

# Illinois Articulation Initiative

## Overview of the IAI

McKendree University participates in a state-wide agreement with over 100 colleges in Illinois that aims at making transferring a smooth process. The agreement is called the Illinois Articulation Initiative, or the “IAI.”

McKendree participates in the General Education Core Curriculum of the [Illinois Articulation Initiative](#) only (McKendree does not participate in Phase Two, the Major Phase). Completion of the IAI General Education Core Curriculum, also called the IAI/GECC, at any participating college or university in Illinois ensures transferring students that **most** of the lower-division general education requirements at McKendree have been satisfied.

Students who have completed the IAI General Education Core Curriculum will still have to meet the following mission-specific requirements at McKendree. Students should be aware that individual colleges have specific courses within general classifications needed for satisfying general education requirements for graduation. In keeping with the McKendree mission, its status as a liberal arts college, and the 15 hours permitted under the IAI, these requirements are the following: Literature (3 hours), Computer Literacy (3 hours), Philosophy or Religion (3 hours), Cross Cultural Studies (3 hours), and History (3 hours). Students must also take two writing intensive (W) courses.

Additionally, while McKendree will accept grades of D in transfer provided the student has completed the IAI core, certain majors require a grade of C or higher. Courses that may fulfill a general education requirement under the IAI agreement will not satisfy the major requirement if a grade of D is earned and the student is pursuing those majors.

McKendree University strongly recommends that students use its general education curriculum as a guide when selecting courses in social science and fine arts. Students seeking certification in education should see state requirements for education found in the catalog.

Students not successfully completing the IAI/GECC will have their transfer courses reviewed on a course-by-course basis.

## How do students get confirmation that the Illinois Articulation (IAI)/General Education Core Curriculum (GECC) has been completed?

Some colleges automatically confirm if the IAI/GECC has been completed with a letter or a stamp on the transcript. Some colleges require that students request the confirmation when they want to transfer or when they are applying for graduation with an Associate of Arts or an Associate of Science degree. Some community colleges require students to check the catalog and use web tools to confirm that the IAI/GECC is completed. Some colleges haven't confirmed their practice. Please call the student records office number listed to find out the process for getting confirmation.

## Advice for transfer students who are transferring the IAI/GECC to McKendree

1. Read about the [IAI/GECC categories](#)
2. See the list of [participating institutions](#) in Illinois
3. Check the community college catalogs for IAI information. Every community college in Illinois discusses how to complete the GECC in its catalog.

4. Get completion of the IAI/GECC confirmed by your community college.
5. See which classes at Illinois colleges have been approved for the IAI/GECC. Courses approved for all schools can be found here on the [IAI/GECC Transfer Planning Worksheet](#)

**Can I transfer to McKendree if I have NOT completed the IAI/GECC?**

Yes. McKendree will evaluate on a course by course basis.

**So after I transfer, why do I still need to take more Liberal Studies courses?**

McKendree is a private university that requires that all undergraduate students take courses in literature, cross cultural, history, philosophy or religion, and computer literacy. Students must also take two writing intensive courses. The IAI/GECC doesn't require these types of courses, though there might be some available at community colleges.