Credit Mobility: Building Transparent Transfer Systems for Accurate and Equitable Credit Recognition

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COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY



Agenda

- Transfer Landscape
- Credit Mobility
  - Course-to-Core
  - Military Credit Mobility
  - AA/AS and AAS Pathways
- Reverse Transfer
- Transfer Explorer
- Coastal Bound Program
- Next Steps

Transfer Landscape

Who

- Estimated 43 million Americans have some college credit but no degree
  - 500,000 in SC
- Community colleges serve about 40% of all undergraduates annually in the U.S.
  - First-generation students,
  - Pell-eligible students,
  - Black, Hispanic/Latinx, and Indigenous students,
  - Older/adult learners compared to many four-year institutions.

What

- Movement between institutions; systems, policies, pathways, and supports
  - Vertical Transfer
  - Lateral Transfer
  - Military Credit Transfer

When

- Graduation probability and early credit accumulation
- Credit applicability, not only volume, supports completion

Why

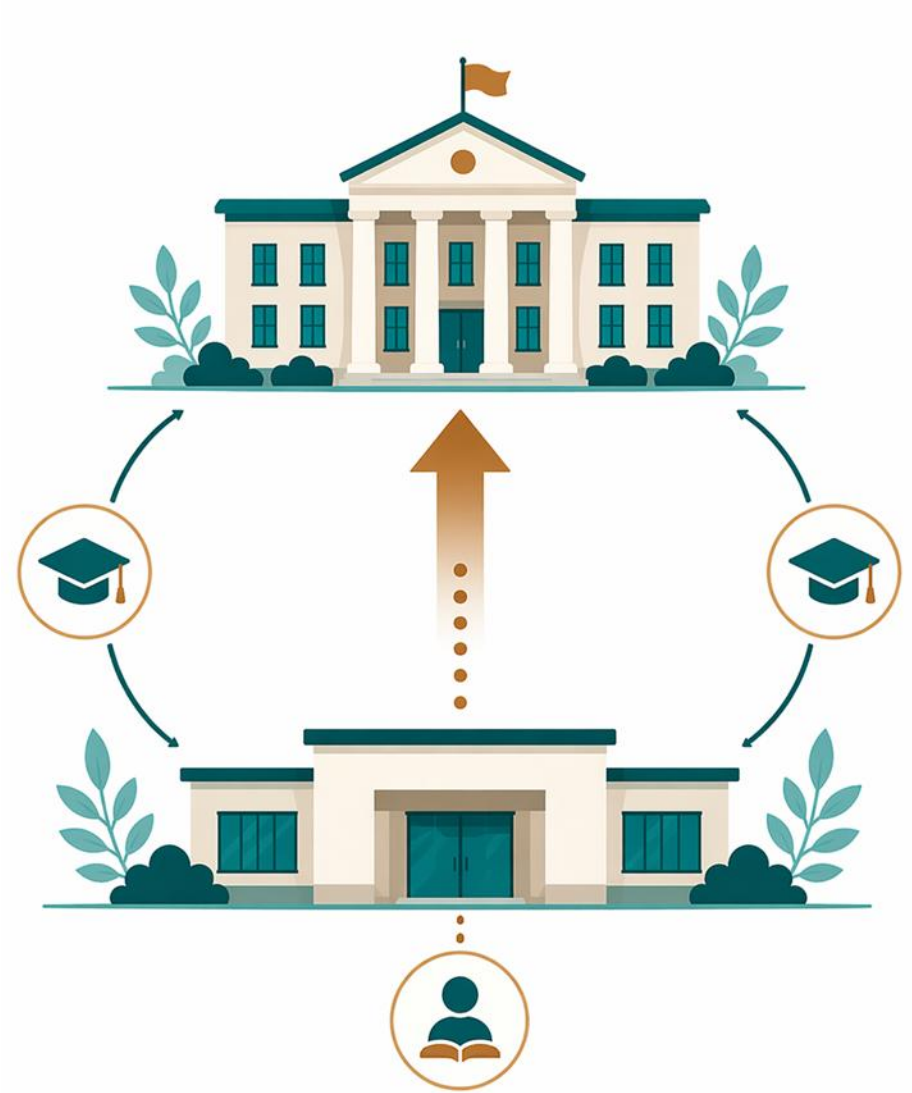
- 80/30/16
- 66% of jobs with family-sustaining wages will require a bachelor's degree by 2031

Where

- South Carolina Technical College System (SCTCS-16 Community and Technical Colleges)
- Rural Areas

Credit Mobility

- Course to Core
  - List of 86
- Military Credit Mobility
  - ACE Military Guide
- AA/AS and AAS Pathways
  - Course to Course
  - Program to Program
- Reverse Transfer



