

STGEC & TSAP for Indiana University  
Questions & Assertions  
University Articulation & Transfer Committee  
July 21, 2016

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*NOTE: A Positive message needs to be gleaned from this for students so that they understand that even if they lose the guarantees, they will still be able to finish.*

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This document goes beyond the state guidelines and addresses issues that affect Indiana University campuses with regard to recent legislation that established the Statewide General Education Core (STGEC) and the Transfer Single Articulation Pathways (TSAP). Every attempt was made to address as many issues that may arise with regard to the STGEC and the TSAP degrees as the Articulation & Transfer Committee could generate, based on the inquiries that campus leadership and the University Transfer Office (UTO) have received. However, the focus of this document is on the TSAP degrees. This is not an exhaustive list. If you have questions about anything in this document or about issues that are not addressed here, please contact your Articulation & Transfer Committee representative (generally in the campus Academic Affairs Office or the Office of Undergraduate Education). You can also contact the chair of the committee in the UTO at [UTO@iu.edu](mailto:UTO@iu.edu).

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Issues related to the STGEC and the TSAP degrees may not be addressed in the legislation or in the statewide guidelines but may affect the IU campuses and programs. The UTO worked with the Articulation & Transfer Committee on the communication piece below to ensure that there is consistency in the understanding of both STGEC and TSAP across IU.

Many faculty, staff, and students may not understand what it means to be on a TSAP. The guarantees of the TSAP legislation are that:

- A student
  - who successfully completes the TSAP associate's degree,
  - meets the requirements of originating students in the baccalaureate program, and
  - is admitted to an IU campus in the corresponding TSAP baccalaureate program

will be able to complete the baccalaureate within two years of full-time attendance if the student makes satisfactory academic progress, meets the program grade requirements and GPA expectations of the baccalaureate program, and does not deviate from the specified TSAP plan of the four-year institution. Also, the corresponding baccalaureate program must be able to be completed within a total of 120 credit hours – please note that there are

some exceptions that will require more than a total of 120 credit hours to meet the requirements of the baccalaureate degree.

- The Statewide General Education Core will be completed as part of the TSAP associate's degree.
- A minimum of 60 credit hours of the TSAP associate's degree will be applied to the corresponding TSAP baccalaureate degree.
- No coursework in the TSAP associate's degree or STGEC will need to be repeated as long as it meets the requirements, e.g., minimum grade, of the corresponding baccalaureate degree program.

It should be noted that the loss of any of the above guarantees due to failure to meet all of the requirements does not mean that a student cannot complete the baccalaureate degree in a timely fashion.

#### IU TSAP/STGEC Guidelines

- A. The requirements for students with a TSAP associate's degree are the same as for those students originating on an IU campus. The TSAP programs "match complementary competencies and learning outcomes for both associate and baccalaureate degrees" (SEA 182-2013).
- B. Students may move from a TSAP baccalaureate degree into another major or concentration. While the guarantees will no longer be in effect, students may still be able to complete the new major or concentration in a timely fashion. However, the guarantees, such as the manner in which the transfer of credit is handled, are no longer in place.
- C. Both the STGEC and TSAP associate's degrees allow credit from other regionally accredited universities. A question arose about what to do with coursework that is counted toward the STGEC or the TSAP associate's degrees that typically does not transfer to IU. *Is this handled as an exception in order to record it on the transcript? Does this have greater implications for TSAP degrees than for the STGEC?*
  - a. If a student has completed either the STGEC or the TSAP with college-level courses from a regionally accredited university that normally would not transfer to IU, exceptions or undistributed credit will be recorded so that students receive the full amount of credit for the STGEC or the TSAP associate's degree on their transcripts.
- D. Students must submit a final transcript prior to the semester that they intend to matriculate. If the transcript with the TSAP notation is not available at the

- time of advising, the TSAP guarantees may not apply. As far as possible, students anticipating completing a TSAP degree will be advised provisionally until IU receives a final transcript. It will be the students' responsibility to ensure that their advisors are aware that the final transcript is available.
- E. TSAP guarantees only apply to students with continual enrollment throughout their associate's and baccalaureate degree academic careers, not including summers, and completion of the TSAP associate's degree within seven years of matriculation at ITCC or VU. Individual degree-granting units may set a shorter time for completion of the associate's degree.
  - F. Like all degree programs, TSAP programs vary from campus to campus. If a student with a TSAP associate's degree enters a TSAP baccalaureate program at one IU campus, earns IU credit, and then transfers to another IU campus in the same TSAP area, the TSAP guarantees do not apply, because the baccalaureate degree programs have some curricular variability from one campus to another.
  - G. To qualify for the TSAP guarantees, a student must be admitted to an IU campus as a TSAP student, i.e, completing a TSAP associate's degree prior to matriculating as a degree-seeking student at any IU campus. If a student enrolls in a degree program at Indiana University prior to completing the TSAP associate's degree, the TSAP guarantees do not apply. Likewise, students who matriculate at an IU campus as degree-seeking students prior to earning a TSAP associate's degree and subsequently transfer and complete a TSAP associate's degree will not be eligible for the guarantees at the baccalaureate level. Transferring credit completed at Indiana University back to the associate's program and receiving the TSAP associate's degree retroactively will not change the IU academic plan for the student, and the TSAP guarantees will not apply.
  - H. If a student changes majors or concentrations at the baccalaureate level, the TSAP guarantees will not apply.
  - I. Some TSAP baccalaureate programs rely on disciplinary accreditation to maintain credibility in the profession and for students to be viable candidates within their chosen careers; therefore, concerns of accreditation trump the guarantees provided for the TSAP degrees.
  - J. On some IU campuses, students may gain admission to the campus before, or without, being admitted to the School or department. In those instances, TSAP guarantees are effective only after admission to the School and the major articulated with the TSAP associate's degree if no additional or repeated coursework is necessary.

- K. Students and advisors must maintain close communication to ensure that students are making continual progress on the pathway and to ensure that students understand the importance of following the TSAP. Failure to follow the pathway will negate the TSAP guarantees..
- L. If IU degree granting units make changes to the programs, they will need to determine if the revised program remains a corresponding degree to the TSAP associate's degree or not, based on whether the competencies within the degree have changed.