



Frequently Asked Questions: Connecticut Guarantee Independent Institution Implementation

Last updated on: 10/7/2020

1) Is technical assistance available to institutions in completing the Guarantee–TAP Pathway Agreement Forms?

Yes. Steve Marcelynas, the Director Office of Transfer and Articulation at CSCU, is providing technical assistance and be reached at SMarcelynas@commnet.edu.

2) Can an independent institution offer a pathway/major outside of the current Guarantee–TAP Pathway Agreement Forms (Transfer Tickets)?

Yes. With a signed MOA, institutions pledge to offer guaranteed admission to students with a specific GPA tier, along with an application fee waiver. Students also have the option to complete a Guarantee–TAP Pathway, which enables them to complete a bachelor's degree with 60 credits remaining. Therefore, there are two transfer options under the CT Guarantee:

1. Guaranteed admission for students who have met eligibility criteria (Non Guarantee–TAP Pathway applicants)
2. Guaranteed admission for students who have completed a Guarantee–TAP Pathway

An independent may offer a non-TAP pathway or major by completing [Connecticut Guarantee Pathway Selection Form](#). Submit the completed form to Emily Decatur at edecatur@nebhe.org.

3) Are separate Guarantee–TAP Pathway Agreement Forms required for each Connecticut community college?

No, institutions use one Guarantee–TAP Pathway Agreement Form per pathway ([available here](#)).

4) Where will participating Connecticut Guarantee institutions and their available Guarantee–TAP Pathway be displayed and promoted?

The Connecticut Guarantee landing page will be housed on the CSCU (ct.edu) Transfer Navigator website. The current CSCU website will be updated to display Connecticut Guarantee information beginning fall 2020.



5) What information will be included on the Connecticut Guarantee website to help students in the college transfer process?

The site will include, but not be limited to:

- Description of the institution
- GPA minimum for guaranteed admission
- Guarantee scholarship or financial aid
- Contact Information
- Institution transfer page link
- Application link
- Tuition and fees
- Institution specific transfer policies
- List of pathways: Guarantee-TAP Pathways and Non Guarantee-TAP Pathways
- Covid-19 link
- Any other additional transfer requirements

6) What information should be available for prospective transfer students on the institution's website?

It is recommended that institutions establish a one-stop transfer page that includes benefits for students covered under the Connecticut Guarantee as well as a list of pathways, financial aid and/or scholarships, institution specific transfer policies (if any) and institutional COVID-19 informational web page, and any additional transfer requirements. Institutions are encouraged to utilize the provided [Connecticut Guarantee web page checklist for essential and recommended content](#).

7) Do all of Connecticut community colleges have the same course names and numbering?

At this time there are slight variations in course names and numbers among the state's 12 community colleges, but the content and numbering of all courses is nearly identical. With the completion of the community college consolidation, course titles and numbering will be exactly the same.

8) Do participating institutions have to offer all of their pathways under the Connecticut Guarantee?

No, institutions have the flexibility to determine what pathways will be offered to community college graduates under the Connecticut Guarantee. Institutions may choose to initially offer a select number of pathways and then expand or even withdraw offerings in subsequent years. Institutions must indicate which



pathways/majors they plan to offer, as well as those they would like to exclude, here [Connecticut Guarantee Pathway Selection Form](#).

9) Can an institution remove a pathway offering from the Connecticut Guarantee?

Yes, but the institution must provide a year's notice in writing to all parties of the MOA.

10) With the Connecticut Guarantee's emphasis on liberal arts, can my institution include pathways from other fields like nursing or social work?

Yes, institutions can include non-liberal arts pathways with the stipulation that the institution also include as many liberal arts pathways as feasible.

11) How can an institution determine the competencies or course outcomes of a pathway course offered by a Connecticut community college?

Institutions have two options to determine the content of a course offered by a Connecticut community college. The first option is to review [CCSU's TAP website](#). The second option for institutions that use CollegeSource's Transfer Evaluation System (TES) to evaluate course outcomes and equivalencies using the platform.

12) If an institution chooses to apply a "Block Waiver" for the Framework30 for one pathway, should the "Block Waiver" also apply for additional pathways?

Yes, for consistency, institutions should choose to either use a "Block Waiver" or "Mapping" for the Framework30.

13) What if my institution has yet to fully determine what they plan to offer for Guarantee TAP and non-TAP Transfer Pathways? And can an institution make changes to the offerings?

An institution should submit the [Connecticut Guarantee Pathway Selection Form](#) to NEBHE preferably with the MOA submission or soon after.

Guarantee–TAP Pathways will be posted on the CSCU Transfer website upon the approval of Connecticut Guarantee Steering Committee. The Connecticut Guarantee Pathway Selection Form can also be used for Non Guarantee–TAP Pathways (majors) you plan to offer. Changes to offerings after initial submission can be made only by contacting NEBHE.



14) Can an institution begin enrolling students in a English Guarantee–TAP Pathway without an approved Guarantee–TAP Pathway map?

No. All Guarantee–TAP Pathway Agreement Forms must be approved by Steve Marcelynas and the Connecticut Guarantee Steering Committee prior to enrolling students.

15) How do we review a transfer application for a student who has fulfilled the requirements of the CT Guarantee, but has not followed a Guarantee–TAP Pathway (Transfer Ticket)? For example, a student who has earned a degree in General Studies or Liberal Arts and wants to major in social work.

Students outside of the Guarantee–TAP Pathways are offered guaranteed admission at a specific GPA tier and application fee waiver. Institutions must indicate pathways/majors outside of the mapped Guarantee–TAP Pathways through the [Connecticut Guarantee Pathway Selection Form](#).

16) How does the transfer process differ between students in Guarantee–TAP Pathways vs the non Guarantee–TAP Pathways?

Students in Guarantee–TAP Pathways follow the mapped Guarantee–TAP Pathways Agreements, which enables them to complete their bachelor's degree with the potential for 60 credits remaining. For students who have not followed a Guarantee–TAP Pathway more than 60 credits may be required to be completed to earn a bachelor's degree. The internal transfer process is at the discretion of the institution and it is recommended that that institutions follow the practices laid out in the Memorandum of Agreement for consistency (ie: aligning with TAP policy or providing general education block waivers).

17) Should ESL courses (or other sources of credit) which are honored by the community college degree audit transfer into the receiving Connecticut Guarantee institution?

In order to facilitate smooth and successful student transfer under the Connecticut Guarantee, institutions should consider aligning their current transfer policies with CSCU's Transfer and Articulation Policy, which accepts ESL and other forms of credit. However, institutions are able identify their specific credit policies within the [Memorandum of Agreement Appendix E: Institution Specific Transfer Policy Form](#).



18) Are institutions required to map every pathway offered under the Connecticut Guarantee?

A map is required for each Guarantee-TAP Pathway that is offered under the Connecticut Guarantee. Institutions may also offer Non-TAP Pathways, which do not require mapping. See question 2 for additional details.

19) What if a student hasn't graduated yet, but is on track for receiving an associate degree and would like to apply? In particular, how do institutions handle application fee waivers in this case?

Students beginning in their last final semester of their associate degree program may apply under the Connecticut Guarantee and the application fee waiver shall apply for these students.