



APPLYING CAL-GETC GUIDELINES CONSISTENTLY

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INTRODUCTIONS



Kathy Rodriguez

- 5 Years - Director of Admissions and Records (MiraCosta)
- 11 Years - Evaluator (MiraCosta)
- 1 Year - Clerical Assistant, Evaluations (Southwestern)

Thao Pham

- 6 Years - Articulation Officer (Diablo Valley College)
- 4 Years - Program Coordinator and Advisor for Computer Science and Computer Science and Engineering (UC Davis)



DISCLAIMER

This information is intended as guidance only to support consistent and informed evaluations. When questions arise or a determination is unclear, staff are encouraged to use available resources, including consulting with the articulation officer or reaching out to the listserv for additional perspective and shared practice.

WHAT IS CAL-GETC?

- The California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC) is a singular transfer general education pathway for California Community College (CCC) students to fulfill lower-division general education requirements for transfer and admission to the CSU and UC systems.
- Cal-GETC is used for all new students as of Fall 2025.
- Cal-GETC replaced the CSU GE Breadth and IGETC patterns.

CAL-GETC IS NOT INTENDED FOR

EXISTING ADT HOLDERS

Students who have already earned an ADT.

GE CERTIFIED

Completed full CSU GE Breadth or IGETC certification, whether noted on the CCC transcript or otherwise.

CATALOG RIGHTS HOLDERS*

Students who have catalog rights to pre-2025 CSU GE or IGETC.

**Students have the right to choose which GE pattern fits their educational goals best.*

The image features a white background with decorative blue geometric shapes in the corners. These shapes consist of overlapping triangles and squares in various shades of blue, creating a modern, abstract border. The central text is prominently displayed in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

CAL-GETC REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADE REQUIREMENT

- All Cal-GETC courses must be UC-transferable.
- Most IGETC-approved courses rolled over to Cal-GETC, except Area 1C.
- A minimum grade of “C”.
 - “P” grade is acceptable if equivalent to a “C” or higher and grading policy is reflected on the college transcript key or catalog.
 - **A “C-” is not acceptable.**

UNIT MINIMUM

- All courses must have at least 3 semester or 4 quarter units.
 - Exception: Lab courses that are paired with a lecture may be 1 unit.
 - Exception: Math and English sequence courses.

Combining Semester and Quarter Units (Area-Based)

- When combining semester and quarter units within a Cal-GETC area:
 - Convert all units to either semester or quarter units
 - Use the method that benefits the student

COURSE REVIEW STANDARDS

All Courses Must Meet the Following

- Baccalaureate-level, transferable content comparable to UC- and CSU-transferable coursework
- Clear course structure, including
 - learning outcomes
 - methods of instruction
 - evaluation methods
 - representative assignments
- Academic rigor and depth appropriate for lower-division general education, including critical thinking, analysis, and disciplinary engagement.
- Breadth appropriate to the GE area, rather than narrowly focused, applied, or vocational content
- Discipline-appropriate readings or textbooks that support collegiate-level expectations
- Alignment with Cal-GETC Standards for designated areas

COURSES NOT ELIGIBLE FOR CAL-GETC

- Independent study
- Directed study
- Variable-topic courses
- Courses that focus on personal, practical, or applied aspects



