



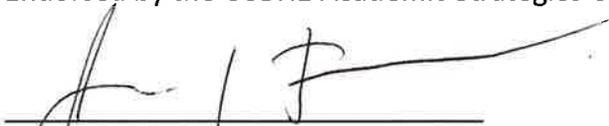
BACKGROUND

Today's students move frequently between 2- and 4-year postsecondary institutions in pursuit of education, training and a degree. Some students transfer into 4-year universities before they complete an associate's degree at a community college, with a percentage of this group gaining a bachelor's degree eventually through a combination of credits from both institutions. A new pilot program between Oregon's public community colleges and universities will begin to offer students the option of obtaining an associate's degree through "Reverse Transfer." Reverse transfer is based on earned credits that count toward an associate's degree after a student has transferred to a 4-year school and has accumulated the credits needed to fulfill the 2-year degree program requirements. It provides students with an earned degree and credits at community colleges for degrees granted.

ENDORSEMENT

The Oregon State Board of Higher Education (OSBHE) actively endorses the concept of "reverse transfer" as a means for community college transfer students enrolled in Oregon University System (OUS) institutions to transfer OUS credits toward earning their associates degrees from a community college. It is anticipated that reverse transfer agreements will make a significant contribution to the State of Oregon's educational attainment goal of 40-40-20 (100% high graduation or equivalent, 40% bachelor's degree attainment or higher, and 40% associates degree or certificate attainment, by the year 2025). We endorse this concept and encourage our university presidents to enter into memoranda of understanding with their major feeder community colleges that clearly spell out mutual roles and obligations.

Endorsed by the OSBHE Academic Strategies Committee this 7th day of June, 2012:



James L. Francesconi, OSBHE Director
Chair, Academic Strategies Committee



Dr. Sona Andrews, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Strategies
Oregon University System and Staff to ASC