

Executive Summary

Background

In March 2015, the Board of Regents' Academic, Research, and Student Affairs (ARSA) Committee requested a review by the Chancellor's Office of transfer and articulation policies and practices across the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE). This request was prompted by persistent concerns expressed by regents, students, legislators, and other education stakeholders regarding the challenges reported anecdotally by students when trying to transfer courses from one institution to another.

The Nevada Board of Regents responded to these concerns over the years, including adopting policies governing the transfer and articulation of courses within NSHE designed to streamline the process, and requesting audits of the policies. The ARSA Committee's request for a review of these policies reflects an ongoing desire of the Board to identify and address the source of any challenges for transfer students. This effort is consistent with the Board's strategic planning goals, including access (increase participation in post-secondary education), success (increase student success), close the achievement gap among underserved student populations, and workforce (collaboratively address the challenges of the workforce and industry education needs of Nevada).

In Fall 2015, the NSHE Department of Academic and Student Affairs conducted the first phase – a full audit of the NSHE transfer policies – and [reported](#) its initial findings to the ARSA Committee in June 2016. The second phase – [reported](#) to the ARSA Committee in February 2019 – focused on the full audit of all regional transfer agreements between NSHE institutions, as well as recent actions by the Board to address the ongoing concerns relating to transfer and articulation. This report is the third and final phase of review that includes a follow-up review of all regional transfer agreements. Findings and recommendations of this third phase are included herein. Each phase of this extensive review yielded positive results, an indication that NSHE transfer and articulation policies, procedures, and agreements support student success by ensuring that students transfer seamlessly.

The Process

In the interest of consistency, all regional transfer agreement reviews were completed in the same manner. The 2018 and 2019 phases consisted of auditing all available transfer agreements whereas the 2015 audit was completed using a random sample of transfer agreements. The 2019 audit included a