CAL-GETC SUBJECT AREAS

CAL-GETC AREA DISTRIBUTION

Summary table for areas of Distribution for Cal-GETC

CAL-GETC SUBJECT AREAS	SUBJECT AREA DESCRIPTIONS	COURSES PER SUBJECT AREA
Area 1 – English Communication	<p>One course from each 1A, 1B, and 1C subject area.</p> <p>Area 1A: English Composition- 1 course (3 semester or 4 quarter units)</p> <p>Area 1B: Critical Thinking and Composition- 1 course (3 semester or 4 quarter units)</p> <p>Area 1C: Oral Communication- 1 course (3 semester or 4 quarter units)</p>	3 courses (9 semester or 12 quarter units; 3 semester or 4 quarter units for each of 1A, 1B, and 1C)
Area 2 – Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning	One course in Area 2.	1 course (3 semester or 4 quarter units)
Area 3 – Arts and Humanities	<p>One course from each 3A and 3B subject area.</p> <p>Area 3A: Arts- 1 course (3 semester or 4 quarter units)</p> <p>Area 3B: Humanities- 1 course (3 semester or 4 quarter units)</p>	2 courses (6 semester or 8 quarter units)
Area 4 – Social and Behavioral Sciences	Two courses from two academic disciplines or in an interdisciplinary sequence.	2 courses (6 semester or 8 quarter units)
Area 5 – Physical and Biological Sciences	<p>One course from each 5A and 5B subject area. One of the two courses must include a laboratory.</p> <p>Area 5A: Physical Science- 1 course (3 semester or 4 quarter units)</p> <p>Area 5B: Biological Science- 1 course (3 semester or 4 quarter units)</p> <p>Area 5C: Laboratory- (1 semester or 1 quarter unit)</p>	2 courses (7 semester or 9 quarter units)
Area 6 – Ethnic Studies	One course in ethnic studies or in a similar field provided that the course is cross-listed with ethnic studies.	1 course (3 semester or 4 quarter units)
TOTAL		11 courses (34 semester or 45 quarter units)

CAL-GETC AREA 1

ENGLISH COMMUNICATION

Requirement - 3 courses total

- 1A: English Composition
- 1B: Critical Thinking & Composition
- 1C: Oral Communication

What to Look For

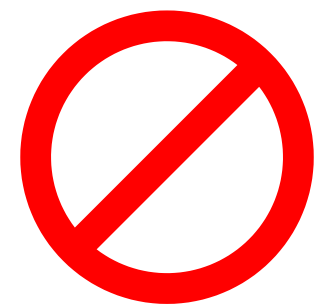
- Writing, rhetoric, argumentation, drafting and revising (1A)
- Analysis of texts and ideas (1B)
- Structured oral presentations (1C)

Must Include

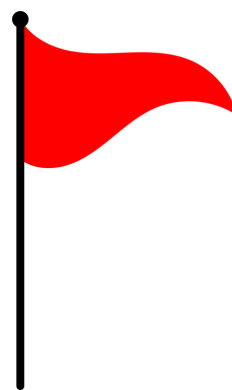
- College-level writing (1A)
- Writing + critical thinking (1B)
- 5,000 words (1A & 1B)
- Informative and persuasive, formal oral communication (1C)

CAL-GETC AREA 1

ENGLISH COMMUNICATION



- Creative writing
- ESL below transfer level
- Grammar-only courses
- Speech without presentations (1C)



- Missing critical thinking
- Unclear writing/analysis rigor
- Online speech without mention of live audiences (1C)
- No word count listed

CAL-GETC AREA 2

MATHEMATICAL CONCEPTS & QUANTITATIVE REASONING

Requirement - 1 Course

What to Look For

- Quantitative reasoning
- Problem-solving
- Data interpretation
- Stated prerequisite with min level of intermediate algebra

Must Include

- Transfer-level math
- Application of math concepts

CAL-GETC AREA 2

MATHEMATICAL CONCEPTS & QUANTITATIVE REASONING

Pass Along Guidance for Elementary School Teachers Math

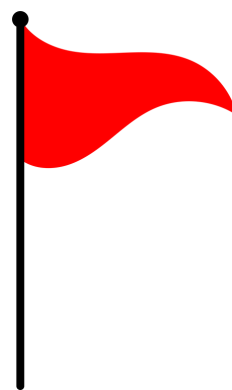
- A course covering mathematical concepts for elementary school teachers is a valuable foundation for future educators. However, it will not be accepted for Cal-GETC Area 2 if the content primarily focuses on elementary school mathematical competencies. A course must engage students with more advanced mathematical reasoning and quantitative skills essential to transfer-level coursework to be considered for Cal-GETC Area 2.

