Numerous studies show that students may change their minds and their majors several times, it is important that they have an understanding of what a major means.

For a complete list of Majors offered by the College review the listing in the current Bergen Community College catalog. (available at www.bergen.edu)

College students are repeatedly asked the questions, “What’s your major” and many are often uncertain or confused by the question.

A major is basically an academic area that has been chosen, The major is what determines the courses of study that a student will follow.

BCC does not have an “undeclared” option so even if your student does not know, they probably selected a major when applying to the College.

What’s Your Major? And why it matters

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Elements of a degree

A college degree whether it is a two year associate degree or a 4 year bachelor’s degree has three basic components: the general education requirements, the major requirements and electives.

The distribution of courses among these 3 components varies from major to major and institution to institution.

It is important for your student to know and understand their major and the courses that are required to complete it to earn their degree.

It is also important for your student to be aware of how that degree will transfer to other college’s and universities.

Being prepared, will help your student have an easier time as they transition from BCC to the College of their choice.

Students can view their major and the course requirements via their Web Advisor account. Program Evaluation, on Web Advisor, outlines the courses needed for the degree. This information should be used collaboratively with the Major requirements listed in the College Catalog.

Not knowing the degree requirements for the major may result in your student choosing classes that are not part of the required coursework.

For Your Student that wants to Transfer to a 4 year College/University

Bergen Community College Awards the following degrees:

- Associate of Art (AA)
- Associate of Science (AS)
- Associate of Fine Art (AFA)
- Applied Associate of Art (AAS)
- Certificate (CERT)
- Certificate of Achievement (COA)

Which one is your student in?

Need help?

Admission Office—to correct information on the application A115

Career Center to learn and explore career options A118

Transfer Counselors for information about which major to be in & plan coursework to transfer to 4 year College A118

Watch for College Fairs every semester Oct March

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College 101—for Parents

Steps to a Successful Transfer:

1. Know what your Major is. Associate of Arts and Associate of Science are the degrees easiest to transfer with.

2. Meet with a transfer counselor (after completion of 12 college credits including WRT 101)


4. Decide, as soon as possible, intended College/University and Major

5. Use NJ Transfer along with transfer counselor to map out suggested coursework

6. Determine transfer application process, admission requirements and deadlines

NJ Lampitt Bill—helps to simplify the transfer process

New Jersey’s Lampitt Bill seeks to make transferring from a community college to a 4 year Public College Seamless. It provides for full transfer of Associate of Arts (AA) and Associate of Science (AS) graduates. But there are rules.

Some Facts:

- The law applies to AA & AS degree graduates only
- It is valid only for NJ public institutions.
- The law does not guarantee that the student will be accepted into the College of your choice as a transfer student.

The Student Should:

- Visit a Transfer Counselor at the Center for Student Success, A118
- Understand their degree requirements for their major
- Attend College Fairs & campus visits by 4 year Colleges & Universities to help with preparation

Transfer Planning Guidelines

Planning ahead, exploring options making smart choices is the best advice we can give.

Transfer Timeline:

0-24 College Credits:

- confirm enrollment in a transfer program

24-45 College Credits

- Meet with a transfer counselor
- Research schools

45 + College Credits

- Apply for Graduations with BCC
- Apply for financial aid & scholarships
- Submit application for Transfer College

Www.njtransfer.org

Provides information for Community College students on

- which course to select
- How the courses taken now will transfer to 4 year schools
- Where to transfer
- How to contact 4 year schools about admission questions

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