Associate Degree for Transfer (AA-T/AS-T): Guaranteed Transfer to the CSU System

The AA-T or AS-T Degree for Transfer is a new kind of degree which is similar but separate from the traditional degrees we’ve offered. Earning the AA-T or AS-T provides a number of great benefits for students planning to transfer to the Cal State University (CSU) system, including:

- **Guarantees admission into the CSU system (no guarantee to a specific campus)**
- **Grants priority consideration when applying to impacted majors and/or campuses**
- **Lets the student use the same GE and Major Prep courses for transfer to any CSU campus**
- **Guarantees a 60(SCC) + 60(CSU) unit pathway to CSU graduation**

AA-T or AS-T degrees are currently available in the following majors at SCC:

- Anthropology
- Business Administration
- Communication Studies
- Elementary Teacher Education
- English
- Geology
- Geography
- History
- Kinesiology
- Mathematics
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Studio Arts

*More degrees are in development; check with your counselor for details*

So, is there a catch? Not exactly, but there are some requirements:

To get the full benefit, students must apply to a CSU in a major that is deemed similar to the major at SCC. In a few cases – notably at Cal State Fullerton in Communications Studies – some degrees aren’t as similar as you'd think. Students must also indicate on their CSU application that they will complete the AA-T or AS-T, then must petition early to graduate from SCC, and must send the CSU confirmation from SCC indicating that they will be completing this special degree. *(See FAQs on the reverse side of this sheet)*

*To learn more about the Associate Degree for Transfer and find out if it’s right for you, meet with an SCC counselor or visit the Transfer Center today.*
AA-T/AS-T Degree Frequently Asked Questions:

**What’s the difference between the traditional AA/AS degrees and the new AA-T/AS-T?**
The new degrees have been created in partnership between the community colleges and CSUs to try to make the transfer process as efficient as possible. In some cases the required courses are very similar, but in others there are numerous differences.

**Does the AA-T/AS-T guarantee me admission to CSU?**
No, the AA-T/AS-T degree will guarantee your admission somewhere in the CSU system, but it does not guarantee admission to a specific campus.

**If I have a low GPA, will earning the AA-T/AS-T help me get in to a CSU?**
Completing the degree can’t overcome a poor academic record, so you should still earn the best grades possible, especially if you’re interested in a highly competitive major and/or campus. But the AA-T/AS-T degree will give you a slight boost in consideration at many campuses.

**If I am admitted with an AA-T/AS-T, can I change my major once I get to the CSU?**
Some schools or programs have restrictions on major changes, so don’t count on it. If you are allowed to change, doing so would forfeit the 60 + 60 unit graduation guarantee.

**I’m transferring to CSU but there’s no AA-T/AS-T in my major (or I don’t meet the requirements); should I still get a traditional AA/AS degree?**
Of course! There are plenty of reasons to get a degree, especially if it’s right there for the asking. And in most cases, students who meet the basic requirements for CSU admission will also meet the requirements for an SCC degree. See a counselor to explore your options.

**How do I know if my major at SCC is deemed similar to my desired major at the CSU?**
Check with your counselor, the Transfer Center, or refer to the “Similar Degrees at CSU” link on our Associate Degrees for Transfer web site.
(http://www.sccollege.edu/Departments/Counseling/TransferDegrees/Pages/default.aspx).

**SCC doesn’t have the AA-T or AS-T I want; can I go to another school to complete the degree?**
Yes, but consult with a counselor as soon as possible – preferably before making the move. Each school has different requirements for granting degrees, including minimum numbers of units that must be earned at that school.

**Can I earn an AA-T/AS-T plus the regular AA/AS degree?**
Yes, if you meet the requirements for both, you may petition for both types of degree, even in the same subject (ex: AA-T plus AA in Psychology)

**How do I petition for a degree?**
Degree petitions are simple, one-page forms, available in Counseling, Admissions & Records, or on the Admissions & Records web site (www.sccollege.edu/Admissions). If you need help with the form, ask the staff in either of those departments or in the Transfer Center.