CAL-GETC AREA 2

MATHEMATICAL CONCEPTS & QUANTITATIVE REASONING



- Pre/intermediate algebra
- Support courses alone
- Computation-only courses



- Lack of real-world application
- Unclear rigor (especially out-of-state)
- Courses focused only on procedures

CAL-GETC AREA 3

ARTS & HUMANITIES

Requirement - 2 courses

- 3A: Arts
- 3B: Humanities

What to Look For

- Critical analysis of art, literature, or philosophy
- Interpretation, not just participation

Must Include

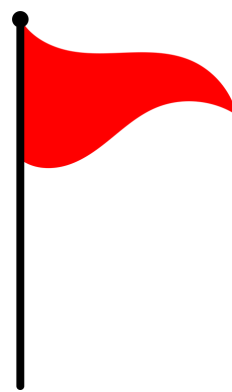
- Arts with integration of history, theory, aesthetics, and criticism (3A)
- Humanities with analysis and appreciation (3B)
- Understanding of the human experience, values, and meaning

CAL-GETC AREA 3

ARTS & HUMANITIES



- Performance-only courses
- Studio or skills-only courses
- Hands-on work without analysis



- Technique-focused courses
- Language without cultural/literary context
- Vocational courses labeled as humanities

CAL-GETC AREA 4

SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Requirement - 2 courses

- From at least 2 disciplines

What to Look For

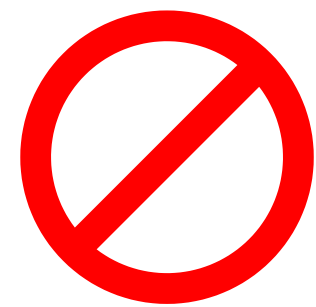
- Study of human behavior and systems using research and empirical analysis
- Use of theory and analysis

Must Include

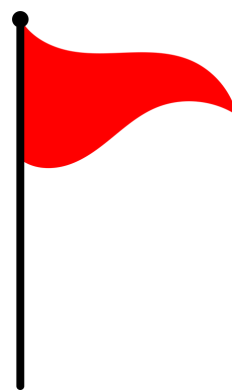
- Disciplinary framework
- Analytical perspective

CAL-GETC AREA 4

SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES



- Personal development courses
- Career or skills-based courses
- Courses without theory



- Leadership courses without theory
- Procedural criminal justice courses
- Descriptive courses lacking analysis

CAL-GETC AREA 5

PHYSICAL & BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Requirement - 3 Courses

- 5A: Physical Science
- 5B: Biological Science
- 5C: Lab

What to Look For

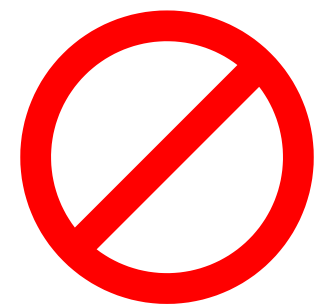
- Scientific method
- Observation and experimentation

Must Include

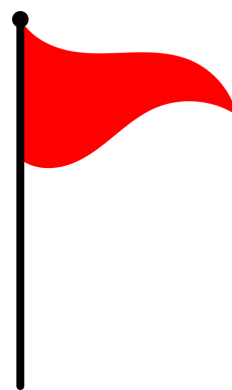
- Physical science
- Biological science
- Lab tied to science course

CAL-GETC AREA 5

PHYSICAL & BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES



- Non-science courses
- Health without biological science
- Informational-only science
- Survey course with both physical and biological science content



- Lab not tied to lecture
- Weak or unclear lab rigor
- Courses lacking scientific method

CAL-GETC AREA 6

ETHNIC STUDIES

Requirement - 1 course

What to Look For

- Race and ethnicity in the U.S.
- Systems, power, and structures

Must Include

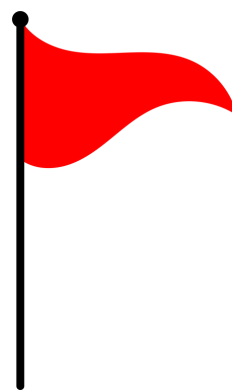
- Focus on historically marginalized groups
- Critical analysis of systems and equity
- 3 of the 5 core competencies

CAL-GETC AREA 6

ETHNIC STUDIES



- General diversity courses
- Global/multicultural without U.S. focus
- Descriptive-only courses
- No course prefix, exception crosslisted courses



- No systems-level analysis
- Broad diversity topics
- History without race/ethnicity focus

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CAL-GETC OPTIONAL AREAS

AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS (AI)

OPTIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR CSU

Counselors can still highly recommend American Institution courses for CSU-bound students.

The AI requirement is not a part of Cal-GETC but those courses can still be used to count for both areas (as it is now).

UC may require American Institutions requirements for students who did not graduate from a California high school.

AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS (AI)

OPTIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR CSU

US1

American History

- Min 100 year span
- Cover at least 3 of 4
 - Politics, Economics, Social Movements, Geography

US2

US Constitution

- US Constitution
- US Political Process and US Institutions
- Rights and obligations written in the US Constitution

US3

CA State & Local Govt

- California Constitution
- Nature and processes of CA state and local government

Requirement met through coursework in all three areas.

LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH (LOTE)

OPTIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR UC

Examinations

Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations:

- Score of 3 or higher in languages other than English.

International Baccalaureate Higher Level (IBHL) Examinations:

- Score of 5 or higher in languages other than English.

General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCE) Examinations:

- "O" level exams in languages other than English with a grade of "A," "B," or "C."
- "A" Level exams in languages other than English with a grade of "A," "B," or "C."

LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH (LOTE)

OPTIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR UC

Examinations Continued

SAT Subject Tests in languages other than English:

Minimum scores as indicated below. If taken before May 1995, use the first score; if taken after May 1995, use the second score:

- Chinese with listening: 500/520
- French/French with listening: 500/540
- German/German with listening: 500/510
- Hebrew (Modern): 500/470
- Italian: 500/520
- Japanese with listening: 500/510
- Korean/Korean with listening: /500
- Latin: 500/530
- Spanish/Spanish with listening: 500/520

LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH (LOTE)

OPTIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR UC

Other Methods

Achievement Tests

- Satisfactory completion of an achievement test administered by a community college, university, or other college in a language other than English. The test must assess the student's proficiency at the level equivalent to two years of high school language. This conclusion must be posted on a transcript indicating units, course title, and grade or on official college letterhead of the institution granting proficiency stating that the student has mastered proficiency in the language equivalent to two years of high school language.

Faculty Verification

- If an achievement test is not available, a faculty member associated with a United States regionally accredited institution of higher education can verify a student's competency. The institution must provide a document on college letterhead asserting that the student has mastered proficiency in the language equivalent to two years/second level of high school instruction.



STANDARDS FOR CONSISTENT EVALUATION & APPLICATION

EVALUATION & APPLICATION

- For California Community Colleges, follow ASSIST first
- For CSU's/UC's/out-of-state or private
 - Identify how it's applied locally
 - Follow UC 7-course pattern admissions area approvals
 - Search for similar CCC approved courses using ASSIST Reports
 - Apply standards
 - Ensure the course meets baseline course review standards before assigning a GE area
- Verify grade, units, and approval year
- Escalate through the established process

CAL-GETC CERTIFICATION

- Only full Cal-GETC certifications will be sent to CSU if requested.
- Partial certifications will be sent to the UC if requested.
- American Institutions and LOTE are not required but can be certified if requested.
- There is no Cal-GETC STEM option.

10.4 Cal-GETC Certification Form

California General Education Transfer Curriculum
Cal-GETC Certification

Name: _____ (Last) (Middle) _____ Student ID#: _____
Transferring to: ___ UC ___ CSU School: _____ Date of Birth: ___/___/___