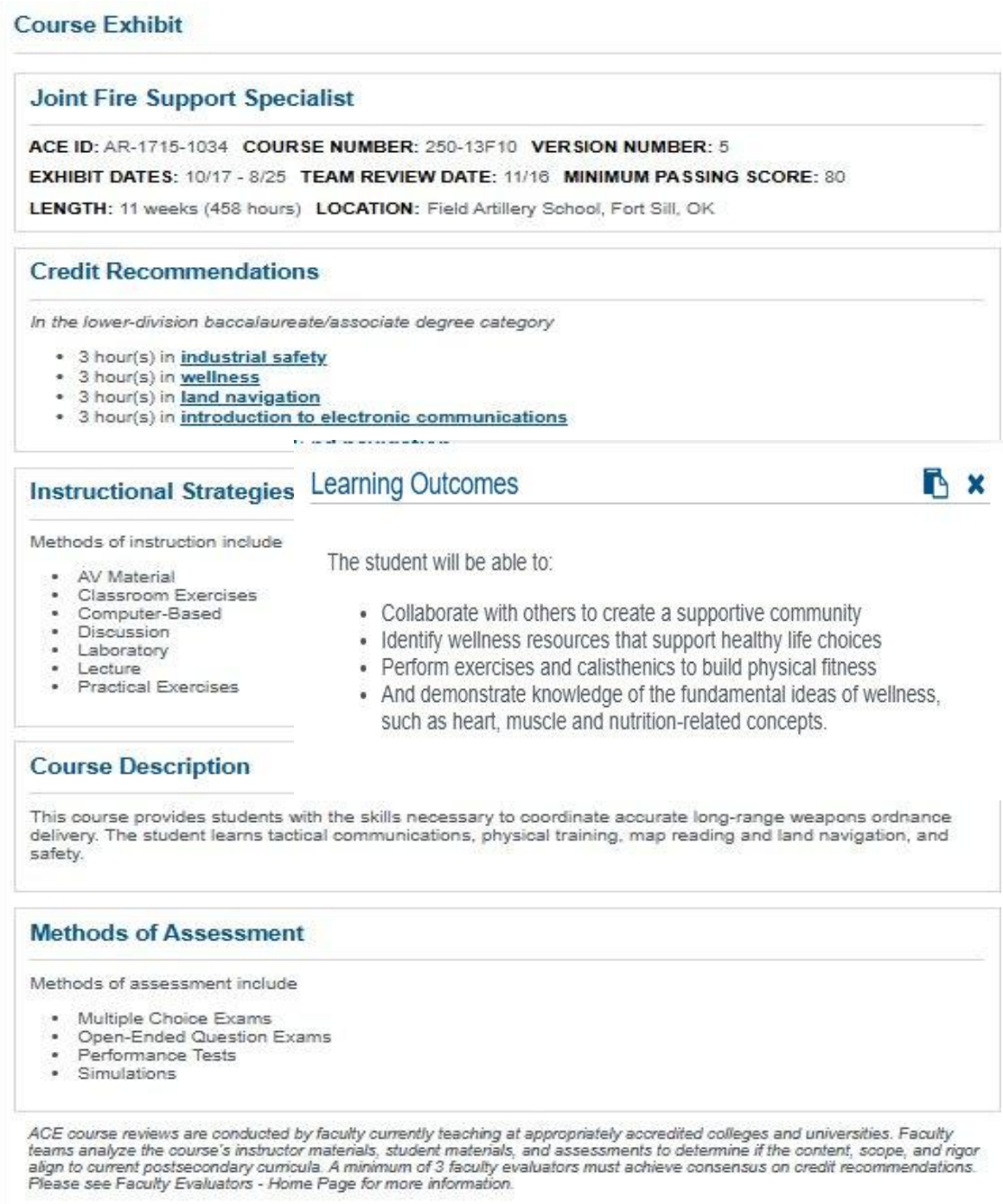
Course to Core

- **South Carolina State Transfer and Articulation Action Plan: Recommendation 3**
  - **Academic Pathways Group**
    - Develop a matrix to standardize courses for equivalent, transferable, and **degree-benefiting** credit
    - Develop a process to use common general education **learning outcomes** to supersede course equivalencies
    - Establish common standards to evaluate and **award credit consistently** and with maximum applicability to degrees
    - 25 Courses from List of 86 SCTCS approved for Core Curriculum Credit
      - 698 awarded between Fall 2025 and Fall 2026

- **Critical Thinking and Reasoning**
  - **CRTR*XXX**
- **Quantitative Literacy**
  - **QUAN*XXX** (179)
- **Scientific Concepts**
  - **SNCN*XXX** (122)
- **Human and Social Behavior**
  - **HUSB*XXX** (318)
- **Humanistic Thought**
  - **HUTH*XXX** (20)
- **BOTH Critical Thinking and Humanistic Thought**
  - **CTRHT*XXX** (59)

