

# Transfer Innovations (TI) & Transfer & Articulation (TAP) Projects

## Historical Perspective:

Special Report: Transfer What's the Problem April 1999

- BC's course-to-course transfer working well
- Transfer problems still exist
- Improvements needed to ensure smooth & equitable transfer

BCCAT Transfer Innovations Fund: 1999 to present

- Projects sponsored by Articulation Committees; funding up to \$10,000
- Objective: improving transfer for students
  - Innovative approaches to transfer
  - Better information on transfer options

## Transfer Innovation Projects: Flexible Pre-major

“Pre-major”: 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> year courses students are required to complete in order to be admitted to a major, usually at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a 4-year degree

- a set of flexible requirements
- deliverable by sending institutions & acceptable to receiving institutions
- deemed to fulfill the lower level requirements for the major

Key deliverables:

- detailed description of what constitutes a pre-major
- any underlying principles to be adhered to
- exact courses at each institution which equate to or accepted as fulfilling any required elements

Two types of Flexible Pre-major Projects

- Analysis: readiness of a discipline for establishing a Flexible Pre-major
- Implementation: includes detailed description of the courses that make up the Pre-major and negotiation of its acceptability at sending and receiving institutions.

Examples:

- Music <http://www.bccat.bc.ca/pubs/musi.pdf>
- Sociology /Anthropology (to be added to BCCAT website soon)

## Transfer Innovation Projects: Descriptive Pathways

- Also referred to as “Transfer Grid” or “Course Equivalencies” projects
- Devising grids/matrices that illustrate transfer pathways for students, at all sending institutions to all receiving institutions within a single discipline.
- Suitable in disciplines where transfer is relatively stable and where lower level requirements are similar across institutions
- Doesn’t normally involve curriculum changes or negotiation of new transfer agreements

Key deliverable: A transfer grid/matrix detailing courses at all institutions that are deemed equivalent.

Examples:

- ABT/Office Administration <http://www.bccat.bc.ca/ABTPathways.pdf>
- ABT/OA On-line <http://www.bccat.bc.ca/pubs/ABTonline.pdf>
- Biology <http://bctransferguide.ca/program/biology/index.cfm>
- Early Childhood Education <http://www.bccat.bc.ca/pubs/eceguide.pdf>
- Earth Sciences <http://www.bccat.bc.ca/pubs/eascpathways.pdf>

## Transfer Innovation Projects: Block Transfer

“Block Transfer”: The process whereby a block of credits is granted to students who have successfully completed a certificate, diploma or cluster of courses that are recognized as having academic wholeness or integrity and that can be related meaningfully to a degree program.

Block transfer is particularly suitable for:

- diploma programs in applied fields which are related to professional degrees
- where course-to-course articulations are rare, non-existent or inappropriate

Key deliverable is the block transfer agreement which includes the following:

- credits to be granted to students on transfer
- any conditions such as specified required courses, course grades or GPA
- any other features such as preferential or guaranteed admission

Example:

- Physical Ed & Kinesiology <http://www.bccat.bc.ca/pubs/PhysEdblock.pdf>

## **Transfer Innovation Projects: Other**

Articulation Committees are invited to submit proposals which don't fit the existing categories, but which describe innovative projects intended to improve student transfer in their discipline.

Examples: projects that identify common objectives or curricular elements for first year courses.

- English First Year Aims <http://www.bccat.bc.ca/pubs/aims2002.pdf>
- Calculus Core Curriculum <http://www.bccat.bc.ca/pubs/calculus.pdf>

## **Transfer Innovation Projects: Value to students**

- assists students to effectively plan their educational paths
- maximizes transfer credits
- avoids students repeating courses unnecessarily
- saves students time and money

## **Transfer Innovation Projects: Value to post-secondary institutions**

- formally establishes articulated transfer pathways for their students
- increases awareness and recognition of their courses & programs
- assists with recruiting for articulated programs
- provides supplementary resources for program advisors/counsellors
- saves time and resources allocated to determining transfer credits

## **Transfer Innovation Projects: Value to BC post-secondary system**

- avoids seats being filled by students repeating courses or programs
- contributes to the efficient use of system capacity
- saves tax-payers money

## **Transfer Innovation Projects: Value to Articulation Committees**

- provides a clear articulation focus for their activities
- encourages greater co-operation in both articulation & curriculum areas

## **Transfer & Articulation (TAP) Projects**

- To provide small grants (up to \$5,000) to Articulation Committees or other groups to fund specific projects related to transfer and articulation in a particular discipline
- Projects must clearly relate to transfer and articulation, or to the work of Articulation Committees
- TAP projects should fall outside the scope of the criteria for Transfer Innovations projects
- This project funding is not intended as an avenue for the funding of curriculum development

Examples of website projects funded under the TAP program:

- Media & Communication Studies  
<http://www.bccat.bc.ca/pubs/MACSACFinalReport.pdf>  
Website: [http:// www.mediabc.ca](http://www.mediabc.ca)
- Earth Sciences  
[http:// www.sfu.ca/earth-sciences/links/external/Articulation/Index.htm](http://www.sfu.ca/earth-sciences/links/external/Articulation/Index.htm)

## **Submitting a Proposal for Transfer Innovations or TAP Project Funding:**

Detailed information and proposal forms are available as follows:

Transfer Innovations <http://www.bccat.bc.ca/pubs/tipackall.pdf>

TAP: <http://www.bccat.bc.ca/pubs/tapfund.pdf>

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