A minimum "C" grade is required in each college course for Cal-GETC. A "C" is defined as a minimum 2.0 grade points on a 4.0 scale.		Units Comp.
AREA 1 – ENGLISH COMMUNICATION		
1A	ENGLISH COMPOSITION (one course – 3 semester or 4 quarter units) Course: _____ College: _____ Advanced Placement (No IB score accepted for this area): _____	
1B	CRITICAL THINKING AND COMPOSITION (one course – 3 semester or 4 quarter units) Course: _____ College: _____ (No AP or IB scores accepted for this area)	
1C	ORAL COMMUNICATION (one course – 3 semester or 4 quarter units) Course: _____ College: _____ (No AP or IB scores accepted for this area)	
AREA 2 – MATHEMATICAL CONCEPTS AND QUANTITATIVE REASONING (one course – 3 semester or 4 quarter units) Course: _____ College: _____ Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate: _____		
AREA 3 – ARTS AND HUMANITIES (Two courses - one Arts and one Humanities. 6 semester or 8 quarter units)		
3A	ARTS (one course – 3 semester or 4 quarter units) Course: _____ College: _____ Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate: _____	
3B	HUMANITIES (one course – 3 semester or 4 quarter units) Course: _____ College: _____ Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate: _____	
AREA 4 – SOCIAL and BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES (2 courses from two academic disciplines. 6 semester or 8 quarter units)		
	Course: _____ College: _____ Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate: _____	
	Course: _____ College: _____ Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate: _____	
AREA 5 – PHYSICAL and BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES (2 courses - one Physical Science and one Biological Science; at least one of the two courses must be associated with a Laboratory. 7 semester units or 9 quarter units)		
5A	PHYSICAL SCIENCE (one course – 3 semester or 4 quarter units) Course: _____ College: _____ Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate: _____	
5B	BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE (one course – 3 semester or 4 quarter units) Course: _____ College: _____ Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate: _____	
5C	LABORATORY (1 semester or 1 quarter unit) Course: _____ College: _____ Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate: _____	
AREA 6 – ETHIC STUDIES (1 course: 3 semester or 4 quarter units; this course must be in ethnic studies or in a similar field provided that the course is cross-listed with ethnic studies.) Course: _____ College: _____		
(optional) UC GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH (Proficiency equivalent to two years of high school study in the same language)		
	1. Course: _____ College: _____ Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate: _____	
	2. Completed in High School: _____	
	3. Other: _____	
(Optional) CSU GRADUATION REQUIREMENT IN U.S. HISTORY, CONSTITUTION & AMERICAN IDEALS (not part of Cal-GETC; may be completed prior to transfer, 6 units)		
	Course: _____ College: _____ Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate: _____	
	Course: _____ College: _____ Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate: _____	

Cal-GETC certified: YES ___ NO ___

Signature: _____ Phone #: (_____) _____

Certified by (print name): _____ Title: _____

Date: _____

CAL-GETC CERTIFICATION

- Cal-GETC certification
 - Noted directly on the official transcript.
 - Provided on a separate attachment:
 - hard copy mailed
 - emailed
 - sent electronically through a third-party service (e.g., Parchment)

CAL-GETC NOTATIONS ON TRANSCRIPT

There is no statewide guidance requiring how Cal-GETC certification (full or partial) must be reflected. Decisions on whether and how to issue certification are made at the district level.

Examples

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DEGREE: AS-Mathematics for Transfer-AS-T          DATE 05/25 HONORS
DEGREE: AA-Computer Science-AA                   DATE 05/25 HONORS
DEGREE: AS-Engineering-AS                        DATE 05/25 HONORS

Completion of CSU and/or UC IGETC Requirement    DATE 09/21
Partial completion of GEGR                       DATE 07/25
```

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----- CHC Program Awards -----
**Certificate
Major: CSU General Ed - CSUGE Breadth
Date Granted: 08/01/2025

**Degree: Associate of Science
Major: Fire Technology
Date Granted: 08/01/2025
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----- AWARDS CONFERRED -----
ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE FOR TRANS          GRANTED: August 2025
Major: Biology
ID CODE: 35134

CERTIFICATION                           GRANTED: August 2025
Major: IGETC/CSU Full Certification

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT              GRANTED: August 2025
Major: IGETC Gen. Education Breadth
```

GENERAL EDUCATION

Transcript Key

The following transcript notations indicates the student has met all requirements for the general education pattern.

CERT Cal-GETC - Indicates full certification of the California General Education Transfer Curriculum (*Cal-GETC*).

CERT IGETC - Indicates full certification of the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (*IGETC*).

