



TO: Chief Executive Officers
Chief Instructional Officers
Chief Student Services Officers
Articulation Officers
Transfer Center

FROM: Raul Arambula, Dean of Educational Services and Support

RE: Updated TMC Version: Environmental Science Transfer Model Curriculum

Background

Senate Bill 1440 (Padilla, 2010) enacted the Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act, which required the creation of the associate degree for Transfer (ADT). To implement the legislation, the Intersegmental Curriculum Council (ICC) was created to oversee the components and development of the statewide Transfer Model Curriculum (TMC) for each discipline.

To ensure the ADTs continue to meet discipline curriculum standards, a five-year review process of each TMC was instituted. During the five-year review of the Environmental Science TMC substantive changes to the degree's curriculum necessitated the creation of a new version of the Environmental Science TMC.

This degree is a STEM major that prepares students for transfer to both the CSU and UC as detailed in Assembly Bill 2057 (Berman, 2024).

California Education Code 66749.81.

(b) (1) The 60-unit lower division maximum requirement shall be retained for an ADT, with the exception of paragraph (2):

(2) For STEM major pathways identified as high-unit STEM pathways by the Associate Degree for Transfer Intersegmental Implementation Committee established pursuant to Section 66749.8, ADT pathways may be established that contain up to, but no more than, 66 units of lower division coursework, and require the submission of clear evidence and rationale for the one to six additional units of lower division coursework proposed during the TMC approval process. This clear evidence and rationale shall include both of the following:

Environmental Science Transfer Model Curriculum

March 10, 2026

(A) An explanation of which proposed additional units do not fit within the 60-unit lower division maximum requirement for ADT pathways.

(B) An explanation of the need for one to six additional units to be added to the lower division coursework to earn an ADT that fall within the academic major preparation for the TMC.

(3) The clear evidence and rationale described in paragraph (2) shall first be reviewed by the Intersegmental Curriculum Council and then reviewed by the office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.

(4) The clear evidence and rationale described in paragraph (2) shall be posted publicly on the internet website of the office of the Chancellor of the California Community College.

This memorandum provides further information regarding degree versioning and action the CSU intends to take regarding similarity declaration. The California Community College Chancellor's Office has posted the updated Environmental Science TMC on the Chancellor's Office [Approved ADT Submission Forms webpage](#). Colleges currently offering an Environmental Science ADT have 18 months starting Feb. 1, 2026, to provide a degree that reflects the updated TMC version.

For questions regarding this memorandum, please contact Dean Raul Arambula at RArambula@CCCCO.edu.

cc: Sonya Christian, Chancellor
Rowena Tomaneng, Deputy Chancellor
James Todd, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs