POLICIES

UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND POLICY ON STUDENT CLASSIFICATION FOR ADMISSION AND TUITION PURPOSES
The policy on student classification for admission and tuition purposes is approved by the University System of Maryland Board of Regents. The current policy can be found at www.usmd.edu/regents/bylaws/SectionVIII/VIII270.html.

MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION GENERAL EDUCATION AND TRANSFER POLICIES
These policies apply only to public institutions of higher education and can be found online at www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/SearchTitle.aspx?scope=13B by entering the numbers listed below at the beginning of each section (e.g., 13B.06.01.02).

13B.06.01.02 .02 Definitions.
A. In this chapter, the following terms have the meanings indicated.

B. Terms defined.
   (1) “A.A. degree” means the Associate of Arts degree.

   (2) “A.A.S. degree” means the Associate of Applied Sciences degree.

   (3) “Arts” means courses that examine aesthetics and the development of the aesthetic form and explore the relationship between theory and practice. Courses in this area may include fine arts, performing and studio arts, appreciation of the arts, and history of the arts.

   (4) “A.S. degree” means the Associate of Sciences degree.

   (5) “Biological and physical sciences” means courses that examine living systems and the physical universe. They introduce students to the variety of methods used to collect, interpret, and apply scientific data, and to an understanding of the relationship between scientific theory and application.

   (6) “English composition courses” means courses that provide students with communication knowledge and skills appropriate to various writing situations, including intellectual inquiry and academic research.

   (7) “General education” means the foundation of the higher education curriculum providing a coherent intellectual experience for all students.

   (8) “General education program” means a program that is designed to:
(a) Introduce undergraduates to the fundamental knowledge, skills, and values that are essential to the study of academic disciplines;

(b) Encourage the pursuit of life-long learning; and

(c) Foster the development of educated members of the community and the world.

(9) “Humanities” means courses that examine the values and cultural heritage that establish the framework for inquiry into the meaning of life. Courses in the humanities may include the language, history, literature, and philosophy of Western and other cultures.

(10) “Mathematics” means courses that provide students with numerical, analytical, statistical, and problem-solving skills.

(11) “Native student” means a student whose initial college enrollment was at a given institution of higher education and who has not transferred to another institution of higher education since that initial enrollment.

(12) “Parallel program” means the program of study or courses at one institution of higher education which has comparable objectives as those at another higher education institution, for example, a transfer program in psychology in a community college is definable as a parallel program to a baccalaureate psychology program at a 4-year institution of higher education.

(13) “Receiving institution” means the institution of higher education at which a transfer student currently desires to enroll.

(14) “Recommended transfer program” means a planned program of courses, both general education and courses in the major, taken at a community college, which is applicable to a baccalaureate program at a receiving institution, and ordinarily the first 2 years of the baccalaureate degree.

(15) “Sending institution” means the institution of higher education of most recent previous enrollment by a transfer student at which transferable academic credit was earned.

(16) “Social and behavioral sciences” means courses that examine the psychology of individuals and the ways in which individuals, groups, or segments of society behave, function, and influence one another. The courses include, but are not limited to, subjects which focus on:

(a) History and cultural diversity;

(b) Concepts of groups, work, and political systems;

(c) Applications of qualitative and quantitative data to social issues; and

(d) Interdependence of individuals, society, and the physical environment.
(17) “Transfer student” means a student entering an institution for the first time having successfully completed a minimum of 12 semester hours at another institution which is applicable for credit at the institution the student is entering.

13B.06.01.02-1
.02-1 Admission of Transfer Students to Public Institutions.

A. Admission to Institutions.

(1) A student attending a public institution who has completed an A.A., A.A.S., or A.S. degree or who has completed 56 or more semester hours of credit, may not be denied direct transfer to another public institution if the student attained a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent in parallel courses, except as provided in §A(4) of this regulation.

(2) A student attending a public institution who has not completed an A.A., A.A.S., or A.S. degree or who has completed fewer than 56 semester hours of credit, is eligible to transfer to a public institution regardless of the number of credit hours earned if the student:

(a) Satisfied the admission criteria of the receiving public institution as a high school senior; and

(b) Attained at least a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent in parallel courses.

(3) A student attending a public institution who did not satisfy the admission criteria of a receiving public institution as a high school senior, but who has earned sufficient credits at a public institution to be classified by the receiving public institution as a sophomore, shall meet the stated admission criteria developed and published by the receiving public institution for transfer.

