

University Senate
EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY SENATE BILL COVER SHEET

SB: 17/18-4: An Amendment of SB 10/11-8 that Waives Tier I LAC Requirements for Transfer Students with 60 or More Credits to Include Readmitted Students with 60 or More Earned Credits

Sponsoring Parties Liberal Arts Program Committee

Submitted By Joseph Dracobly and David Vrooman, Co-Chairs Liberal Arts Program Committee

Semester in which proposed changes would become effective: Fall 2017

Text of Bill: See Attached

Introduced in Senate on October 17, 2017

Returned to Committee on _____ Resubmitted to Senate on _____

Amended by Senate on _____ Tabled by Senate on _____

Approved By Senate on _____ Disapproved by Senate on _____

Sent to University President on _____ University President Deadline _____

Presidential action reported to Senate on _____.

Referred to _____ for implementation on _____.

Official Signatures

_____ On _____

Maryanne Clifford
University Senate President

_____ Reasons for Disapproval (below)

Elsa Nunez
University President

Approved On _____
Date

Disapproved _____
Date

AN AMENDMENT OF SB 10/11-8 THAT WAIVES TIER I LAC REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS WITH 60 OR MORE CREDITS TO INCLUDE READMITTED STUDENTS WITH 60 OR MORE EARNED CREDITS

Purpose:

This bill contains a revised policy for all students who matriculate at Eastern with 60 or more earned credits with regard to LAC Tier I requirements.

Rationale:

Under the existing policy, transfer students are exempted from various LAC Tier I requirements based upon earned credits. The existing policy does not, however, grant the same exemptions to readmitted students who may have stopped out or were dismissed before completing the Tier I requirements and who have subsequently earned 60 or more credits prior to their readmission. These readmitted students are required to complete coursework that transfer students with a similar number of earned credits are exempt from which impedes their timely graduation.

The Liberal Arts Program Committee recommends the following amendment to Senate Bill 10/11-8 be in effect for Spring 2018.

Proposed Catalog Language (additions in bold):

*Policies Related to Transfer **and Readmitted** Students*

All transfer **and readmitted students** must meet the minimum mathematics and college writing requirements established by the university.

Students who matriculate at a Connecticut Community College through the Transfer Compact initiative as of the spring 2008 semester will follow the Liberal Arts Core Curriculum upon enrolling/transferring to Eastern.

Students who transfer with **15 or more credits or are readmitted to Eastern having previously earned 15 or more qualifying credits** will be exempt from completing the First Year Seminar.

Students who transfer to Eastern before fall 2010 with 60 or more credits and whose progress toward graduation at Eastern will be significantly facilitated by completing the GER may appeal their placement in the LAC.

Students who transfer 60 or more credits **or are readmitted to Eastern having previously earned 60 or more qualifying credits** will be exempt from completing the Tier I Health and Wellness category of the Liberal Arts Curriculum.

Furthermore, transfer students from one or more accredited institutions who enter with 60 or more credits, **or readmitted students who have previously earned 60 or more qualifying credits**, shall be considered to have met the rest of Eastern's Liberal Arts Program Tier I, including Natural Science with a lab providing that they **have earned** a minimum of 27 credits in liberal arts disciplines: humanities, social sciences and natural sciences.

All students, regardless of the courses transferred to Eastern, must complete at least two LAC Tier II courses and the Tier III Liberal Arts Independent Inquiry. The Tier II courses must be in separate categories.

Qualifying credits are credits that would transfer into Eastern if taken elsewhere; that is, credits with a C- or higher.

Eastern's Readmission Policy & Fresh Start Policy

Applying for Readmission

Matriculated students who wish to return to the University after voluntarily withdrawing or being separated from the University for academic or disciplinary reasons must apply for readmission. Students granted readmission are subject to the catalog and graduation requirements in place at the time of readmission.

Readmission does not guarantee on-campus housing or financial aid. Readmitted students requesting on campus housing and/or financial aid must contact the appropriate office for assistance. Readmitted students will be contacted by Eastern's Advising Center to register for courses.

How are decisions on readmission made?

The Office of Admissions' decision is based primarily on the student's record while enrolled at Eastern. In most cases, students in good academic standing (Eastern GPA of 2.0 or higher) with no outstanding financial or administrative obligations to the University are granted readmission.

In general, students requesting readmission who are not in good academic standing (Eastern GPA less than 2.0) are referred to Eastern's Office of Continuing Studies & Enhanced Learning to complete course work in non-matriculated status to improve the Eastern cumulative grade point average to good standing. Once the Eastern GPA is in good academic standing, readmission can be granted.

Fresh Start Policy:

The Fresh Start readmission option is designed for students who have attempted fewer than 60 credits during their *initial matriculation* at Eastern, had a cumulative GPA below 2.0 during that period, and have not been *matriculated* at Eastern for at least 3 academic years. Prior to admission under this program, the student will need to demonstrate evidence of academic or professional achievement since leaving Eastern. Upon readmission, the following guidelines will apply:

- The decision to readmit a student under this policy will be made by the Admissions Office.
- The student's previous academic record, *while matriculated at Eastern*, will be treated like that of a transfer student.
- Graduation requirements will be determined by the catalog at the time of re-entry.
- A minimum of 30 credits will be required in residence at Eastern after readmission, regardless of previous total credits completed at Eastern and/or elsewhere.
- *Courses taken at Eastern while not matriculated will not be impacted by the Fresh Start.*
- This option can only be used once.

Will credits earned at other colleges apply to my Eastern degree upon my return?

Students who have completed course work at another accredited institution are required to submit an official transcript to the Office of Admissions for transfer credit evaluation. Eastern's transfer credit policies apply. While credit for courses taken at other accredited institutions may be awarded in transfer, the grades earned at the prior institution do not transfer to Eastern, and therefore do not impact the student's Eastern GPA. Moreover, grades earned in courses taken at other colleges have no bearing on the decision for readmission to Eastern.

Comparisons between Eastern students who withdrew with less than 60 credits and readmitted with a combined 60 or more earned credits, and transfer students with 60 or more earned credits, 27 of which are liberal arts:

CATEGORY 1: Non-Fresh Start Readmitted Students (data of students readmitted between 2015-2017)

- Instead of focusing on completing their Tier II, upper-level, and major classes, students will need to complete remaining Tier I requirements regardless if they have 27 credits of liberal arts when readmitting.
- Only their accepted transfer credits will not count towards their GPA—grades that they earned prior to withdrawing will remain part of their academic record.

Average number of credits at time of withdrawal	Average GPA at time of withdrawal	Average number of credits transferred in	Average number of combined credits once readmitted
41	2.63	35	76

CATEGORY 2: Fresh Start Readmitted Students

- Students must have less than a 2.0 GPA and less than 60 credits to qualify for this opportunity.
- Students will need to complete remaining Tier I requirements regardless if they have 27 credits of liberal arts when readmitting.
- Students' previous academic records are treated like that of transfer students—only Eastern credit they earned subsequent to being readmitted will be factored into their GPAs.

CATEGORY 3: Transfer Students

- Students can focus on taking their Tier II, upper-level, and major classes if they transfer in with 27 credits of liberal arts.
- If they transfer in with Associates, the courses for which they may have received passing grades of less than a 2.0 (including liberal arts courses) will still count towards their Eastern degree but not affect their GPAs (unlike for non-Fresh Start readmitted students).