To: Academic and advising units  
From: Maggie Slattery, Assistant Dean for General Education  
Re: General Education requirement guidelines for transfer and re-enrollment students

The purpose of this memo is to provide guidance on the application of the new General Education requirements to students advanced in their coursework, particularly transfer and re-enrollment students.

Per Faculty Senate legislation dated April 2015 and March 2016, the new General Education requirements apply to all students who matriculate in Summer 2018 and later. Per Senate policy 82-20, “…University degree requirements (including General Education) are those in effect at the time of a student’s first scheduled class meeting following the most recent admission as a degree candidate”, therefore transfer students and students who reenroll in Summer 2018 will default to the new General Education requirements.

Despite this, the General Education implementation committee was very specific that “Exceptions and substitutions can be made by the Associate Deans, or through the normal petition process or other approval process of the student’s college of graduation.” Additionally, “Special situations relating to flexibility may include: (a) the need to honor articulation agreements; (b) the distinctive needs of … transfer or advanced standing students, which will receive careful consideration…” This recommendation acknowledges that articulation agreements must be followed and that additional accommodations may be needed as we implement changes.

To ease implementation of the requirement for students who are advanced in their coursework and to prevent inadvertently delaying a student’s graduation, academic units are encouraged to consider allowing transfer students and re-enrolled students to opt into the old General Education program for the next two years (until Summer 2020).

The process for requesting a change of General Education year should follow the normal curricular petition process, as determined by the student’s college and will be reviewed by those who routinely approve General Education substitutions for each academic unit. A student’s General Education year can be adjusted by college records staff who have access to the program plan stack in LionPATH. The process requires this person to access the Program Plan Stack-Student Program tab and change the Requirement Term back to 2017.

Please contact the Office for General Education if there are questions about this recommendation.