(4) If the number of students seeking admission exceeds the number that can be accommodated at a receiving public institution, admission decisions shall be:

(a) Based on criteria developed and published by the receiving public institution; and

(b) Made to provide fair and equal treatment for native and transfer students.

B. Admission to Programs.

(1) A receiving public institution may require higher performance standards for admission to some programs if the standards and criteria for admission to the program:

(a) Are developed and published by the receiving public institution; and

(b) Maintain fair and equal treatment for native and transfer students.
(2) If the number of students seeking admission exceeds the number that can be accommodated in a particular professional or specialized program, admission decisions shall be:

   (a) Based on criteria developed and published by the receiving public institution; and

   (b) Made to provide fair and equal treatment for native and transfer students.

(3) Courses taken at a public institution as part of a recommended transfer program leading toward a baccalaureate degree shall be applicable to related programs at a receiving public institution granting the baccalaureate degree.

C. Receiving Institution Program Responsibility.

   (1) The faculty of a receiving public institution is responsible for development and determination of the program requirements in major fields of study for a baccalaureate degree, including courses in the major field of study taken in the lower division.

   (2) A receiving public institution may set program requirements in major fields of study which simultaneously fulfill general education requirements.

   (3) A receiving public institution, in developing lower division course work, shall exchange information with other public institutions to facilitate the transfer of credits into its programs.

13B.06.01.03
.03 General Education Requirements for Public Institutions.

A. While public institutions have the autonomy to design their general education program to meet their unique needs and mission, that program shall conform to the definitions and common standards in this chapter. A public institution shall satisfy the general education requirement by:

   (1) Requiring each program leading to the A.A. or A.S. degree to include not less than 30 and not more than 36 semester hours, and each baccalaureate degree program to include not less than 40 and not more than 46 semester hours of required core courses, with the core requiring, at a minimum, course work in each of the following five areas:

      (a) Arts and humanities,

      (b) Social and behavioral sciences,

      (c) Biological and physical sciences,

      (d) Mathematics, and

      (e) English composition; or

   (2) Conforming with COMAR 13B.02.02.16D(2)(b)----(c).
B. Each core course used to satisfy the distribution requirements of §A(1) of this regulation shall carry at least 3 semester hours.

C. General education programs of public institutions shall require at least:
   (1) One course in each of two disciplines in arts and humanities;
   (2) One course in each of two disciplines in social and behavioral sciences;
   (3) Two science courses, at least one of which shall be a laboratory course;
   (4) One course in mathematics at or above the level of college algebra; and
   (5) One course in English composition.

D. Interdisciplinary and Emerging Issues.
   (1) In addition to the five required areas in §A of this regulation, a public institution may include up to 8 semester hours in a sixth category that addresses emerging issues that institutions have identified as essential to a full program of general education for their students. These courses may:
      (a) Be integrated into other general education courses or may be presented as separate courses; and
      (b) Include courses that:
         (i) Provide an interdisciplinary examination of issues across the five areas, or
         (ii) Address other categories of knowledge, skills, and values that lie outside of the five areas.
   (2) Public institutions may not include the courses in this section in a general education program unless they provide academic content and rigor equivalent to the areas in §A(1) of this regulation.

E. General education programs leading to the A.A.S. degree shall include at least 20 semester hours from the same course list designated by the sending institution for the A.A. and A.S. degrees. The A.A.S. degree shall include at least one 3-semester-hour course from each of the five areas listed in §A(1) of this regulation.

F. A course in a discipline listed in more than one of the areas of general education may be applied only to one area of general education.

G. A public institution may allow a speech communication or foreign language course to be part of the arts and humanities category.
H. Composition and literature courses may be placed in the arts and humanities area if literature is included as part of the content of the course.

I. Public institutions may not include physical education skills courses as part of the general education requirements.

J. General education courses shall reflect current scholarship in the discipline and provide reference to theoretical frameworks and methods of inquiry appropriate to academic disciplines.

K. Courses that are theoretical may include applications, but all applications courses shall include theoretical components if they are to be included as meeting general education requirements.

L. Public institutions may incorporate knowledge and skills involving the use of quantitative data, effective writing, information retrieval, and information literacy when possible in the general education program.

M. Notwithstanding §A(1) of this regulation, a public 4-year institution may require 48 semester hours of required core courses if courses upon which the institution’s curriculum is based carry 4 semester hours.

N. Public institutions shall develop systems to ensure that courses approved for inclusion on the list of general education courses are designed and assessed to comply with the requirements of this chapter.