Military Credit Mobility

- **SC-CHE Military Credit for Prior Learning Advisory Board**
  - Establish ways for South Carolina service members to **maximize credit mobility** towards certifications, associates, or bachelor's degrees, rather than electives.
  - Over 145 CCU direct equivalency degree-applicable credit hours awarded (25/FA and 26/FA)
  - Military Course to Core



Course Exhibit

Joint Fire Support Specialist

ACE ID: AR-1715-1034 **COURSE NUMBER:** 250-13F10 **VERSION NUMBER:** 5
EXHIBIT DATES: 10/17 - 8/25 **TEAM REVIEW DATE:** 11/16 **MINIMUM PASSING SCORE:** 80
LENGTH: 11 weeks (458 hours) **LOCATION:** Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, OK

Credit Recommendations

In the lower-division baccalaureate/associate degree category

- 3 hour(s) in industrial safety
- 3 hour(s) in wellness
- 3 hour(s) in land navigation
- 3 hour(s) in introduction to electronic communications

Instructional Strategies

Methods of instruction include

- AV Material
- Classroom Exercises
- Computer-Based
- Discussion
- Laboratory
- Lecture
- Practical Exercises

Learning Outcomes

The student will be able to:

- Collaborate with others to create a supportive community
- Identify wellness resources that support healthy life choices
- Perform exercises and calisthenics to build physical fitness
- And demonstrate knowledge of the fundamental ideas of wellness, such as heart, muscle and nutrition-related concepts.

Course Description

This course provides students with the skills necessary to coordinate accurate long-range weapons ordnance delivery. The student learns tactical communications, physical training, map reading and land navigation, and safety.

Methods of Assessment

Methods of assessment include

- Multiple Choice Exams
- Open-Ended Question Exams
- Performance Tests
- Simulations

ACE course reviews are conducted by faculty currently teaching at appropriately accredited colleges and universities. Faculty teams analyze the course's instructor materials, student materials, and assessments to determine if the content, scope, and rigor align to current postsecondary curricula. A minimum of 3 faculty evaluators must achieve consensus on credit recommendations. Please see Faculty Evaluators - Home Page for more information.

