

HB 1242 -- Community College Transfer Credit

Sponsor: Fares

This bill requires the Coordinating Board for Higher Education to ensure, consistent with the transfer and articulation policy promulgated by the committee on transfer and articulation, that academic course work taken by a student for an associate of arts degree at any public two- or four-year institution be of equivalent academic quality and will transfer, under stated conditions, to and apply for like requirements at a public four-year institution. Holders of associate of arts degrees will be accepted by public four-year institutions as third-year students; and transfer students will be able to complete a bachelor's degree with the same number of total hours as a native student, except for lower-level prerequisites for specific programs that were not met. Credits beyond what is required for an associate of arts degree earned by holders of the degree will count for transfer at a public four-year institution if they are similar to those courses listed in the four-year institution's catalog for the bachelor's degree or particular program. By the fall semester of 2008, institutions must make available for public view their course and program equivalencies. If compliance is not achieved by fall 2008, the board will institute a common course numbering system by the fall of 2010. The bill also requires that private institutions that receive state funds participate in the transfer and articulation system or face loss of eligibility for state funds.