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Student Transfer and the *ACS Guidelines for Chemistry in Two-year College Programs*

Mark Michalovic

**SOCED Task Force on *ACS Guidelines for
Chemistry in Two-Year College Programs* (2015)**


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Why worry about transfer?

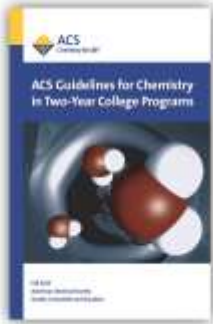
- About $\frac{1}{3}$ of two-year college students transfer
 - About 60% two-year college transfer students go to four-year institutions
- 40% recipients of bachelor's or master's degrees in science have attended a two-year college
- Over 40% of all college minority students enrolled in two-year colleges

According to a recent survey (if anyone asks, it's "Transfer & Mobility: a National View of Pre-Degree Student Movement in Postsecondary Institutions," by the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center), in 2008, about a third of all students transferred before receiving their associate or bachelor's degree. Of these students, about 43% transferred to a two-year college. Between 40% and 53% of students (depending on whether the institution was public, private non-for-profit, or private for-profit) who transferred from some type of four-year institution moved to a two-year college. Between 37% and 50% of transferring two-year college students moved to another two-year college.

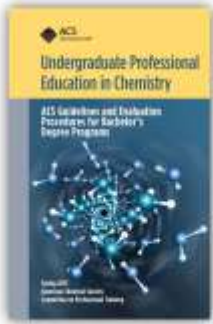
According to the statistics reported by the National Science Foundation, approximately 40% of graduates receiving a bachelor's or master's degree in a science field have taken at least one class at a two-year college. This percentage has remained fairly steady from 2000 through 2007. However, the recent recession has increased focus on (and increased enrollments at) two-year colleges.



What does ACS say?



- Collaborate
- Prepare
- Support



- Recognize
- Support
- Engage

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The policies and recommendations put forth in both the ACS Guidelines for Chemistry in Two-Year College Programs and the ACS Guidelines and Evaluation Procedures for Bachelor's Degree Programs are aligned. This is a deliberate move to support articulation.

Section 4.7 of the two-year guidelines describes 3 main responsibilities of colleges:

- 1) Collaborate with faculty and administrations at transfer institutions (both two- and four-year) to ensure programs are aligned and articulate. Support activities for transfer students should also be aligned.
- 2) While at the two-year college, students should be counseled to take appropriate courses for transfer.
- 3) The two-year college should provide activities to support transfer students, such as workshops, bridge classes, peer mentoring, retreats, campus tours, student clubs, etc.

Section 4.6 of the four-year guidelines describes the responsibility of the four-year institution to transfer students

- 1) Be aware of the transfer students in the program, "including those who start their course work at community colleges." [BJA note: there are some

programs that claim ACS approval precludes them from accepting two-year college credits. This is completely untrue. Contact the Committee on Professional Training, which provides ACS approval to baccalaureate programs at cpt@acs.org.]

- 2) Support transfer students with appropriate counselors and activities.
- 3) Engage transfer students to ensure a smooth integration.

Transfer Issues

- Will my credits transfer?
- Academic preparedness
- Psychological adjustment

Credit Transfer

- Program articulation
- Communication with transfer schools
- Non-chemistry majors
- Knowledgeable counselors
- Hands-on lab experience

Academic Preparedness

- Communication with
 - On-campus advisors
 - Transfer schools
 - Four-year schools
- Students should complete course sequence

Psychological Adjustment

- First time away from home (maybe)
- Not as much attention from faculty
- New social environment

Your Concerns

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