

Dear CCC Music Faculty:

You are probably aware of the initiative to create Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs) and that music is one of the disciplines that has developed an approved Transfer Model Curriculum (TMC) which serves as the template for these transfer degrees. This TMC was developed at a time when the ADT was an option for colleges to adopt. Unfortunately, this is no longer the case. With the passage of SB 440 (Padilla), colleges must now offer an ADT in every discipline in which they currently offer an AA degree if a TMC for that discipline exists. Colleges that fail to adopt an ADT in such a discipline must discontinue offering the AA degree in that discipline. On the other hand, if a college creates an approved ADT, that college is free to continue offering their original AA degree (as far as the state is concerned, your college or district may disagree).

There are challenges associated with developing the ADT. To begin with, this degree requires an applied music component—in other words music students must have access to and be required to complete individual instruction on an instrument or voice for credit. Education Code prohibits charging the students an additional fee for this instruction, so colleges simply need to find a way to fund such a program if they wish to offer a music degree. There are working models out there, and MACCC can help direct you to examples.

Another challenge goes beyond funding priorities. In order for an ADT to be approved by the State Chancellor's Office, it must require no more than 60 total units, including general education courses (usually defined as CSU Breadth). The CSU General Education pattern requires 39 units, leaving a very limiting 21 units to complete the requirements of the music major (the minimum units listed on the current TMC is 21-22 depending upon the unit load for various courses). It is permissible for some music courses to "double count" toward both the music major and general education. If two 3 unit courses double count for the major and GE, the effective upper limit on music units becomes 27 units—still limited, but a big improvement over 21. The Music TMC was designed and approved assuming this double counting scenario, with the beginning levels of music theory as the target courses for counting as both GE and major requirements. The CSU General Education Committee has recently lifted a long-standing moratorium on approving music theory courses for general education credit (GE Area C). However, in order to qualify such courses must include cultural/historical components and not appear to be entirely skill-development in content. On the MACCC website (www.eMACCC.org), you can find three examples of course outlines for theory and/or music fundamentals courses that have been approved by CSU as fulfilling both the general education function and approved through the C-ID process as fulfilling the function of providing music major preparation for transfer.

If your college offers an AA in music and has not yet developed an ADT in music, your AA program is in jeopardy! Start talking now with your college's curriculum committee and administrative staff to find out what steps are necessary to develop the ADT degree. Curriculum changes will almost certainly be necessary, especially if your lower-level music theory courses do not already qualify as CSU GE. At many colleges it may be necessary to write entirely new courses, particularly if the college does not already have an applied music program in place. There are descriptors for all of the required courses in the music transfer degree posted on the C-ID website (https://c-id.net/view_final.html). Using these as a

guide to developing any new courses will smooth the process of getting your ADT approved by the Chancellor's Office. All courses that are part of an ADT must substantially match the C-ID descriptors for those courses.

MACCC can serve as a resource for models/examples of degrees and courses that have been approved by the Chancellors Office and C-ID. Contact me or another MACCC board member if you have questions about this topic. For questions about how we got into this predicament, contact your legislator.

Collegially yours,

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Chair

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