Top five reasons to complete your Associate’s degree before you transfer

1) Some Guaranteed Admission programs, scholarship opportunities and Special Access programs require students to earn an Associate’s degree.
2) An Associate’s degree, when transferred to a Maryland Institution, will satisfy most of their lower level general education requirements.
3) Students with Associate degrees are 92% more likely to earn a Bachelor’s degree in four years*.
4) Earning an Associate’s degree will decrease the overall cost of your education, and everyone wants to save money, right?
5) An Associate’s degree can help you to get a job or a promotion right now, instead of waiting to complete your Bachelor’s degree.

*Should Community College Students Earn an Associate Degree Before Transferring to a Four-Year Institution? Community College Research Center, April 2014

Want to transfer without losing any credits?

Ever wondered which courses to take at MC so that you can transfer to a four-year institution without losing any credits?

Montgomery College has partnered with multiple four-year institutions to provide you with a list of courses to take at MC to maximize your transfer ability. These agreements are called articulated pathways.

Some of these pathways are available at montgomerycollege.edu/agreements. You can search for a particular school or a particular major. Some partner institutions include Dickinson College, George Washington University, Morgan State University, UMBC, and UMUC. Or, by major examples include specific honors program agreements, communication agreements, engineering agreements, and nursing agreements.

Other pathways are available via ARTSYS, the online articulation system for the state of Maryland. These pathways are called Recommended Transfer Programs, or RTPs. These include pathways to all public institutions (like Bowie State, Salisbury, Towson, UMD, etc.) and some private institutions in Maryland (like Capital Technical University, Notre Dame of Maryland College, and Stevenson University). ARTSYS is available at artsys.usmd.edu.

These pathways should be used only after meeting with a counselor or adviser. Appointments can be made via Starfish.

If you don't see a major or university you are interested in, please email articulation@montgomerycollege.edu. We’ll see what we can do to help you!
An abbreviated Transfer Checklist

- Attend one of the transfer events to learn more about your options.
- Meet with a counselor at MC to make sure you are taking the right classes.
- Check application, scholarship and MC graduation deadlines.
- Fill out the FAFSA form (www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- Request that transcripts from all colleges you’ve attended and any exam scores (AP, CLEP, etc.) be sent directly to the institution(s) you are applying to.
- Apply for scholarships; use the MC Transfer Scholarships Page, montgomerycollege.edu/transferscholarships to learn about what is needed, how to apply, and what you can do to make yourself the best candidate.
- Keep your grades up! Your GPA will impact your admission to four-year schools and scholarship eligibility.

College isn’t just about academics. When choosing a transfer school, remember to look at clubs and organizations, intramural sports, Greek life, and more. Don’t forget to also think about campus housing, dining options, libraries, parking, transportation, etc. A campus visit is a great way to learn about all of these!

Online Resources

- Everything you need to know about transferring from MC: montgomerycollege.edu/transfer
- ARTSYS: learn more about how your credits will transfer to MD schools: artsys.usmd.edu
- Universities at Shady Grove Transfer Access Programs: shadygrove.umd.edu/prospective-students/transfer-access-programs

Interested in the Maryland Transfer Advantage Program (MTAP)?

MTAP provides a pathway for MC students who intend to complete a bachelor’s degree at the University of Maryland, College Park. Students participate in MTAP while taking courses at MC.

As an MTAP student, you can:

- Prepare for successful completion of a bachelor’s degree while attending MC
- Take UMD courses at a 25% reduced tuition while enrolled at MC
- Benefit from guaranteed admission to UMD upon successful completion of the program requirements and submission of a transfer application to the university by the priority deadline of March 1 for fall or August 1 for a spring transfer.

MTAP enrollment is open to students who are not in their final semester at MC. It is open to students who are applying to transfer in fall 2016 or after. The current enrollment period is open until November 15, 2015.

To learn more, visit admissions.umd.edu/requirements/MarylandTransferAdvantageProgram.php or see an MC Counselor.