

Report Highlights



Higher Education Transfer Credits

Colorado Commission on Higher Education • Department of Higher Education
Performance Audit • September 2025 • 2459P

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
C O L O R A D O

Key Concern

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education (Commission) and the Department of Higher Education (Department) can improve policies and oversight to help students benefit from statutory credit transfer guarantees and credit for military experience.

Key Findings

- Statewide transfer agreements and Guaranteed Transfer (GT) Pathways generally worked as expected, though some students lost credits in transfer. Military students who submitted their military transcripts for evaluation by institutions of higher education (colleges) generally received some credit for their military experience.
- In cases where students submitted transcripts but did not benefit from statutory credit transfer guarantees, we found the primary reasons to be (a) students did not submit additional documentation or complete review processes deemed necessary by the college for credits earned from prior learning or for previously transferred credit, or (b) colleges deemed credits ineligible to transfer or not needed for students’ degrees. Of 176 students auditors reviewed, 23 students (13 percent) experienced these problems.
- Of 176 students auditors reviewed, 37 students (21 percent) lost credit due to the student not submitting their transcripts. We found that their colleges had disparate practices in following up with students to remind them of missing documentation.

Background

- Statute guarantees credit transfer between Colorado’s public colleges if credits are earned under statewide transfer agreements or are GT Pathways courses, and gives colleges discretion to award college credit for military experience. The Commission, staffed by the Department, sets policies on how all Colorado public colleges award and apply these transfer credits.

Audit Recommendations Made	Agency Responses		
	Agree	Partially Agree	Disagree
19	19	0	0