

Call for Proposals: Examining Barriers to Articulation Maintenance

Background

The BC Transfer System (BCTS) and the BC Transfer Guide (BCTG) are widely recognized as important parts of a highly comprehensive and efficient post-secondary transfer credit system. The success of the system depends on the ability of its participants to maintain up-to-date and accurate information on articulation agreements.

Recently it has become apparent that regular updating or revision of articulation agreements can pose a challenge to BCTS member institutions and articulation committees. A BCCAT review of the approximately 228,000 articulation agreements listed in the BCTG indicates that 64% of active articulation agreements have not been reviewed for 10 years or more. Anecdotally, several articulation committees have expressed concern about the amount of outdated articulation information for their discipline in the agreements listed in the BCTG.

Purpose

This project investigates the barriers faced by institutions and articulation committees in regularly updating and revising articulation agreements listed in the BCTG in order to provide clear, actionable solutions for removing or reducing those barriers. Recommendations should be specific, achievable, and go beyond simply suggesting a greater allocation of resources.

Scope

The scope of the study will ideally include institutions and articulation committees related to all agreements in the BCTG that have been identified as outdated or needing review. If that scope is not feasible, BCCAT and the contractor may mutually agree to narrow the scope of the project, e.g. to only include the institutions and articulation committees with an exceptionally high rate of outdated agreements.

Objectives

The objectives of the study include:

- 1. To identify the potentially outdated or unreviewed articulation agreements listed in the BCTG.
- 2. To assess the characteristics of these agreements, e.g. academic discipline, sending and receiving institutions, number of credits, type of agreement.
- 3. To explore the reasons why these agreements have not been updated or recently reviewed.
- 4. To recommend tangible and achievable actions, to incorporate best practices, and to address barriers to regular reviewing and updating of articulation agreements.

Timeline

Completion date for this project will be January 15, 2021.

Budget

Proposals with an itemized budget of between \$18,000 to \$23,000 will be considered. The budget is inclusive of all hourly charges, travel and associated costs, expenses, and GST, and each budget item must be accompanied by an explanation of how its cost was calculated. If the contractor is doing the work under the auspices of a post-secondary institution, project budgets may include a maximum allocation of \$500 to a contractor's home institution, as compensation for the institutional resources used to administer the financial arrangements associated with the contract.

Deadline For Proposals

Proposals must be submitted by 4 pm PST June 30, 2020 to Mike Winsemann, BCCAT Director of Transfer and Technology, mwinsemann@bccat.ca

Proposal template for research projects