13B.06.01.04
.04 Transfer of General Education Credit.
A. A student transferring to one public institution from another public institution shall receive general education credit for work completed at the student’s sending institution as provided by this chapter.

B. A completed general education program shall transfer without further review or approval by the receiving institution and without the need for a course-by-course match.

C. Courses that are defined as general education by one institution shall transfer as general education even if the receiving institution does not have that specific course or has not designated that course as general education.

D. The receiving institution shall give lower-division general education credits to a transferring student who has taken any part of the lower-division general education credits described in Regulation .03 of this chapter at a public institution for any general education courses successfully completed at the sending institution.
E. Except as provided in Regulation .03M of this chapter, a receiving institution may not require a transfer student who has completed the requisite number of general education credits at any public college or university to take, as a condition of graduation, more than 10-16 additional semester hours of general education and specific courses required of all students at the receiving institution, with the total number not to exceed 46 semester hours. This provision does not relieve students of the obligation to complete specific academic program requirements or course prerequisites required by a receiving institution.

F. A sending institution shall designate on or with the student transcript those courses that have met its general education requirements, as well as indicate whether the student has completed the general education program.

G. A.A.S. Degrees.
(1) While there may be variance in the numbers of hours of general education required for A.A., A.S., and A.A.S. degrees at a given institution, the courses identified as meeting general education requirements for all degrees shall come from the same general education course list and exclude technical or career courses.

(2) An A.A.S. student who transfers into a receiving institution with fewer than the total number of general education credits designated by the receiving institution shall complete the difference in credits according to the distribution as designated by the receiving institution. Except as provided in Regulation .03M of this chapter, the total general education credits for baccalaureate degree-granting public receiving institutions may not exceed 46 semester hours.

H. Student Responsibilities. A student is held:
(1) Accountable for the loss of credits that:
   (a) Result from changes in the student’s selection of the major program of study,
   (b) Were earned for remedial course work, or
   (c) Exceed the total course credits accepted in transfer as allowed by this chapter; and

(2) Responsible for meeting all requirements of the academic program of the receiving institution.

13B.06.01.06
.06 Academic Success and General Well-Being of Transfer Students.
A. Sending Institutions.
(1) Community colleges shall encourage their students to complete the associate degree or to complete 56 hours in a recommended transfer program which includes both general education courses and courses applicable toward the program at the receiving institution.
(2) Community college students are encouraged to choose as early as possible the institution and program into which they expect to transfer.

(3) The sending institution shall:

   (a) Provide to community college students information about the specific transferability of courses at 4-year colleges;

   (b) Transmit information about transfer students who are capable of honors work or independent study to the receiving institution; and

   (c) Promptly supply the receiving institution with all the required documents if the student has met all financial and other obligations of the sending institution for transfer.

B. Receiving Institutions.

(1) Admission requirements and curriculum prerequisites shall be stated explicitly in institutional publications.

(2) A receiving institution shall admit transfer students from newly established public colleges that are functioning with the approval of the Maryland Higher Education Commission on the same basis as applicants from regionally accredited colleges.

(3) A receiving institution shall evaluate the transcript of a degree-seeking transfer student as expeditiously as possible, and notify the student of the results not later than mid-semester of the student’s first semester of enrollment at the receiving institution, if all official transcripts have been received at least 15 working days before mid-semester. The receiving institution shall inform a student of the courses which are acceptable for transfer credit and the courses which are applicable to the student’s intended program of study.

(4) A receiving institution shall give a transfer student the option of satisfying institutional graduation requirements that were in effect at the receiving institution at the time the student enrolled as a freshman at the sending institution. In the case of major requirements, a transfer student may satisfy the major requirements in effect at the time when the student was identifiable as pursuing the recommended transfer program at the sending institution. These conditions are applicable to a student who has been continuously enrolled at the sending institution.

13B.06.01.08
.08 Transfer Mediation Committee.
A. There is a Transfer Mediation Committee, appointed by the Secretary, which is representative of the public 4-year colleges and universities and the community colleges.
B. Sending and receiving institutions that disagree on the transferability of general education courses as defined by this chapter shall submit their disagreements to the Transfer Mediation Committee. The Transfer Mediation Committee shall address general questions regarding existing or past courses only, not individual student cases, and shall also address questions raised by institutions about the acceptability of new general education courses. As appropriate, the Committee shall consult with faculty on curricular issues.

