



Resolution on Rowan Core for Transfer Students



(Based on the plan developed by Linda Drexel, Registrar)

Resolution

Starting in Fall 2021, all incoming transfer students will follow the Rowan Core requirements. Moreover, if existing students who are currently following the previous Gen Ed requirements switch their majors, they will also switch to the Rowan Core requirements.

Background

When Rowan Core was implemented in Fall 2018, the new requirements applied only to incoming, native Rowan students. This was done to give us time to coordinate the transition to Rowan Core with our partner colleges. Fall 2022 was originally chosen as the date when incoming transfer students would begin following the Rowan Core requirements. This resolution moves up the date by one year.

Rationale

It is difficult for departments and administrators to maintain both the previous Gen Ed programs and the new Rowan Core programs. It is also confusing for students and advisors to have both programs active. Rowan has worked with our partner colleges to prepare them for the transition. We have developed a process for establishing Rowan Core transfer credits, based on a review by the Learning Assessment & Rowan Core Committee. (See the [Rowan Core Transfer Credit Policy](#), approved by the Senate April 24, 2020.) We have already worked through a backlog of the most urgent transfer equivalences, and the Registrar's transfer credit team is proactively identifying other transfer courses and exams for review by the LARC Committee. We are thus ready to have incoming transfer students on Rowan Core starting Fall 2021.

The impact of the switch to Rowan Core on transfer students was vetted with University Advising Services and studied in detail by the Colleges of Business and Engineering. They concluded that students would generally not be harmed by the change—and many would benefit. In specific cases where a transfer student is harmed by the switch to Rowan Core, this harm can be addressed in two ways. First, in some cases we may be able to identify a previously taken course as satisfying a Rowan Core requirement, based on the Transfer Credit policy noted above. Second, departments retain their existing power to waive program requirements for students on a case-by-case basis.

The second part of the resolution—having existing students who switch majors follow the new Rowan Core requirements—allows departments to stop maintaining the non-Rowan Core version of their programs. (Existing students who do not change majors will remain on the program guide from their start year.) This means that departments will need to include only the Rowan Core version of a program guide in any curriculum proposals with an implementation date of Fall 2021 or later.