TRANSFER 101:
How do I decide where to apply?
What is transfer?

• Transfer is the process of completing required general educational and lower division major preparation coursework at ELAC in order to apply to a four-year university as a junior (upper-division transfer)

• Please note that some private universities will let you transfer in at sophomore level status with 30 units (lower-division transfer)
Why are you here?

• Transfer university options can be overwhelming

But there is a university for you!
Think about HOW you decide on which cereal to buy…

• You might think about selecting:
  • The most healthy option
  • The option your family will like
  • The one that tastes the best
  • The one with lowest cost

• Then you consult:
  • The nutrition label
  • Your family
  • Your memory and previous experiences with taste
  • Your friends
  • Your wallet, sales and any coupons
Make an informed decision

Just how you found your cereal, you can also use the same steps to research universities and decide where to apply.
University Research Process

• Know your options
• Ask questions
  • Consider your goals
  • Consider your personal needs
• Eligibility vs. Selection
• Visit and get involved
• Build your list and apply to a variety of universities
University system options

- University of California
- California State University
- Private/independent universities (can be in or outside of California)
- Out-of-state public universities
University of California campuses

California State University campuses
Private universities in California...

There are many more across the country!
A few out-of-state public universities...

- Arizona State University
- University of Virginia
- University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
- University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
- Pennsylvania State University
- The Ohio State University
NOW THAT YOU KNOW YOUR OPTIONS…
ASK QUESTIONS
Common Questions

✓ What are your academic and professional ambitions?
✓ If you know what your ambitions are and what your major will be, does the campus offer courses in that area?
✓ Do you prefer attending a small campus or larger one?
✓ Are you able to commute to the campus or will you need to move?
✓ If you enjoy an extracurricular activity, does the campus offer it?
✓ How is the campus environment in respect to students and faculty?
Answers can be found…

- By speaking with your ELAC academic counselor
- By visiting the Career and Job services office to select a major
- By meeting with university representatives
- By speaking with current students at that university
- By visiting the Transfer Center
- By conducting research on the university website
- By participating in a university campus tour and university transfer fair
- By attending a university information session
- By comparing universities
You are:

✓ Getting to know yourself AND
✓ Getting to know universities
Answers can be found…

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Eligibility vs. Selection for Admission

Being ELIGIBLE to apply
- Take the right general education courses and prescribed course pattern
- Meet the minimum GPA
- Prepare for your major

Being competitive for SELECTION
- Research profiles of typically admitted students
- It is important to not only be eligible to apply, but be competitive for selection
- Strive for a higher GPA above the minimum
This MATCHes...

- GPA of typically admitted transfer student is similar to yours
- Course and unit requirements are similar to ones you have completed or are in progress
- The university offers the academic major you want

But does it FIT?

- Does the location work for in commuting or would you live on campus? Is it suburban or urban?
- What size is the student body?
- Financial aid & cost
- Environment
- Diversity
- Enrichment opportunities such as research
- Quarter vs. Semester
Why is FIT important?

The goal of transfer is to graduate with your Bachelor’s degree, however, things happen and you might be challenged to leave your university before you graduate. In order to avoid this the key is to pick the best university for you. One that fits your goals, your life and one where you feel connected to the campus so that in a challenging time, you persist.

To do that, you need to reflect on factors that relate to a good university fit for you. In doing so, you put yourself in the best position to find success both in the university admissions process and the undergraduate years that follow as you earn your Bachelor’s degree.
You can research California State University campuses that offer your MATCH factors at the following websites:

- [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org)
- [www.csumentor.org](http://www.csumentor.org)
- [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
- [www.californiacolleges.edu](http://www.californiacolleges.edu)
You can research University of California campuses that offer your MATCH factors at the following websites:

- www.assist.org
- http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/transfer/transfer-admission-planner/
- www.collegeboard.org
- www.californiacolleges.edu
You can research **private university** campuses that offer your MATCH factors at the following websites:

- [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org)
- [http://www.elac.edu/currentstudents/studentservices/transfercenter/articulationagreement.htm](http://www.elac.edu/currentstudents/studentservices/transfercenter/articulationagreement.htm)
- [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
- [www.californiacolleges.edu](http://www.californiacolleges.edu)
Visit the campus or get involved in a transfer program!

• There is no better research than in-person research
• Take a campus tour and involve your family
• Ask to speak with current students who have transferred there
• Research to find out if they university has a special transfer program or guaranteed admission
How many universities should I apply to?

• Apply to a minimum of 3 universities. At least one in each of the following areas:
  ✓ LIKELY
  ✓ TARGET
  ✓ REACH
What is a **LIKELY** school?

- Likely schools are universities where you **exceed** the academic profile of the typically admitted student.
- For example, your GPA is higher than the average typically admitted transfer student GPA in your major (**this might change for impacted campuses**).
- While it isn’t guaranteed that you will get in, you are overqualified and it is highly likely.
- Admission rates are typically 80% or more.
What is a **TARGET** school?

- Target schools are universities where your academic profiles falls within the range of a typically admitted transfer student.
- You have a *reasonable chance* of being accepted.
- The admission rate is typically between 50-70%.
- You have more than a 50-50 chance of getting in.
What is a REACH school?

- A reach school is a university where your academic profile might fall below the range for the typically admitted transfer student.
- These universities are harder to get into and typically practice more holistic admissions that consider your extracurricular activities and admission essays – these components can help increase your competitiveness.
- Schools that have an admission rate below 45% are reach schools.
Review

LIKELY
1-2 universities

TARGET
1-3 universities

REACH
1-2 universities

GOALS
Final thoughts

• If you want your best transfer opportunities, apply to a mix of universities and be aware of your academic progress

• All schools on your list should be schools that you are excited about

• This is a recommended framework to guide your list to help your decision more simpler, but ultimately your decision is up to you
Next steps

• Schedule an appointment with a counselor to update your Ed Plan based on your university list
• Participate in your courses with maximum effort
• Get involved to enhance your ELAC experience
Questions?

VISIT US

Location:
E1-176

Hours:
Monday-Thursday 8am-7pm
Friday 8am-4pm