

Are You Planning to Transfer to a Four-year College?

(It is never too soon to start planning!)

Here are some steps to get you started:

1. CONSIDER YOUR CAREER GOAL

Do you know what career you plan to pursue? What is your major? If you're undecided, consider using Focus 2, and online career assessment tool to help you identify interests, skills, etc. Go to www.frederick.edu/careers and from the Student Tab, click on "Explore Skills, Majors and Careers" and then the "FOCUS 2 Career" Tab." You will need to Register through the portal link using your MyFCC email address (access code is *cougar*). For further assistance, you may schedule a Career Advising appointment through the Counseling & Advising website or by calling 301-846-2471.

2. RESEARCH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COLLEGES INSIDE & OUTSIDE OF MARYLAND

Once you have a career direction and you have a major in mind (or a short list of majors), research schools that offer this major(s). How do you research??

- a. If you plan to stay in Maryland, look for **Maryland public 4-year colleges** that offer your major(s) by using ARTSYS at www.artsys.usmd.edu. Select "Search for Majors" and fill in the requested information to generate a list of Maryland public colleges that offer what you're looking for.
- b. If you are looking beyond Maryland, you can explore colleges throughout the US (**public & private, inside and outside of Maryland**) by using College Board at www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org. Click on the "Get started" button. Input important factors like: Type of school (i.e. 4-year college), Location, Major, Paying (to indicate tuition range), to generate a list of options.
- c. If you have a faculty advisor, seek his or her guidance for college suggestions.
- d. Attend a Fall or Spring Transfer Fair when transfer representatives from area colleges and universities come to the FCC campus. The Fairs are generally held in October and March.
- e. Check the events calendar on the FCC Transfer website and your MyFCC email account for individual college table recruiting events. You may also schedule a Pre-Transfer Advising appointment with certain visiting four-year college admission advisors by contacting the Counseling & Advising Office.
- f. Do a campus visit! Plan to attend an Open House or Admissions Tour by visiting the four-year college Admissions website.

3. REVIEW ADMISSION AND TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS

Once you have determined which college(s) you wish to consider, review transfer admission details on each school's website. To do this:

- a. Navigate to the appropriate area of a college's website by looking for and selecting "Undergraduate Admissions" or "Prospective Students." Then look for "Transfer Students" or "Transfer Admission."
- b. Review the requirements to transfer. Look for details such as:
 - i. Are there a minimum number of credits required to be considered for admission as a transfer student?
 - ii. What is the minimum GPA required to apply as a transfer student?
 - iii. What is the admission application deadline? (If there is a priority date, make every effort to apply by that date!)
 - iv. Does my major have special/additional admission requirements? If so, what is the minimum GPA and what are the prerequisite (or gateway) course requirements?
 - v. What are scholarship and financial aid requirements and deadlines?

4. REVIEW GENERAL EDUCATION AND MAJOR REQUIREMENTS AT THE TRANSFER SCHOOL

Determine what FCC courses you can complete to fulfill general education and lower-level major requirements at your transfer school.

- a. For **Maryland public 4-year colleges**, use the ARTSYS website at www.artsys.usmd.edu and select "Recommended Transfer Programs." If you need assistance, meet with an FCC advisor. Also, check for email announcements about select Pre-Transfer Advising opportunities here at FCC. Advisors from certain four-year colleges arrange to meet with students for individual appointments on the FCC campus!
- b. For **all institutions (public or private, in-state or out-of-state)** use their college website and look for the following information:
 - i. For specific Bachelor's Degree requirements, look for and select "Academics," "Academic Programs," or "Majors."
 - ii. Some colleges offer "Curriculum Checklists" or "Four-Year Academic Plans" according to major on their websites.
 - iii. You may be able to determine exactly which FCC courses will transfer and how they will transfer to certain four-year colleges. Some colleges maintain "Transfer Equivalency Databases" or "Transfer Tools" that are accessible through their websites.
 - iv. Contact the colleges Undergraduate Admissions Office and /or the specific department for your planned major, especially if specific transfer information and equivalencies is not available on the website.

5. HELPFUL HINTS

- a. Look for and use the search box on a four-year college's website if you are having difficulty locating specific information.

For assistance at any stage of the process, meet with an FCC transfer counselor by scheduling an appointment through the Counseling & Advising website.