

TRANSFER CREDIT POLICIES

GENERAL TRANSFER GUIDELINES

Faith follows the Transfer Credit Practices policy guide which may be supplemented as needed by current best practices. When evaluating credits, either before or after an application has been received, three major considerations will be followed regardless of institutional accreditation:

1. The educational quality of the learning experience
2. The comparability of the nature, content, and level of the learning experience
3. The appropriateness and applicability of the learning experience to our programs

Normally credits are evaluated by the Registrar and/or program chairs/deans. Official transcripts must be submitted from all institutions attended whether course work was completed or not. Initial evaluations may be made from unofficial transcripts, but validation will be effective upon receipt of an official transcript and after matriculation of the student.

The student must request the transcript be sent from the originating institution to our Admission's Office. An initial evaluation detailing applicable course- by-course acceptance will be communicated to the prospective student in a timely manner by the Registrar through the Admissions Office. A cumulative GPA of 2.5 for transfer credits is expected in order to be admitted in good standing.

Transfer credits are not used in averaging GPAs; only credits and grade points earned at Faith are used in the cumulative GPA. In order to be awarded academic honors upon graduation, the transfer student must receive at least 60 credit hours over a period of at least four semesters while in residence at Faith.

The maximum number of transfer credits accepted from a two-year college is 65, and all such credits normally would be considered as lower division credit.

Transfer students seeking a Bachelor's degree must complete at least 30 credits in at least two consecutive semesters in residence; those seeking an Associate's degree must complete at least 15 credits in at least two consecutive semesters in residence.

Transfer students are exempt from taking the English entrance test if they are accepted with a status of sophomore (24 credits) or if they have passed an acceptable college-level English course with a grade of "C" (2.0) or better. All first-time students are expected to take the Bible entrance assessment test and the writing pretest.

Students currently enrolled at Faith must get administrative approval before taking courses at another institution for transferring credit back to Faith. Once enrolled in a four-year program, it is expected that no more than 24 credits will be accepted from other educational institutions or through CLEP testing. Courses taken online will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

TRANSFER CREDITS FROM AN ACCREDITED INSTITUTION

These institutions (and their accrediting agencies) are listed in the Education Directory, Part III, Higher Education published by U.S. Department of Education. Courses with a grade of "C" (2.0) or better that may transfer from an accredited institution can be used toward graduation and may be used to meet requirements for specific courses toward a student's major.

TRANSFER CREDITS FROM AN UNACCREDITED INSTITUTION

Credits earned from an unaccredited institution may be accepted based upon criteria given above. If the course is accepted, the grade must be “C” (2.0) or better. Credit may be given for courses equivalent to the core courses required on a program-by-program basis. Any non-applicable course work may be considered as elective credit. Such elective credits would normally count toward credit hours required for graduation. The transferability of all such course work is expected to meet the same standards as those required from an accredited institution.

TRANSFER OF COURSE WORK COMPLETED OUTSIDE THIS COUNTRY

To receive credit for course work done outside the U.S. and scripted in a language other than English, the student may need to have the transcript evaluated by a transcript evaluation agency such World Education Services. Such an agency provides the student with an authenticated academic transcript and an evaluation report. The student must contact the agency, pay the service fee, and have the report sent to the Faith Admission’s Office.

Work done by a transcript evaluation agency provides a guide, but Faith retains the right to determine transferability of courses, credits, and degrees. If requested, additional information may need to be provided prior to transcript evaluation and/or acceptance. In some cases, transfer credit may be granted if the course work has been completed through an institution in the United States.

ARTICULATION AGREEMENT WITH MERCY COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Faith participates in an articulation agreement with Mercy College of Health Sciences in Des Moines, Iowa. Faith students in the Biblical Studies A.A. / Accelerated BSN program will complete their first three years of study on the campus of FBBC. During that time, they will not only earn their Biblical Studies A.A. degree from Faith but will also complete the prerequisite classes needed to be accepted into Mercy’s Accelerated BSN program. The credits earned at Faith will transfer to Mercy to cover the core of their bachelor’s degree program. Faith students who meet Mercy’s prerequisite and GPA requirements will be guaranteed a place in the Accelerated BSN program. The fourth year the student will be enrolled full-time at Mercy for a calendar year to complete the classes needed for the BSN degree. Students who attend FBBC can choose to continue to live in the dormitories year-round while they study at Mercy.

TEST-OUT OPPORTUNITIES

Faith recognizes the following opportunities for the possible conversion into college credit. Any such credits granted will not satisfy Faith’s residency requirements. No more than 24 total credits may be applied to a program of study by using the following options:

1. Awarding of credits for our College Mathematics course if a student receives the appropriate score: ACT–25 or higher; SAT–590 or higher; CLT–22 or higher.
2. Awarding of credits for our English Composition I course if a student receives the appropriate score: ACT–30 or higher; SAT–670 or higher; CLT–31 or higher.
3. Satisfactory completion of selected AP exams: Students who take a high school advanced placement class and pass the end-of-course test for college credit with a score of 3 or better, should request that the test results be sent directly to Faith for evaluation of credits.
4. Satisfactory completion of selected CLEP exams: Faith accepts for credit grades achieved through approved means, such as CLEP (College Level Examination Program) examinations, toward fulfilling the requirements of its college programs. Credits through CLEP examinations are possible in such areas as English composition, history, literature, mathematics, and natural sciences. Students must achieve a score of 50 or better, as recommended by the College Entrance Examination Board, in order for credit to be recognized by the college. Scores should be sent directly to the college. Contact the Registrar’s office for additional details.
5. Military courses or training as recommended by the American Council on Education.