

General Education Catalog Rights Cheat Sheet

GE Pattern	Purpose	Effective Term	Notes
CSU GE Breadth	AA/AS degree	Fall 2021	<p>Prior to Fall 2021, students could not use CSU GE Breadth to fulfill the GE requirements for the AA/AS degree</p> <p>Scenario #1: Student has pre-Fall 2021 catalog rights, completed all CSU GE Breadth requirements before stopping out and losing catalog rights – can apply for CSU GE Breadth certification without Area F and use this toward the AA/AS degree</p> <p>Scenario #2: Student has pre-Fall 2021 catalog rights, but is pursuing a degree effective Fall 2021 or later – needs to complete Area F toward the AA/AS degree</p>
IGETC	AA/AS degree	Fall 2021	Prior to Fall 2021, students could not use IGETC to fulfill the GE requirements for the AA/AS degree
CSU GE Breadth	Transfer	Fall 2021	<p>Prior to Fall 2021, students were required to take 3 courses in Area D and there was no Area F</p> <p>Students who began at a CCC or CSU prior to Fall 2021, and maintained continuous enrollment, will not be held to the Area F requirement due to their pre-2021 catalog rights</p>
IGETC	Transfer	Fall 2023	<p>Prior to Fall 2023, students were required to take 3 courses in Area 4 and there was no Area 7</p> <p>Students who began at a CCC or CSU prior to Fall 2023, and maintained continuous enrolment, will not be held to the Area 7 requirement based on their pre-2023 catalog rights</p>
GCC GE Req.	AA/AS	Fall 2025	<p>Prior to Fall 2025, students were required to complete all the local GE requirements, including American Institutions, US History, Health, Physical Education, First Aid, and Cultural Diversity</p> <p>Students who began at GCC prior to Fall 2025 and maintained continuous enrollment can follow the new requirements, if they choose to do so</p>
Cal-GETC	Transfer	Fall 2025	<p>Students who began at a CCC or CSU prior to Fall 2025, and maintained continuous enrolment, can choose to follow CSU GE Breadth, IGETC, or Cal-GETC</p> <p>Students who begin at a CCC or CSU in Fall 2025 or later must follow Cal-GETC</p>

Catalog rights for CSU GE Breadth, IGETC, and Cal-GETC

Think of catalog rights for GE as the version of the GE pattern students have access to. So, students can follow the CSU GE Breadth or IGETC version (with or without Ethnic Studies) or Cal-GETC based on their continuous enrollment, or “catalog rights.”

Solely for the purpose of transfer GE certification, students who began at a CCC or CSU can follow any GE pattern in effect at the time they began attending the CCC or CSU, so long as they maintain continuous enrollment (see GCC’s policy below).

Note: For GCC programs and general education requirements, students’ catalog rights are established when they first take classes at GCC.

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GCC catalog rights policy (effective Fall 2025):

Continuous enrollment at GCC means receiving a grade of “A,” “B,” “C,” “D,” “F,” “P,” “NP,” “W,” “EW,” “MW, or “I” on their transcripts for at least one term (Fall, Winter, Spring, or Summer) per academic year.

CSU catalog rights policy:

An undergraduate remaining in “attendance” in regular sessions at any CSU campus, at any CCC, or any combination of CCCs and campuses of the CSU.

“Attendance” means attendance in at least one semester each calendar year.

UC catalog rights policy:

The UC has no systemwide catalog rights policy.

GE catalog rights vs. major catalog rights

Students can use one catalog year (version) for meeting GE requirements and another catalog year for meeting major requirements, so long as they maintain continuous enrollment.

Scenario: Student is earning the AS-T in Business Admin 2.0 (2023-2024 catalog year). Student has been attending GCC since Fall 2022 (has pre-2023 IGETC catalog rights). Therefore, student can use the pre-2023 IGETC catalog rights without Area 7 to fulfill the GE requirements to earn the ADT even though the major requirements are from the 2023-2024 catalog year.

GE catalog rights vs. GE approval dates

The version of GE or “catalog year” that the student is following is distinct from when a course was approved to apply toward meeting GE requirements. **A course can only be applied to a GE area if it was approved in that area during the term the course was passed. There are no exceptions. Check ASSIST.org to confirm approval dates.**

Scenario #1: Student has been attending GCC since Fall 2023, when HIST 117 was approved for IGETC Area 3B or 4. Student took HIST 117 in Fall 2024 and passed. In Fall 2024, HIST 117 was approved only for IGETC Area 4. Therefore, HIST 117 will be applied to IGETC Area 4 because that is the area it was approved for when the course was successfully completed. The fact that the student began attending GCC in Fall 2023 has no bearing on GE approval—solely the GE pattern(s) they can follow.

Scenario #2: Student has been attending GCC since Fall 2022 (has pre-2023 IGETC catalog rights). Student took ECON 127 in Fall 2023 (approved for IGETC Area 2A). Therefore, student can use pre-2023 IGETC catalog rights without Area 7 and use the ECON 127 because it was approved when the student took it.

Scenario #3: Student last attended GCC in Fall 2012 and took GERM 101 (approved for CSU GE Breadth Area C2 when they took it). Student does not have pre-Fall 2021 CSU GE Breadth catalog rights because they do not have continuous enrollment. Therefore, student will have to complete Area F, but already has Area C2 completed because the course was approved when they took it).

Note: Ethnic Studies courses taken before Fall 2021 for CSU GE Breadth or Fall 2023 for IGETC cannot apply toward the Ethnic Studies requirement, as these requirements did not exist when the courses were taken.

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External courses and GE approvals:

When applying other CCC courses toward CSU GE Breadth, IGETC, or Cal-GETC, check ASSIST.org to confirm when the approval was in effect and in what area. Even if the course is comparable to ours, you cannot assume it will have the same approval(s).

Scenario #1: Student took HISTORY 12 in Fall 2019 at LAVC (same C-ID as our HIST 118). Our course is approved in IGETC Area 3B and 4. Theirs is only approved in Area 4. Therefore, the course can only be applied to Area 4 because that is the area the course was approved for when it was taken.

Scenario #2: Student took SOC 014 in Fall 2017 at PCC (same C-ID as ETH S 121). Our course is approved in IGETC Area 7. Theirs was approved in Area 4 in Fall 2017 and Area 7 in Fall 2023. Therefore, the course can only be applied to Area 4 because that is the area the course was approved for when it was taken, and because the Ethnic Studies requirement didn't exist back then.

Note: C-ID is used to determine equivalence for the purposes of the major, not GE.

Cal-GETC

Cal-GETC courses taken Fall 2025 or later may be applied towards IGETC certification if the courses are approved for the corresponding Cal-GETC area.

IGETC courses taken prior to Fall 2025 may be applied toward Cal-GETC certification if the courses are also approved for the corresponding Cal-GETC area.

Cal-GETC certification is NOT required for:

- Students with continuous enrollment prior to Fall 2025
- Students with official transcripts indicating GE certification:
 - Full UC IGETC certification for the UCs
 - Full CSU IGETC certification for the CSUs
 - Full CSU GE Breadth certification for the CSUs