Protocol for transfer between community colleges of courses within the TAP Framework

Each community college certifies courses for TAP Framework competencies. Many courses that are common to the community colleges are certified for the same Framework competency and transfer easily from one college to another. For example, Sociology 101, Principles of Sociology, in most cases, fulfills the Social Phenomena competency.

This protocol addresses those instances when such straightforward equivalency is not the case, such as when a course that has been certified at one community college is not certified at another or, in some cases, has no equivalent course, when a course has been designated at the sending community college for a different competency than at the receiving community college, or when a course meets a competency that is not shared between community colleges (section B competencies).

- When a course has no equivalent at the receiving institution, it will fulfill the competency for which it was certified at the sending institution.
- When the competency a course meets differs between colleges, the course will transfer to the receiving college in a way that does not require the student to complete extra credits to meet all Framework competencies.
- When a competency is not shared between colleges, the course will be used to substitute for a section B competency at the receiving institution in a way that does not require the student to complete extra credits to meet all Framework competencies.
- A completed Framework at a sending institution will fulfill all the Framework requirements at a receiving institution.

All courses transferred within the Framework need to have met a Framework competency at either the campus that granted the credits or at the campus that received the credits. Extra courses completed in a competency cannot be redistributed to another competency outside of the parameters detailed above. In most cases, the requirements at the community college at which the student is granted the associates degree will determine how transfer courses will be counted.

Definition of “Unrestricted or Open Electives” for TAP

All courses that are awarded college-level credit at the community colleges on the completion of a TAP pathway degree will be accepted at the CSUs and CO as meeting open or unrestricted electives.