

## Resolution to Amend Policies Governing Satisfaction of BRICKS Requirements Through Completed Degrees

Second Reading [Track Changes]

April 11, 2023

General Education Committee

University Curriculum Council

Ohio University

*Whereas* BRICKS is the program of general education for Ohio University and is therefore a subset of the degree requirements for all undergraduate students *Whereas* the current policies governing how BRICKS requirements may be met through transfer credit were designed to implement Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) regulations associated with the Ohio Transfer 36 (OT-36) framework.

*Whereas* the Foundations, Pillars, and Arches components required to consist of OT-36 approved courses can only be satisfied through lower-level coursework.

*Whereas* many students transfer to Ohio University having already completed 2-year or 4-year academic degrees from accredited institutions with the expectation of pursuing upper-level coursework.

*Whereas* our current transfer policy is designed to utilize the OT-36 framework to ensure that students who earn 2-year or 4-year academic degrees from public institutions in Ohio can satisfy their BRICKS requirements through upper-level coursework after transfer to Ohio University.

*Whereas* the differential treatment of degrees conferred outside of the Ohio state system has necessitated the use of multiple short-term waivers and individual exceptions approved by the General Education Committee.

*Be it resolved* that after appropriate implementation details have been developed and approved by the Division of Enrollment Management<sup>1</sup>, the undergraduate catalog shall be amended to state

*Students who complete the minimum requirements of the Ohio Transfer 36 prior to enrollment in a degree-seeking program at Ohio University, or earn a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher education accredited by regional accrediting commissions that have been recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) will receive transfer credit equivalent to fulfilling Ohio University's BRICKS general education requirements in Foundations (excluding the Advanced Writing component, which requires ~~completion of TME 002 Second Writing~~ transfer credit for an equivalent course) Pillars, and Arches.*

*Be it further resolved* that UCC and the General Education Committee shall be charged with developing and maintaining a process that will allow the preceding accommodations to be extended to other categories of degrees, such as associate or applied associate degrees, in whole or in part, at the discretion of UCC after review of an institution's accreditation status and the general education requirements of the degree itself.

*Be it further resolved* that these changes in policy shall be in effect prior to students matriculating for AY 2024-25, and shall be reviewed by UCC (University Curriculum Council) and the General Education Committee no later than the end of the fall semester 2026-27 to determine if revisions are warranted.

## Appendix A. Implementation Notes

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<sup>1</sup> See implementation notes in Appendix A.

1. The catalog language provides a uniform policy for bachelor's degrees conferred prior to enrollment in a degree-seeking program at Ohio University. Other degrees, such as associate or applied associate degrees, will be governed by the process mentioned in the clause following the changed catalog language.
2. Any changes made under this policy to the way in which completed degrees may be used to satisfy BRICKS requirements will not apply retroactively. Instead, such arrangements will be tied to the student's catalog of entry, and changes to the catalog of entry for enrolled students will remain subject to the applicable policies.
3. The process for extending the policy for completed bachelor's degrees to other types of credentials is envisioned to consist of the approval by UCC (upon recommendation of the General Education Committee) of pathway agreements developed by the relevant parties in the Division of Enrollment Management. An initial version of this process should be fleshed out before January 2024.