C. The findings of the Transfer Mediation Committee are considered binding on both parties.

13B.06.01.09
.09 Appeal Process.
A. Notice of Denial of Transfer Credit by a Receiving Institution.
   (1) Except as provided in §A(2) of this regulation, a receiving institution shall inform a transfer student in writing of the denial of transfer credit not later than mid-semester of the transfer student’s first semester, if all official transcripts have been received at least 15 working days before mid-semester.

   (2) If transcripts are submitted after 15 working days before mid-semester of a student’s first semester, the receiving institution shall inform the student of credit denied within 20 working days of receipt of the official transcript.

   (3) A receiving institution shall include in the notice of denial of transfer credit:

       (a) A statement of the student’s right to appeal; and

       (b) A notification that the appeal process is available in the institution’s catalog.

   (4) The statement of the student’s right to appeal the denial shall include notice of the time limitations in §B of this regulation.

B. A student believing that the receiving institution has denied the student transfer credits in violation of this chapter may initiate an appeal by contacting the receiving institution’s transfer coordinator or other responsible official of the receiving institution within 20 working days of receiving notice of the denial of credit.

C. Response by Receiving Institution.
   (1) A receiving institution shall:

       (a) Establish expeditious and simplified procedures governing the appeal of a denial of transfer of credit; and

       (b) Respond to a student’s appeal within 10 working days.
(2) An institution may either grant or deny an appeal. The institution’s reasons for denying the appeal shall be consistent with this chapter and conveyed to the student in written form.

(3) Unless a student appeals to the sending institution, the written decision in §C(2) of this regulation constitutes the receiving institution’s final decision and is not subject to appeal.

D. Appeal to Sending Institution.
   (1) If a student has been denied transfer credit after an appeal to the receiving institution, the student may request the sending institution to intercede on the student’s behalf by contacting the transfer coordinator of the sending institution.

   (2) A student shall make an appeal to the sending institution within 10 working days of having received the decision of the receiving institution.

E. Consultation Between Sending and Receiving Institutions.
   (1) Representatives of the two institutions shall have 15 working days to resolve the issues involved in an appeal.

   (2) As a result of a consultation in this section, the receiving institution may affirm, modify, or reverse its earlier decision.

   (3) The receiving institution shall inform a student in writing of the result of the consultation.

   (4) The decision arising out of a consultation constitutes the final decision of the receiving institution and is not subject to appeal.

13B.06.01.10
.10 Periodic Review.
A. Report by Receiving Institution.
   (1) A receiving institution shall report annually the progress of students who transfer from 2-year and 4-year institutions within the State to each community college and to the Secretary of the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

   (2) An annual report shall include ongoing reports on the subsequent academic success of enrolled transfer students, including graduation rates, by major subject areas.

   (3) A receiving institution shall include in the reports comparable information on the progress of native students.

B. Transfer Coordinator. A public institution of higher education shall designate a transfer coordinator, who serves as a resource person to transfer students at either the sending or receiving campus. The transfer coordinator is responsible for overseeing the application of the policies and procedures outlined in this chapter and interpreting transfer policies to the individual student and to the institution.
C. The Maryland Higher Education Commission shall establish a permanent Student Transfer Advisory Committee that meets regularly to review transfer issues and recommend policy changes as needed. The Student Transfer Advisory Committee shall address issues of interpretation and implementation of this chapter.

UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE POLICIES

Privacy
The University complies with the requirements of the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 34CFR Part 99, and of the Maryland Public Information Act, State Government Article 10-162. In compliance with these acts, the University will only release without a student’s signature that information that is so designated as directory information. Directory information is defined as the student’s name, hometown, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous educational institution attended.

The Maryland Public Information Act requires the University to provide directories of its students upon request. Students who do not wish to have directory information released are required to submit that request by filing a Request to Withhold Directory Information form in the Office of the University Registrar prior to the start of each semester.

FERPA provides students with the opportunity to review information contained in their educational records. Offices where students’ educational records are kept include the Office of the University Registrar and, in some cases as applicable, the Office of Financial Aid (including veterans affairs), the Offices of Admission, the Office of Law Admissions and the offices of the academic deans. Students who wish to review their records may do so by making an appointment with the appropriate head of the office housing that record.

For additional information about student privacy, visit www.ubalt.edu/ferpa.

Nondiscrimination Policy
The University of Baltimore does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, age, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or disability in its programs, activities or employment practices. Information about inquiries is listed in the University’s Student Policies and Procedures Handbook, found online at www.ubalt.edu/studenthandbook.

Accessibility to Students With Disabilities Policy
It is the policy of the University of Baltimore to provide reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. To provide academic adjustments, proper documentation is required and must be presented to the Center for Educational Access. This documentation is required whether the condition is permanent or temporary (broken leg, etc.)

