

## 7. General Education

- I. In September 2007, New Jersey signed into law a collective statewide transfer agreement – also known as the Lampitt Law. This law required the New Jersey Presidents Council (NJPC) to develop, in conjunction with the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education (OSHE), a Statewide Transfer Agreement which was adopted by NJPC on September 22, 2008.

This agreement included a general education program that conforms to specific parameters. In 2011, community college presidents agreed to a General Education Foundation Framework that has been used as the basis for the ongoing review of courses in the assignment of general education status (see Attachment 5).

The General Education Foundation Framework outlines the general education program parameters that community colleges will require for transfer students in specific degree and certificate programs. The purpose of these courses is to develop students' intellectual capacities, abilities, and skills; and to expose students to the ideas and values of a broad range of academic fields including arts, communications, humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, mathematics, and technology.

- II. In order to meet NJCCC's commitment outlined in NJPC's Statewide Transfer Agreement:
  1. The Learning Innovations Committee invites each college in the fall and spring semesters to review its current inventory of general education courses; to submit new courses; and revise and/or delete current courses.
  2. The President Co-Chair of the Learning Innovations Committee invites and convenes a General Education Review Subcommittee (the Chair of the Academic Affairs Affinity Group, and Council staff) to participate in the review of all documentation submitted by the colleges.
  3. All courses that have been submitted for possible designation of General Education status will be evaluated based on the 2011 General Education Foundation Framework.
  4. If the subcommittee determines that the course conforms to the General Education Foundation Framework, then the course will be designated as general education, included on NJ's community college unified statewide general education course list, and transmitted to NJ Transfer.
  5. All courses that have been designated as general education for NJ's Community Colleges are posted on the Council's website.
  6. This process will remain in effect until the Learning Innovations Committee convenes to consider updating the 2011 General Education Foundation Framework and recommends a revised philosophy and review process. This will occur once the Council receives a response from OSHE on its recommendation to reduce the number of general education credits required for an associate in arts degree.