

Amherst College Community College Transfer Collaboration Agreement

Amherst welcomes applications from talented students who have chosen to begin their higher education at two-year institutions. The College looks, above all, for men and women of intellectual promise who have demonstrated qualities of mind and character that will enable them to take full advantage of our curriculum. We seek qualified applicants from different races, classes and ethnic groups – students whose several perspectives might contribute significantly to a process of mutual education within and beyond the curriculum.

Eligibility

- You are eligible for transfer admission to Amherst if you have completed at least one year as a full-time student at a two-year or community college in a liberal arts curriculum (equivalent of 8 transferable courses). Two years of college work is preferable.
- To be competitive, you should have at *least* an A- average in your college courses.
- Traditional and non-traditional aged applicants are welcome to apply; however, all applicants must be capable of enrolling as full-time students in the successive years needed to complete their degree. We expect all Amherst students to participate fully in the residential life of our learning community.

Transfer of Credit

- Credit is granted only for courses in the Liberal Arts
- Credit is not awarded for courses in business, criminal justice, engineering, journalism, or other strictly pre-professional training courses.
- Math courses below the level of calculus will not receive credit.
- Credit is not awarded for Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate courses during secondary school; however, some Amherst departments will allow you to forego introductory-level courses in areas in which you have already completed rigorous work.
- Amherst's open curriculum has no core or general education requirements beyond those courses required for your major. As a result, transfer students are not asked to take classes in specific disciplines prior to transferring as long as their classes meet the liberal arts requirement.
- If admitted, a transfer of credit evaluation from our registrar will be included with the letter of admission.
- Students who have had more than four semesters of full-time course work still must fulfill our two-year residency requirement by completing four full semesters at Amherst.

Admission Process

For community college transfers we pay closest attention to your:

- College and secondary school transcript
- Recommendations

- Quality of writing as demonstrated in your essays
- Extra – and co-extracurricular involvement and talents
- Standardized tests are not required for transfer admission, but may be submitted
- At the request of the applicant, interviews are available for community college transfers

Support for Community College Transfer Students

Because community college transfer students have different concerns than first-year students, we have developed a number of services to ease the transition to Amherst. These include:

- Special welcome dinner and events for community college transfers and their families during orientation week.
- Designated staff liaison in the Dean of Students Office
- A Transfer Student Alliance group
- A mentoring program to allow community college transfers to stay in touch with faculty from their community college
- Targeted outreach from Amherst's Writing Center, Quantitative Skills Center, and Career Center
- Funds to help cover expenses incurred by needy transfer students during their senior year, i.e job or graduate school interviews.