



Universal Transfer Explorer Project Update: Spring 2025

Universal Transfer Explorer is a tool that helps students explore how their credit counts across participating colleges and universities. Students can use this tool to make more informed course and transfer destination choices. It is a true community resource, open to any user – beyond students – including advisors in K-12 and higher education, admissions officers, registrars and faculty. It provides easily accessible, accurate information about course equivalencies and course progressing regarding major requirements.

As of Spring 2025, four Washington schools are engaged in efforts to validate institutionally specific data, test the tool with students and staff, and create plans for implementation. These include Washington State University – Everett (with the ability to expand across the entire WSU system), Shoreline Community College, Columbia Basin College and Clark College.

How does it work?

- Transfer Explorer is a website. It contains automated data feeds with course, program and credit transfer information from a growing network of member schools. Automation ensures data remains up-to-date and mirrors each school's information system.
- Transfer Explorer displays any equivalency information stored in member institution's student information systems and course catalog. This may include dual credit, exams, military, workforce and noncredit.
- The website is mobile-first (made for use on a smart phone), designed for today's students. It is open to any user, and does not require a log in. Users can save their explorations within the interface and share their explorations with anyone including their peers, advisors, and support systems.

Transfer Explorer supports students by:

- Providing easily accessible data *before* the point of transfer by exploring how coursework/credits earned at one college can count at a new college, including if the credits impact progress toward specific majors.
- Comparing how these credits transfer to multiple colleges or programs without having to visit multiple websites; students can save and share explorations in one place.
- Using transfer course information to chart a path to a degree at new college, including assisting with course selection for high school and college students.
- Increasing student agency to ask questions to admissions counselors and academic advisors to advocate for improved transfer course equivalencies.

Transfer Explorer supports institutions by:

- Improving the transparency of credit transfer rules to students. This also supports admission and advising teams with access to a single authoritative platform to support students who are exploring how credits transfer and the subsequent application to degree programs.
- Providing an incentive for internal data consistency to make the information easily explorable while also reducing turn around time to complete evaluation requests.
- Better understanding their transfer data through integrated analytics dashboards.
- Deepening partnerships with schools in the region.
- Improving exit-advising for students transferring to other colleges.

Universal Transfer Explorer is a key strategy within a [nationwide credit mobility](#) initiative led by not-for-profit Ithaka S+R. In addition to Washington's participation in the Transfer Explorer Tool, Washington is also represented in Ithaka S+R's [National Holistic Credit Mobility Acceleration Cohort](#) by Eastern Washington University.

Additional schools interested in joining the Universal Transfer Explorer are welcome to express interest to WSAC as opportunities exist for expanded participation. Please direct questions to Abby Chien, Associate Director, Strategy and Partnerships at abbyc@wsac.wa.gov.