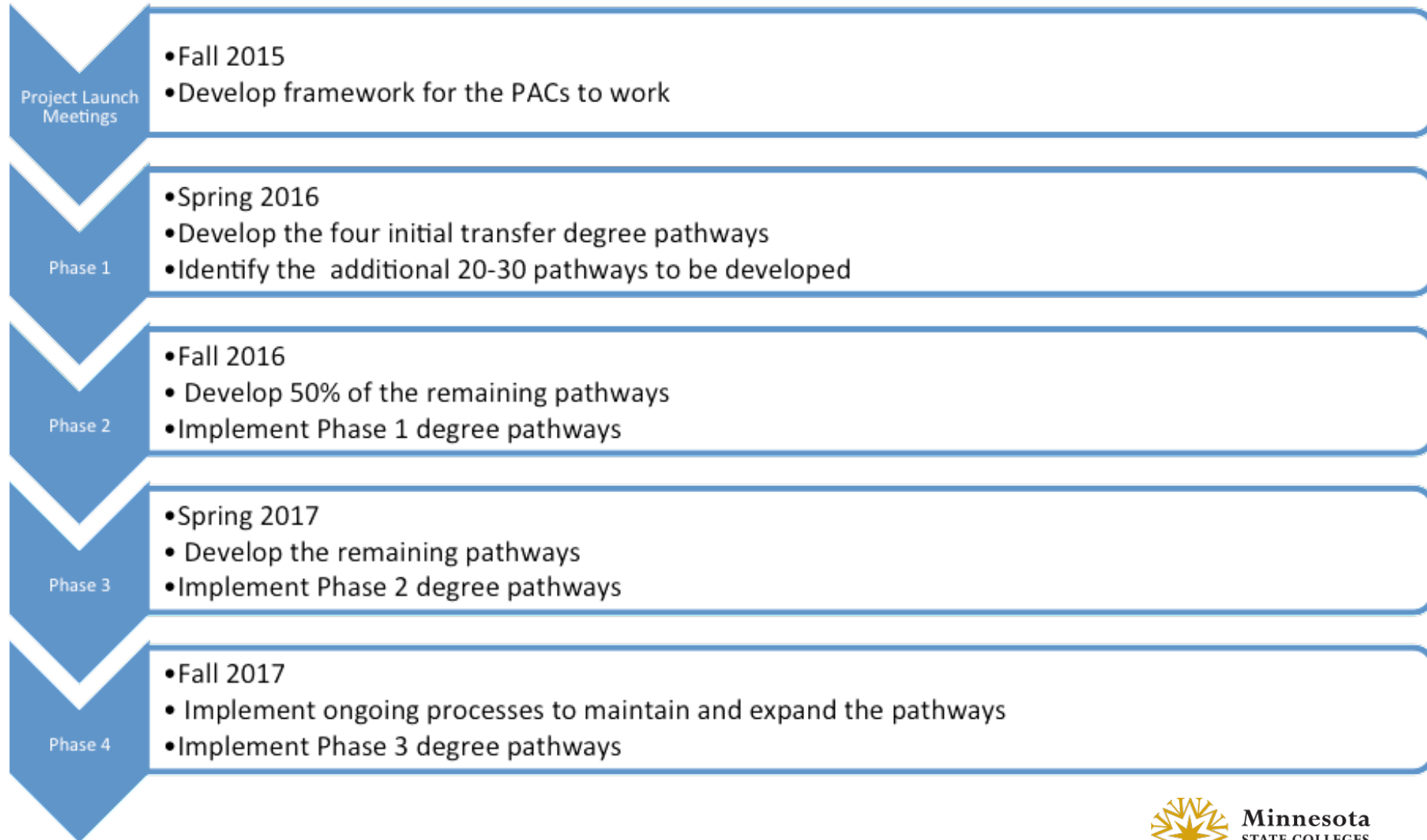
# Curriculum Framework

Type of Courses	Number of Credits
General Education Common Core / Minnesota Transfer Curriculum goal areas across the disciplines	30
Broad elective courses / Additional MnTC goals	9-12
Discipline-specific courses	9-12
Remaining credits*	6-12
Total credits	60

# Phase 1

Degree	Discipline	Type
AA	Psychology	Popular major for both direct-entry and transfer students
AS	Biology	Sequential courses/pre-requisites
AS	Business	Most popular major; program accreditation requirements
AFA	Theatre	Performing art; includes complete MnTC

# Implementation Schedule





# Next Steps

- Review and incorporate feedback and comment
  - Distributed for comment systemwide Jan 6 – Jan 20, 2015
- Address open questions
  - Resource and budget implications
  - Fit with current transfer and program articulation processes
  - How to provide training, information sessions
  - Planning for minimum transitional and ongoing burden for campuses
  - Need for IT systems
  - Need for policy, procedural changes
  - Can this plan also serve AAS students who eventually transfer
- Write and distribute final version March 15

# Closing Thoughts and Challenges

- **Program Articulation Committees (PAC)** - Discipline-specific; full autonomy to achieve the goals, Co-chaired by college and university faculty; Create options for students to better plan and prepare, Ensure accessibility for all qualified students, Ensure completion of lower-division general education
- **Transfer Degree Pathways** - Three new multi-campus transfer pathways. Faculty in PACs will create templates for three new transfer-assured pathways into parallel studies for the AA (Associate of Arts – Discipline Name), AS (Associate of Science – Discipline Name), AFA (Associate of Fine Arts – Discipline Name).
- **Feedback already received** - Suggestion for less specificity, particularly in the areas of the credit groupings of the first 60 credits, majors chosen, and comprehensiveness (some vs. all college/university involvement; some vs. all majors). Extending the time line for completion of all of the pathways, based on alignment with curriculum processes and workload issues. Inclusion of cost estimates, acknowledging that this plan will require significant resources and the need to identify where those resources will come from