

To: CIAC and CACCRAO

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Re: Communicating IGETC Certification

Date: June 24, 2008

Effective immediately the California State University system and the University of California will implement the new IGETC Standards. Please note that the revised Standards contain significant changes to the original IGETC process established in the early 1990s. The intent of the revisions is to better serve students who choose to use IGETC for the completion of their general education requirements.

The UC system adopted the IGETC Standards in early 2008, and the CSU followed in mid-June. In the intervening months the following questions have been raised about how community colleges and four-year institutions should communicate certification to each other. The information below responds to these questions.

Certification Format

The IGETC Standards include a template for sending institutions to use in certifying transfer student completion of the IGETC pattern. Sending institutions are not obliged to use this form, but should make sure any form created in-house includes all the listed information. Simply indicating "Full IGETC Completed" on a regular transcript is not sufficient; receiving institutions want to see in detail how the pattern requirements were satisfied.

Students Failing To File

Students who complete IGETC before transfer but fail to request certification will be directed back to the sending institution to obtain a completed form. Sending institutions will respond as quickly as possible but may not be able to accommodate these requests immediately, such as during peak workload periods. Students should be advised to allow sufficient time for processing.

Partial Certification

Students who transfer having already completed all but one or two courses on the IGETC pattern are now able to complete IGETC at the receiving campus, rather than starting over with the local GE pattern. Students can present a partial or full certification at any time during their matriculation at the 4-year campus, not just in the first term, and are no longer obligated to show good cause. Students who are granted partial certification no longer face a time limit for completion of the missing requirements.

The complete IGETC Standards are available at www.cacctcw.com in the IGETC section. These and any future clarifications will be posted there as well.