



BCCAT 2023-24 RESEARCH PLAN

British Columbia’s credit transfer system is highly diverse, reflecting the province’s varied post-secondary programs and institutions, and the flexible pathways by which students access them. Research allows BCCAT and its partners to better understand student demand, patterns and demographics, and to ensure that the BC Transfer System effectively supports student access, mobility, and success.

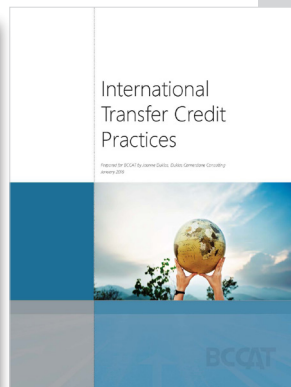
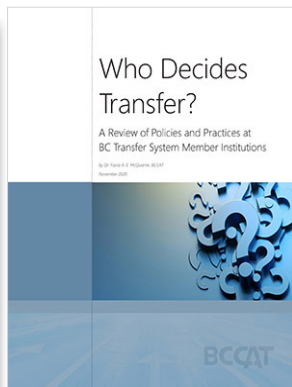
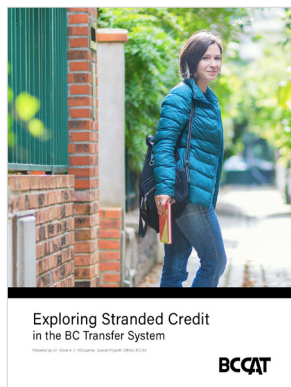
TRANSFER AND ARTICULATION: POLICIES AND PROCESSES

Effect of Occupational Regulation on Transfer Credit: This research project will investigate whether or how occupational regulation affects transferability of courses and programs at BC Transfer System institutions. The outcomes of the project will inform and potentially provide guidance on transfer credit issues related to occupational regulation of curriculum and course content (*Transfer and Articulation Committee*)

Course Outline Policies & Practices: The goal of this project is to review policies and practices at BC Transfer System member institutions around course outlines, and to make recommendations to the BC Registrars’ Association on approaches to course outlines. (*Admissions Committee*)

Course Definition Policy in the BC Transfer Guide: Work began in 2021-22 on the formation of a working group to review the course definition guidelines for courses that are included in the BC Transfer Guide. Stakeholder consultation is currently underway, and the working group will review current practices, and make recommendations regarding courses that should be included in the BC Transfer Guide. (*Transfer and Articulation Committee*)

HIGHLIGHTED PUBLICATIONS:



TOPICS OF INTEREST

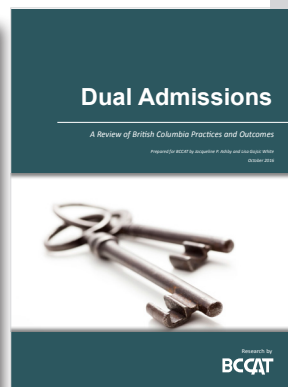
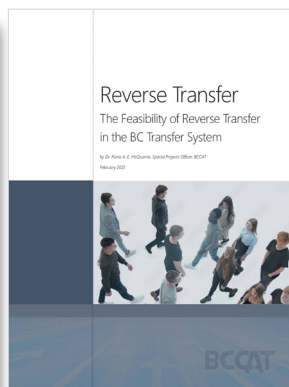
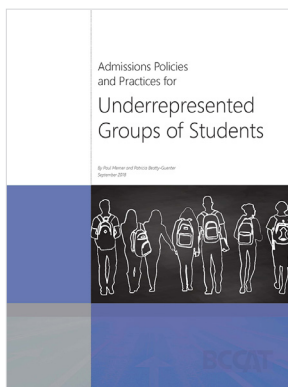
- Undertake environmental scans of articulation processes to foster effective and efficient course and program articulation
- Survey and support articulation and institutions for innovative courses/ blocks
- Assess implications of open educational resources for articulation
- Overview credit banks and credit accumulation mechanisms in other jurisdictions
- Analyze the impact of course and program indigenization on articulation and transfer
- Describe and compare competency-based articulation processes
- Assess the impact of professional regulatory bodies on articulation
- Explore options to integrate existing and potential articulation agreements into the program review process
- Describe, assess and support extra-provincial credit and credential evaluation and recognition evaluation and recognition