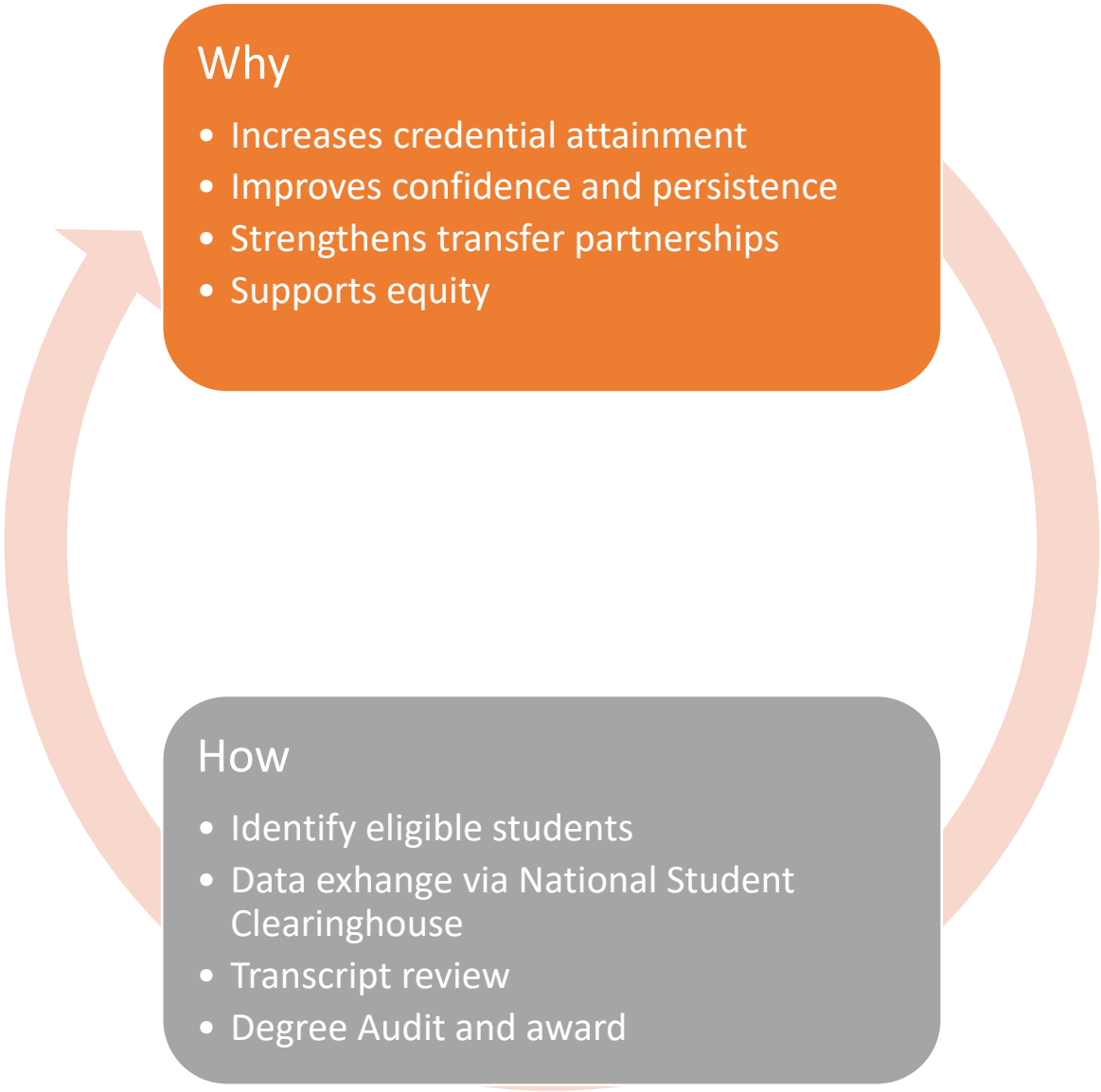
AA/AS and AAS Pathways

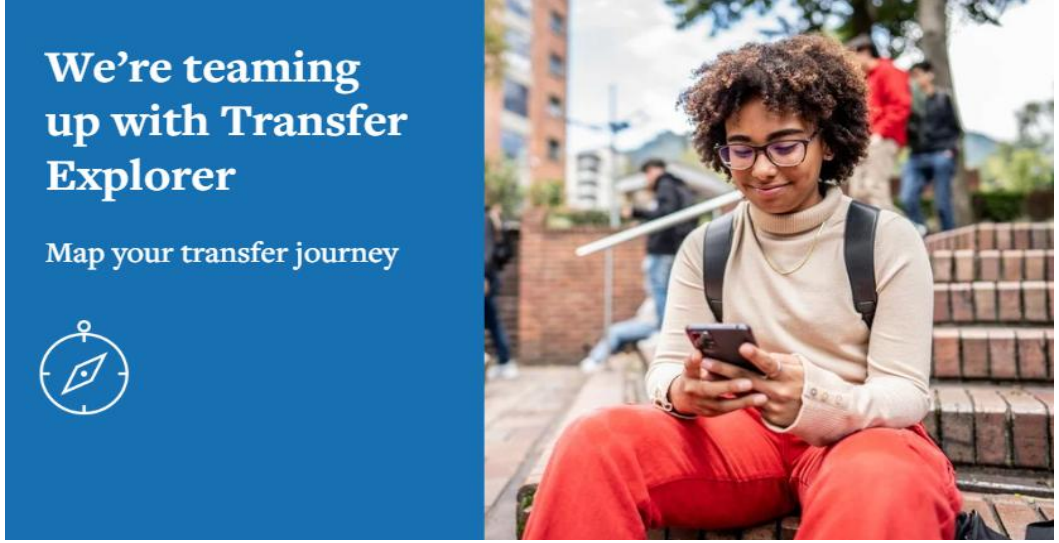
- **Statewide agreement**
  - Guaranteed academic admission
  - Core Curriculum Exemption AA/AS

- **Transfer Articulation Agreements (TAA) AAS**
  - Program to Program
  - Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)
  - General Education Requirement



Reverse Transfer





Transfer Explorer: (www.https://transferexplorer.org/)

- **What is does…**
  - Course-to-course equivalencies in real time
  - Maps how courses apply to specific degree programs
  - Allows students and advisors to plan pathways with confidence
  - Supports scaling articulation beyond agreements

- **What it does not…**
  - It does not replace articulation agreements—it can complement them
  - It does not guarantee outcomes—but increases clarity and alignment
  - It is not static—it requires ongoing collaboration and data accuracy

Coastal Bound

- Early engagement
- Pre-Transfer/Joint Advising
- Guided Transfer Pathway
- Opportunities to experience student life
- Commitment to develop and improve Transfer Articulation Agreements



Next Steps

- SCTCS Coastal Bound agreements
  - Annual review and curriculum alignment of courses, programs, and agreements
  - Expand program level agreements and pathways
  - Coordinate faculty engagement
  - Transfer Explorer training
- Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) Expansion



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