

ILLINOIS ARTICULATION INITIATIVE

2023 Illinois Legislative Session Amendments

Amendment to Section 15 - Participation

Revised Language

All public institutions shall maintain a complete Illinois Articulation Initiative General Education Core Curriculum package, and all public institutions shall submit and maintain up to 4 core courses in each of the Illinois Articulation Initiative majors, provided the public institution has equivalent majors and courses.

Institution Obligations

- All public institutions are required to participate in the IAI, per the Act. Eligible Private Institutions may, and do, participate.
- An institution must be recognized as a participant of IAI, either as a full participant (both receiving and transferring courses) or as a receiving only institution (receiving courses).
- Full participants in the Illinois Articulation Initiative must submit course syllabi to the General Education Core Curriculum and Major Panels for equivalency review aligned to criteria established by the discipline's panel.
- Once approved, the course will carry the IAI designated code. The institution must submit the course for ongoing review approximately every 5 years after the initial approval date.
- Public institutions that have equivalent majors and course syllabi aligned to the course descriptors for a major panel, should submit courses for panel approval. Private institutions are invited to do so.
- Per the IAI Act, Illinois public institutions "shall submit and maintain up to 4 core courses". Not every major panel has four courses and there would not be a need to submit more than is available.
- Exceptions are made where public institutions do not offer a major. For example, not all institutions have agriculture as a major and/or equivalent courses in this area; therefore, the institution would not be required to submit a course for the Agriculture major panel.

Amendment to Section 20 – Course Transferability

Revised Language

(a-5) All public ~~institutions' institutions shall determine if~~ institutions Illinois Articulation Initiative major courses must be transferable as are direct course equivalents ~~or are elective credit~~ toward the requirements of the major. If the receiving institution does not offer the course or does not offer it at the lower-division level, the student shall receive elective lower-division major credit toward the requirements of the major for the course and may be required to take the course at the upper-division level.

Institution Obligations

- This change clarified the concept of direct transfer equivalent, which means if a course has earned an IAI major code from a lower division institution and the upper division institution the student is transferring into also has a course designated with the same IAI code, the upper division institution must accept this course as a major course.
- The upper division institution no longer has the option of accepting the matching course as an equivalent major course ~~or~~ as a major elective.



Amendment to Section 25 - IBHE and ICCB Duties

Revised Language

(a)The Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Community College Board shall co-manage the implementation, oversight, and evaluation of the Illinois Articulation Initiative, including determining when panels must be discontinued or convened and the specific requirements of the General Education Core Curriculum. Panels must be convened across the fields of General Education, Communications, Humanities and Fine Arts, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Mathematics, **Elementary and Secondary Education**, and other fields as determined by the Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Community College Board.

Institution Obligations

- The amended legislation included provision for major panel focus on Elementary and Secondary Education.
- Work will begin in AY 2023-2024 for this new panel.

For Your Information

- There is no change in the way in which the panels operate. Panels will continue to review courses using the established criteria and will continue to improve upon communication to institutions to help them in the preparation of syllabi for IAI approval.
- Panelist terms are for three years. A three-year term provides for consistency in reviews and provides a nice mix of experienced reviewers with those just joining the panel. Appointments may be made to replace panel members who cannot complete their term.
- Institutions will need to check for compliance regarding **submission** and **maintenance** of courses for each panel (both GECC and major). They should log into the IAI *iManage* site to see the complete list of IAI approved courses for their institution. They can compare their list to the major panels to determine the extent to which they are compliant with the amended legislation regarding major panel participation. If there are concerns with the listing, Institutional Representatives are encouraged to reach out to the IAI Director for clarification. The complete list of major panels and course descriptions for each panel are found via this link: <https://itransfer.org/aboutiai/index.php>
- Amendments to the IAI Act ([Public Act 103-0469](#)) are effective 1/1/2024.

