

## How to Transfer to an out-of-state or private school college or university

There are unique challenges to transferring from Palomar College to a private or out-of-state school with whom there are no official course to course agreements. Because there are thousands of colleges and universities it would be impossible to have articulation agreements with them all.

However, it is possible to transfer to one of these schools. It requires more effort to research the school's pertinent information and places more responsibility on the student to understand and complete the requirements to transfer for that specific school.

First, research the school's catalog and website. Locate the information that addresses the admissions requirements for transfer students. It is important to find out:

1. the minimum number of transfer level units required
2. any minimum course requirements (such as English or math)
3. when applications and transcripts are due
4. if additional exams such as a SAT are required
5. if there are any special conditions required for out-of-state applicants
6. what courses are transferable. Some schools will have limits as to how many units can be transferred in or disallow certain requirements to be met from outside their school

Second, identify the tuition. If you are trying to transfer out-of-state you need to be aware that you will likely be charged the higher non-resident tuition rate if it is a public university. In most cases, just moving to a new state will not entitle you to in-state tuition rates (for at least a period of time). State residency rules and their affect on tuition rates will vary from state to state. There are some schools that will not allow a student to get the in-state tuition rate even after the student becomes a resident of that state if the student has moved to that new state for the sole purpose of attending school.

Third, locate the general education (GE) requirements. Most schools will have a common core of classes that are required of all students regardless of their major. These classes may be called graduation, general education or core requirements. Once you have located this list of requirements, look at the course descriptions for the classes. Compare these course descriptions to those at Palomar. The course number and name are not reliable methods for comparing classes. The course description has the critical information that will be reviewed for equivalencies once you transfer. Occasionally, colleges and universities will have "clustered" freshman experience curriculum. In these cases, the classes are not individual but are meshed together as a block. Palomar does not have an equivalent to match this type of curriculum.

Forth, locate the major courses required for their freshman and sophomores for the major you are considering. Repeat the analysis used for comparing GE classes. Your goal is to mirror the GE and lower division (freshman and sophomore) level classes with Palomar classes so that once you transfer you have as many equivalent courses as possible.

Finally, if at all possible, try to meet with a representative from your transfer school. Have an admissions counselor review your Palomar plan. Ultimately, your transfer institution will have the complete authority to determine if and how your Palomar classes will be used towards their degree. Palomar College does not have the authority to tell another school how to use their classes- this determination is completely at the discretion of the transfer institution.