A student’s documentation must be current and must include a diagnosis, recommendations for reasonable and appropriate accommodations and information regarding how the disability impacts the student in an educational setting. This documentation will be reviewed by Center for Educational Access staff for all students seeking accommodations. This includes undergraduate, graduate and law students. This documentation will be retained by the Center for Educational Access and is not part of the student’s
permanent academic record. These records will remain in the center’s suite for the duration of the student’s academic career and are kept confidential. After a period of seven inactive years, the documentation will be destroyed unless the student requests that it be returned.

**Drug and Alcohol Policy**
As a member of the University System of Maryland, the University of Baltimore complies fully with the Maryland Drug and Alcohol Abuse Control Plan.

Except where permitted by law, the use, possession, sale, distribution and condition of being under the influence of controlled or illegal substances while on University premises is strictly prohibited.

The use of alcoholic beverages is permitted only in designated areas on campus and provided that such use is in conformity with all applicable alcoholic beverage laws and with the specific University regulations as set forth in the University’s *Student Policies and Procedures Handbook*, found online at [www.ubalt.edu/studenthandbook](http://www.ubalt.edu/studenthandbook).

Violations of laws and University regulations regarding the use of controlled/illegal substances and alcohol will be subject to prosecution through both civil authorities and the campus judicial system. The range of University penalties shall include, but not be limited to, disciplinary reprimand, loss of privilege, probation, suspension and expulsion.

**No-Smoking Policy**
Smoking can be hazardous to health for smokers and nonsmokers alike. It can contribute to heart attack, stroke, high blood pressure, emphysema and several forms of cancer. The University of Baltimore has taken positive steps toward providing for all employees and students a smoke-free environment in which smoking is prohibited within all University buildings. This no-smoking policy stresses compliance on the part of employees and students. While it is best to rely on common courtesy for colleagues and classmates to ensure the success of this policy, the University is prepared to enforce it with formal sanctions. Visitors who refuse to comply with this policy will be required to leave University premises.

**Clery Policy**
The University of Baltimore, in compliance with the Clery Act, requires all students applying for admission to the institution to answer a series of “yes/no” questions which help identify students who may pose a potential threat to the campus and its students if allowed to enroll. If students answer “yes” to any of these questions, they must provide further explanation regarding the situation. The dean of students is responsible for making all decisions related to these applications as well as the procedures for reviewing these applications. Providing false information on any of these questions may result in a student’s expulsion from the University.

**Golden I.D.**
It is the policy of the University System of Maryland to extend special privileges, where practicable, to senior citizens who are residents of the state of Maryland and are enrolled in one of its institutions. The term “senior citizen” includes any individual who is 60 years of age or older, who is retired, whose chief income is derived from retirement benefits and who is not employed full time.
Senior citizens enrolled at the University of Baltimore are issued Golden I.D. cards by the registrar. They receive, on a space-available basis, waivers of tuition for not more than three undergraduate or graduate (not law) courses per semester or term. These students are afforded all services available to regularly enrolled students, as they pay all other fees. Subject to certain conditions, privileges extended to University Golden I.D. card holders from other USM institutions include waiver of tuition for undergraduate and graduate courses, use of the libraries and other privileges as determined by individual institutions.

Holders of Golden I.D. cards at other USM institutions are afforded the following privileges at the University of Baltimore:

- the use of the libraries (subject to restrictions during examination periods)
- admission to all nonticketed public lectures and performances
- discount tickets (subject to restrictions) for events sponsored by the Center for Student Involvement
- eligibility to join, for a fee, Campus Recreation and Wellness.

Catalog Use and Information
This 2013-15 University of Baltimore Undergraduate Catalog outlines the University’s undergraduate programs, courses, policies and procedures that were in effect as of June 30, 2013. Subsequent changes to courses, programs, policies, procedures, faculty, staff and facilities may cause certain information in this catalog to become outdated. Hence, this catalog is not to be construed by the student as a contract, except in terms of the policy titled Catalog Under Which Students Graduate (as detailed in the Academic Policies section) and in terms of the student’s compliance with all current policies and procedures of the University.

UB students are informed of changes or additions to academic and financial policies that may affect them through announcements by email or on appropriate University websites and, in some cases, through mail correspondence or separately printed posters, bulletins, notices or other communication vehicles.

The University of Baltimore reserves the right to make policy and program changes as necessary. Students are urged to review all University-produced correspondence, class schedules, mailings, posters and other literature to keep fully informed.