

# Council of Presidents

REPRESENTING WASHINGTON'S PUBLIC BACCALAUREATE INSTITUTIONS

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## Memorandum

**Date:** April 4, 2013

**Subject:** Revising the Quantitative/Symbolic Reasoning Requirement in the DTA

Washington's Public Baccalaureate Institutions are committed to supporting and strengthening the long-standing and successful Direct Transfer Agreement (DTA) between the two-year and four-year sectors of higher education in the state. To that end, the undersigned institutions approve, and recommend implementation of, the attached revision of that agreement.

The effects of this revision will be to:

1. Clarify and narrow the options for completing the Quantitative/Symbolic Reasoning (QSR) Skills requirement in the DTA, thus strengthening QSR student outcomes;
2. Communicate that different degree pathways utilize different college-level QSR starting points;
3. Recognize that, while all college students should have high-quality preparation in intermediate algebra, different versions of intermediate algebra course work may be appropriate as prerequisites for specific courses that meet the QSR requirement;
4. Support the community and technical colleges' innovative efforts to promote retention, completion, and transfer success.

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Marilyn A. Levine, Provost, Central Washington University

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Rex Fuller, Provost, Eastern Washington University

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Michael Zimmerman, Provost, The Evergreen State College

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Ana Mari Cauce, Provost, University of Washington

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Warwick M. Bayly, Provost, Washington State University

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Catherine A. Riordan, Provost, Western Washington University

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## Proposed Change to the Direct Transfer Agreement (DTA)

### MATH IN THE DTA

#### 1998 – Current DTA requirement:

Quantitative/Symbolic Reasoning Skills (5 credits)

1. One of the following (5 credits)
  - (1) Symbolic reasoning course
  - (2) Quantitative reasoning course in computer science, statistics, mathematics, or other discipline for which intermediate algebra is a prerequisite.
  
2. Intermediate Algebra Proficiency -- All students must be proficient in intermediate algebra. May be satisfied by completion of high school mathematics through second year algebra, by course challenge or other examination demonstrating mastery of intermediate algebra skills, or by completion of an intermediate algebra course (to be numbered below 100) or a mathematics course for which intermediate algebra is a prerequisite.

#### 2013 – Proposed New Requirement

Quantitative/Symbolic Reasoning Skills (5 credits)

1. Five (5) credits of college level mathematics (a course with a Mathematics prefix numbered 100 or above<sup>1</sup>) that furnishes the quantitative skills required in the commonly recognized educational transfer pathways toward a baccalaureate degree. Accepted courses in these pathways are: Precalculus or higher, Mathematics for Elementary Education<sup>2</sup>, Business Precalculus/Finite Mathematics, Statistics, and Math in Society; or
  
2. Five (5) credits of a symbolic logic course that focuses on (a) sentence logic with proofs and (b) predicate logic with quantifiers and proofs and/or Aristotelian logic with Venn Diagrams.

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<sup>1</sup> To qualify for QSR, college level math and logic courses must require intermediate algebra course work (high school or college) with a grade of 2.0 or higher as a prerequisite.

<sup>2</sup> The University of Washington accepts Mathematics for Elementary Education for elective credit, but not as meeting its QSR requirement, since UW offers no degree pathway for which it is appropriate.

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