



Swarthmore College Transfer Agreement with Honors Transfer Council of California



PURPOSE

The purpose of this agreement is to maintain collaboration between Swarthmore College and members of the Honors Transfer Council of California in order to facilitate the smooth transition, according to standards consistent with the Swarthmore transfer policy, of exceptional students from member community colleges to Swarthmore College for completion of students' bachelor's degrees.

MEMBERSHIP

This agreement includes all member colleges of the HTCC.

GOALS

- Encourage exceptional HTCC honors students to enroll at Swarthmore College.
- Assist students in the transition from HTCC honors programs to degree programs at Swarthmore.
- Promote student academic preparation and transfer planning.
- Support and promote the value and benefits of community college transfer.
- Expedite baccalaureate degree completion by HTCC honors students.

COMMITMENT BY SWARTHMORE COLLEGE

As part of this agreement, Swarthmore College will:

1. Consider a transfer applicant's completion of an honors program at an HTCC-member community college to be evidence of enhanced rigor in academic preparation for transfer.
2. Practice need-blind admission for U.S. citizens, permanent residents, or undocumented/DACA students graduating from a U.S. high school.
3. Meet the full determined financial need of all admitted students without student loans.
4. Provide transfer student orientation.
5. Guarantee on-campus housing.

6. With the announcement of admission, provide a preliminary evaluation of transferable credit.
7. Designate an admissions liaison to HTCC and member colleges.

COMMITMENT BY PARTICIPATING HTCC COLLEGES

As part of this agreement, participating HTCC community colleges will:

1. Provide an organized structure for development and offering of honors courses. Such a program will be represented in each member college's governance structure and will be directed or coordinated by a member of the college's instructional faculty.
2. Present an intellectually enriched transfer curriculum that emphasizes in-depth projects, scholarly writing, critical thinking, and research skills within a stimulating academic environment. This includes maintaining class sizes at a level appropriate to sound honors pedagogy.
3. Identify an honors counselor from each member college to serve as primary liaison between Swarthmore College and student members of HTCC honors programs.
4. Work with the admissions office at Swarthmore College to ensure the completeness of each applicant's admission file, including verification of honors coursework and honors program completion status.
5. Encourage periodic review of the transfer curriculum to ensure that it is feasible for honors students graduating from HTCC member community colleges to transfer to Swarthmore College. HTCC member colleges will ensure that their honors graduates have (a) fulfilled their college requirements with at least a 3.5 GPA and (b) completed the honors program with at least 15 units of an honors curriculum involving intensive writing and critical thinking.
6. Provide Swarthmore College with opportunities to recruit honors students on campus.
7. Ensure that honors counselors and directors at each member college provide students with information about this agreement and about Swarthmore College requirements.

COMMITMENT BY THE HONORS TRANSFER COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

As part of this agreement, HTCC will:

1. Provide Swarthmore College with contact information for honors counselors at HTCC member colleges and promote opportunities for Swarthmore College to interact with those counselors.
2. Encourage its members to work with their Veterans Education and Transition Services (VETS) offices to increase awareness of the opportunities available at Swarthmore and of Swarthmore's Yellow Ribbon Program.
3. Encourage its members to work with their local student services offices to increase awareness among underrepresented and first-generation students of the opportunities available at Swarthmore College.

4. Require the Chair of Transfer Relations to be continually available in order to facilitate communication among Swarthmore College, the HTCC, and HTCC member colleges.
5. Require the Chair of Transfer Relations to annually review the lines of communication and accuracy of the contact information of all parties to this agreement and revise the partnership agreement as necessary.
6. Require the Chair of Transfer Relations to maintain a landing page for Swarthmore College on the HTCC's website to enable students to most effectively search opportunities available at Swarthmore.
7. Invite Swarthmore College representatives to the annual Honors Transfer Fairs and other events as they arise in order to build relationships among Swarthmore College representatives and honors students, honors directors, and honors counselors.

AGREED:

Windsor Jordan, Jr.
Director of Access and Equity
Swarthmore College

February 2025

Date

Christina Yamanaka-Vu
President
Honors Transfer Council of California

February 2025

Date