Increasing the Availability of Transfer Data: BCCAT has worked with BC Transfer System members and government to develop a data source that captures transfer credit granted at most BC public post-secondary institutions. Currently, the work focuses on improving data consistency and reliability, and sharing the data with articulation committees and other system-level groups in order to better understand credit mobility in the province. *(Admissions Committee)*

Proactive Admissions Overview: The goal of this project is to overview the process for proactive (or direct) admissions in the US post-secondary education and potential use of the mechanism at BC PSIs. *(Admissions Committee)*

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Admissions for Students with Disabilities: The project will review admissions processes at BC Transfer System institutions and compare these processes with EDI principles, with the goal of providing recommendations for designing or revising admissions policies that incorporate EDI principles. *(Admissions Committee)*

HIGHLIGHTED PUBLICATIONS:



TOPICS OF INTEREST

- Describe and compare approaches to calculating grades and GPAs for transfer students for the purposes of admission, academic standing, merit awards and other purposes
- Assess transcription practices and their impact on credit transfer
- Outline policies and programs supporting transfer student persistence and success
- Support credit transfer in centralized application processes
- Review policies and practices in recognition of prior learning, credit recognition, advanced standing, and course exemption
- Assess the implications of hybrid and fully-online programming for student access and mobility
- Assess the impact of pre-requisite courses on student access and success
- Explore innovative admissions strategies and practices and their impact on access and mobility

CREDENTIALS AND PATHWAYS

Pathways from Upgrading Programs into Further Post-Secondary: This project is aimed to identify successful pathways from upgrading to undergraduate programs at BC open access institutions. *(Admissions Committee)*

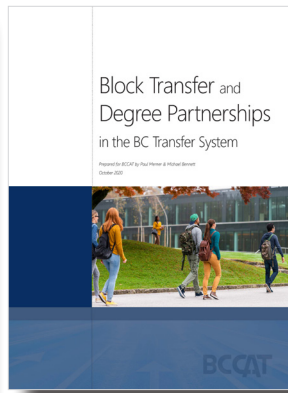
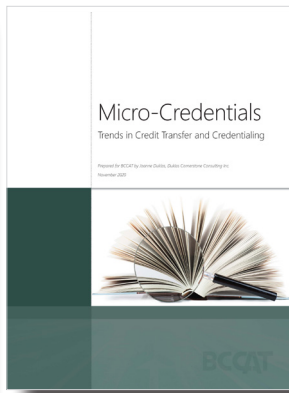
Transfer Pathways of International Students This study aims at assessing the volume and flows of international students in transfer pathways from programs designed for these students, including at selected private PSIs. *(Admissions Committee)*

Tracking Interprovincial Transfer: This pilot project is aimed at assessing quantitative institutional data on transfer student and transfer credit volume from several Alberta and BC institutions to several BC and Alberta institutions respectively. *(Research Committee)*

TOPICS OF INTEREST

- Assess the implications of different types of short credentials for admissions, transfer, articulation, student access and mobility, and transcription
- Evaluate the effectiveness of associate degree, degree partnerships and block transfer pathways
- Describe the impact of post-degree credentials on articulation
- Survey and share successful examples of laddering and degree pathways
- Survey examples of credit transfer for international field schools

HIGHLIGHTED PUBLICATIONS:



SUPPORTING STUDENT ACCESS, MOBILITY, AND SUCCESS

BC Transfer Students Profile and Performance Report

2018/19 – 2022/23: The goal of this project is to analyze current trends in the performance of transfer students at BC public universities as compared to direct-entry students enrolled at any time in the period 2018/19 – 2022/23. *(Research Committee)*

Online Delivery Trends and Intentions - Students Perspective:

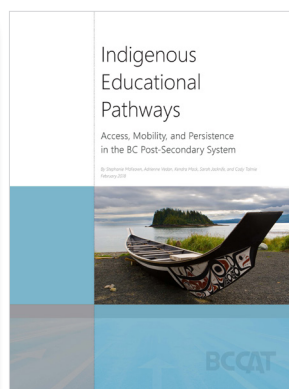
This study aims at identifying and analyzing post-pandemic learners' perceptions and preferences for means of delivery at BC Transfer System institutions. *(Research Committee)*

Exploring Indigenous Ways of Knowing: The project will use a review of literature and of institutional websites, as well as interviews with Indigenous post-secondary organizations to explore how Indigenous approaches to research could inform BCCAT's approach to research. *(Research Committee)*