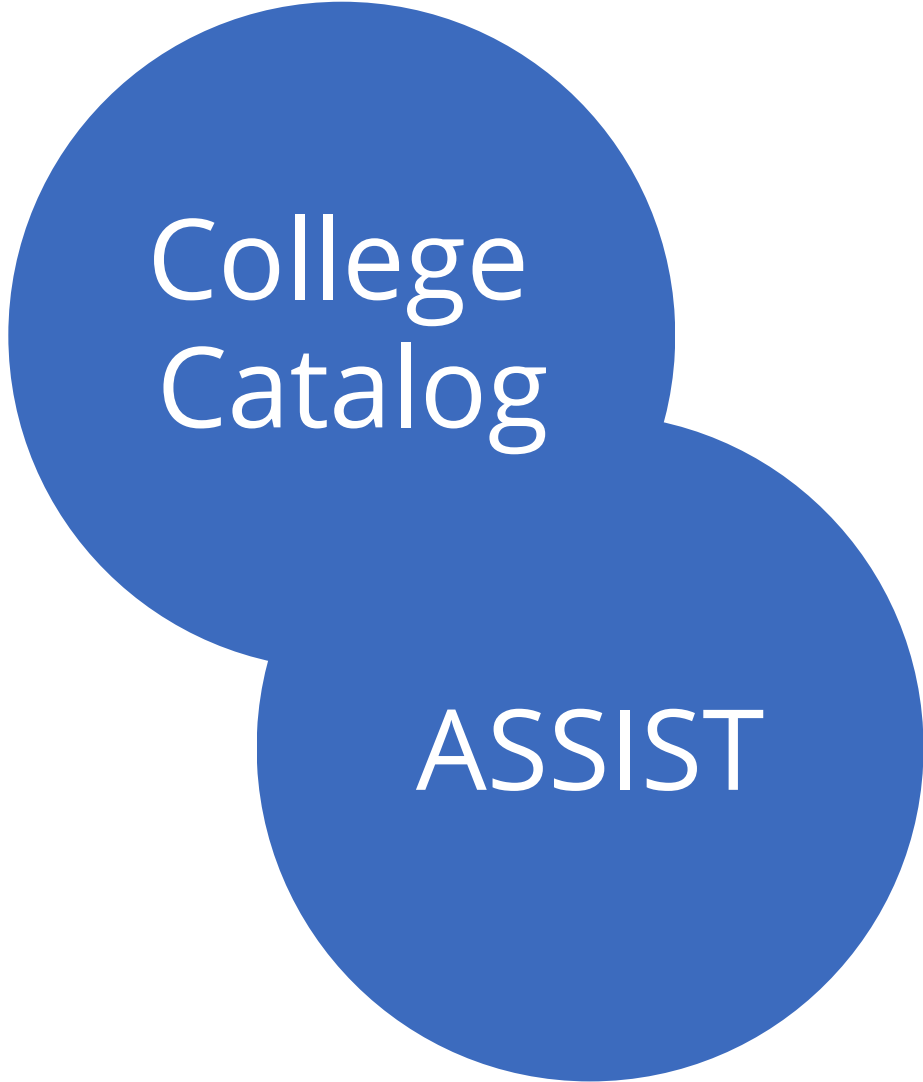
CERT CSU General Education - Indicates full certification of the California State University General Education Breadth pattern.

RESOURCES

- [Cal-GETC Standards Version 1.3 \(2025\)](#)
- [Older Versions](#)
- [Cal-GETC Standards, Policies, and Procedures Version 1.3 Summary of Substantial Changes](#)

Guides

- [Guiding Notes for Cal-GETC Course Review](#)
- [2025 Annual GE Reviewers Training \(updated annually\)](#)
- [UC Transferability Guidelines](#)
- [Criteria for CSU Baccalaureate Level Courses](#)



College
Catalog

ASSIST

SUBSCRIBE TO EVALUATOR LISTSERV

A screenshot of a web form titled "CCC-ADMISSIONS" is centered on the slide. The form is set against a background image of a snowy mountain range reflected in a frozen lake. The form includes a logo, a title, a subtitle, a paragraph of instructions, a dropdown menu for "List Name" (currently showing "CCC-EVALUATORS CCC Trar"), a "Name:" text input field, an "Email Address:" text input field, a reCAPTCHA "I'm not a robot" checkbox, and three buttons: "SUBSCRIBE", "UNSUBSCRIBE", and "UNSUBSCRIBE (ALL LISTS)". A yellow arrow points from the left towards the "List Name" dropdown menu.


CCC-ADMISSIONS
CCC Admissions & Records - Deans, Directors & Staff

To subscribe or unsubscribe, enter your name and email address. You can also manage your subscriptions by [logging in](#) with your LISTSERV password.

List Name:
CCC-EVALUATORS CCC Trar ▼ Update

Name:
[Text Input Field]

Email Address:
[Text Input Field]

I'm not a robot  reCAPTCHA
Privacy - Terms

SUBSCRIBE UNSUBSCRIBE
UNSUBSCRIBE (ALL LISTS)

THANK YOU

