

## Transfer Credit Awarded Pilot

**Vision:** To measure the effectiveness of Alberta's Transfer and Pathways System and address Alberta's transfer credit awarded provincial information data gap.

**Goal:** For ACAT, government, and Alberta LPS pilot institutions to work together to identify provincial definitions, data standards, and reporting for transfer credit awarded (TCA) data that will be tested in the pilot using institution data, with the pilot results informing institution recommendations and next steps for proposed future ongoing provincial TCA data collection in Alberta.

**Foundational Principles:** Identification of a transfer credit data source at Learner Pathways System (LPS) pilot institutions to support the pilot's foundational principles of:

- **Informing evidence-based decision making for the Alberta Transfer and Pathways System and ACAT**
- **Supporting institution knowledge regarding transfer students after they leave their institution**
- **Identifying transfer gaps and supporting student access to transfer decisions**

### Key Benefits:

- **Students:** Identification of transfer credit course and program gaps that exist in the system to support student access to transfer decisions/arrangements for student planning, mobility, and cost savings.
- **Institutions:** Provision of transfer credit reporting that identifies for institutions what happens to their students after they leave their institution, as well as aiding in the understanding of students' contexts and in program collaboration with other institutions.
- **System:** Use of transfer credit data to inform measurement of the effectiveness of Alberta's Transfer and Pathways System; evidence-based decisions for the Alberta Transfer and Pathways System; transfer credit patterns (including sending/"From" institution identification) and data analysis that can link transfer credit data to other existing data sources; and access to learner pathways and mobility information, tools, and stakeholder support provided by ACAT.

**Overarching Question:** What transfer credit is being awarded to students following admissions based on your institution's student data?

- **Pilot Questions (related to institutional processes):**
  - What **transfer credit is being awarded** to students and **what transfer credit information is being recorded** by your institution? **At what time** is transfer credit being awarded and recorded during admissions and graduation processes?
    - Which of these data and collection practices have the **greatest similarity** among pilot institutions to inform the **type and scope** of transfer credit awarded data fields collected in the pilot?



- What are the most feasible transfer credit **definitions** (e.g., transfer credit, transfer credit awarded) **for identified credentials** that can be used as a **common set** of definitions to inform transfer credit awarded **data standards** for pilot institutions?
- What **transfer credit reporting can best be provided to institutions** to identify what happens to their students after they leave their institution?
- What **transfer credit data would need to be collected to be usable in future analysis of transfer student success**?
- **Questions we want to be able to answer with the data as identified in the pilot:**
  - What **transfer credit gaps** exist in the system where there is high student mobility, but a limited number of transfer decisions/arrangements? What would **identified outcomes** be for the identified gaps?
  - What is the **total number of transfer credits being awarded by LPS institutions and for the Transfer and Pathways System in Alberta**?
  - What **transfer credit is being awarded** at the individual student record level for identified data fields at receiving (“to”) institutions?
  - What are the **cost savings for the Transfer and Pathways System in Alberta** that are supported by transfer credits being awarded to students by receiving (“to”) institutions?

#### Final Schedule – Work Plan for Pilot Institution Input and Meetings:

Date	Purpose
March 13, 2019	<b>ACAT Secretariat email date</b> to Pilot institutions re: revised schedule/tasks, pilot questions, foundational principles, and questions for response re: pilot scope
April 23, 2019	<b>Email response due date</b> for Pilot institutions re: feedback and confirmation of revised schedule/tasks, foundational principles, pilot questions, and key questions about pilot scope and available data
May 23, 2019	<b>Virtual meeting date</b> for Pilot institutions re: vetting summary of findings from April 23 responses and identifying needed definitions, data fields, and reporting
June 6, 2019	<b>ACAT Secretariat email date</b> to Pilot institutions re: copy of notes from May 23 meeting, including agreed upon summary from vetted April 23 responses (pilot questions, principles, scope) and summary of findings from institution input re: needed definitions, data fields, and reporting
June 27, 2019	<b>Virtual Meeting</b> for Pilot institutions re: confirmation of May 23 meeting findings and provision of relevant institution definitions and samples of data fields and standards, and identification of needed data collection processes



TRANSFER ALBERTA



Alberta



Date	Purpose
July 12, 2019	<b>ACAT Secretariat email date</b> to Pilot institutions re: summary of findings from June 27 institution responses (institution definitions, samples of data fields and standards, and needed data collection practices) and summary of potential commonality among the definitions, data fields/standards, and data collection/storage for institution review
July 16, 2019	<b>ACAT Secretariat initial communication/meeting date</b> with Strategic Research and Analysis, Information Management and Technology, and/or Information Security Office regarding proposed data collection and storage processes
July 31, 2019	<b>Email response date and/or email response due date</b> for Pilot institutions re: confirmation of common pilot definitions, data fields and standards, data collection processes, and planned reporting
August – Dec. 2019	<b>Planned Data Collection period</b> with ACAT Secretariat facilitated meetings with individual institutions and pilot group email status updates
October 24, 2019	<b>Virtual meeting date</b> for Pilot institutions re: data analysis and status update
December 12, 2019	<b>Email response due date</b> for Pilot institutions re: data analysis feedback and status update
Jan. – Feb. 2020	<b>ACAT Secretariat facilitated meetings/communication</b> with individual institutions re: reporting
March 4, 2020	<b>Virtual meeting date</b> for Pilot institutions re: draft data reporting review and sharing of institution recommendations
June 18, 2020	<b>Virtual meeting date and/or email response due date</b> for Pilot institutions re: review of final reporting and recommendations and pilot debrief
June 30, 2020	<b>Estimated end date for pilot, recognition and celebration of completion, and plan for continued communication regarding possible next steps for TCA ongoing data collection</b> (pending pilot results/recommendations and final approvals)



TRANSFER ALBERTA



## Appendix 1 – Transfer Credit Awarded Pilot Institutions

*(representative names and emails have been deleted for privacy reasons)*

<b>PSI</b>	<b>PSI Representative Role</b>
Athabasca University	Registrar
Concordia University of Edmonton	Registrar
The King's University	Associate Vice President Institutional Research
Lethbridge College	Associate Registrar
MacEwan University	Associate Registrar
Medicine Hat College	Registrar
NAIT	Assistant Registrar, Admissions & Records
NorQuest College	Associate Registrar, Admissions and Information
Olds College	Manager, Accountability and Reporting
Old Sun Community College	Registrar
University of Alberta	Manager, Applicant Services, Registrar's Office
University of Calgary	Registrar
University nuhelot'j'ne thaiyots'j nistameyimâkanak Blue Quills	Language Team Lead



TRANSFER ALBERTA



DRAFT



TRANSFER ALBERTA