TOPICS OF INTEREST

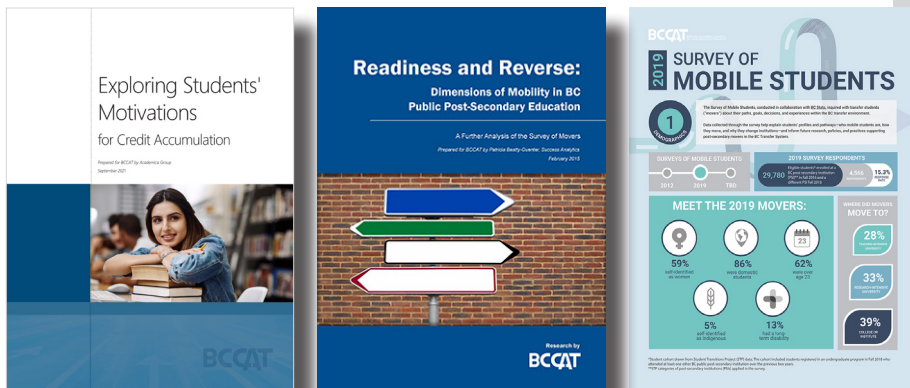
- Identify educational planning needs of various groups of learners, including Indigenous students, mature students and international students
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the BC Transfer System in supporting student access and persistence
- Review and analyze the impacts of pre- and post-transfer advising on student mobility and success
- Survey students who have moved between institutions to better understand their motivations, decision-making processes, and experiences
- Analyze patterns of student mobility in BC

HIGHLIGHTED PUBLICATIONS:



Exploring Summer Melt in BC: The term “summer melt” denotes students who, having received an offer of admission, do not enrol anywhere in their first fall semester following high school graduation. The project is aimed at reviewing existing literature and identifying aspects of the phenomenon that may impact its expression in BC. *(Admissions Committee)*

HIGHLIGHTED PUBLICATIONS:



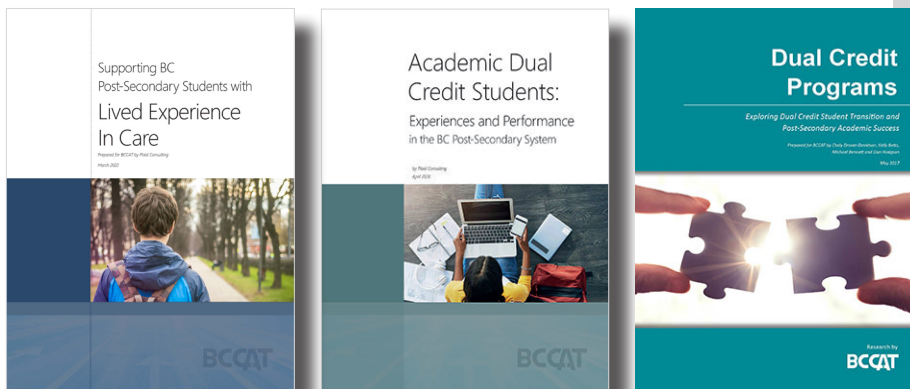
TOPICS OF INTEREST

- Develop transfer student success metrics, including employment outcomes
- Analyze supply and demand for educational programs and describe its implications for transfer and admissions policies and practices
- Increase understanding of mobility between private and public institutions in the BC Transfer System
- Assess the impact of demographic shifts on student program choice and mobility patterns
- Assess the impact of living costs on student program choices, and student mobility patterns
- Analyze international student mobility within the BC Transfer System

HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITIONS

Student Transitions Project: The Student Transitions Project links student data from the BC Ministry of Education with public post-secondary student data. The data allows investigation of student transitions, mobility, and outcomes from the Kindergarten-Grade 12 (K-12) education system to the public post-secondary system, while protecting individual privacy. The Student Transitions Project is governed by a steering committee with representation from British Columbia’s public universities, colleges and institutes; the Ministries of Education and Advanced Education, and BCCAT. Find out more about the [Student Transitions Project](#).

HIGHLIGHTED PUBLICATIONS:



TOPICS OF INTEREST

- Analyze high school performance, graduation and admission requirements, and post-secondary success
- Survey the efficacy of secondary-exit and post-secondary entrance examinations in other jurisdictions
- Assess impacts of dual credit programs on student post-secondary access and mobility
- Analyze patterns of dual credit student transition to post-secondary

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