



## NEW SAINT ANDREWS COLLEGE

### Advice to NSA Students Considering Transferring to Other Institutions

1. All questions of transfer are rightfully and appropriately determined by the institution(s) **receiving** the credit. NSA students considering transferring to another institution should inquire of the potential receiving institution as soon as possible to determine if that institution will, in fact, accept or consider accepting credits previously earned at NSA.
2. No student from any institution should assume automatic transferability of their credits to another institution. Transfer policies vary between institutions. Many will not accept credits which were earned with low grades, for example. Also certain classes, such as religion or biblical studies, may not transfer to state institutions. And some courses accepted for transfer may not actually count toward graduation requirements or meet core curriculum or general education requirements.
3. Students should get any official transfer decisions in writing and not depend on phone conversations alone. Always ask for clarification and documentation. Do not assume that the person you are talking to or emailing has the academic authority to make final decision on behalf of the receiving institution. Get such decisions in writing. Such documentation may be crucial later on in the event of an appeal, if needed.
4. New Saint Andrews is **nationally** accredited, but most colleges and universities are **regionally** accredited. Many regionally accredited college admission offices will initially say they do not accept nationally accredited program credits, but that is not always true or the whole story. Check the receiving institution's *published transfer policies* on its website or on-line catalog. If you receive mixed signals or conflicting information, communicate directly with the registrar of the institution for confirmation of the institution's transfer policies. If a state institution resides in a state which has a state-wide "regional only" policy, then the receiving individual institutions will have little to no flexibility (such is the case, for example, in California, Oregon and Washington). However, if it is not a statewide policy, then the individual institutions may have much more flexibility or potential for flexibility. The most common point of flexibility is with admissions of international students. Such students clearly do not come from regionally accredited institutions, so exceptions are often made to the "rule" and an appeal to such exceptions may be justified.
5. NSA's national accrediting body, the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS), is recognized by both the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), the same two bodies that recognize all regional accrediting bodies. If students believe that they have been treated unfairly regarding transfer of credit, please contact the NSA Registrar immediately. They may also contact the president of TRACS ([info@tracs.org](mailto:info@tracs.org)) and/or the president of CHEA ([info@chea.org](mailto:info@chea.org)) directly.
6. All CHEA-recognized institutions are *supposed to* follow the CHEA statement on *Transfer and the Public Interest* ([http://www.chea.org/pdf/transfer\\_state\\_02.pdf](http://www.chea.org/pdf/transfer_state_02.pdf)), which states explicitly that institutions and accreditors should **NOT use accreditation as the sole reason for acceptance or denial**. The CHEA statement expects institutions to make sure that **"decisions are not made solely on the source of accreditation of a sending program or institution."** In other words, the question of transferability should be based on the student's record and academic performance first. According to CHEA, the source of accreditation of the *sending* institution may be considered a legitimate part of a transfer or admissions decision, but it should not be the *sole* or *first* reason for rejection.
7. Please notify the New Saint Andrews College administrative office (208-882-1566; [info@nsa.edu](mailto:info@nsa.edu)) if you encounter any difficulties or accreditation-based discrimination when seeking admission or transfer of credits to other institutions.

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