

2021-22 RESEARCH PLAN



TRANSFERABILITY AND ARTICULATION OF POST-SECONDARY CREDIT



British Columbia's credit transfer system is highly diverse, reflecting the province's varied post-secondary programs, and the flexible pathways by which students access them. Current research priorities support the continuous improvement of specific transfer mechanisms, and the development of articulation and transfer processes for specific types of courses, learner circumstances, and areas of innovation.

-> **Examining the Potential for Reverse Transfer in the BC Transfer System**

Reverse transfer allows a student who transfers from a college to a university without completing a credential at the college to apply subsequent university credit to meet the college credential requirements. The purpose of this project is to explore the potential for reverse transfer in the BC Transfer System, with a focus on assessing the feasibility of reverse transfer in relation to completion of associate degrees. *(Transfer & Articulation Committee)*

-> **Successful Practices in Supporting Students with Lived Experience in Care**

Building on the experience of BC public post-secondary institutions, this research will examine programs and practices that improve access for students with lived experience in care, and that support their persistence and success. Surveys, interviews, focus groups and/or other tools will be used to gather information on the development, implementation and maintenance of these programs and practices. *(Admissions Committee)*

-> **Online Learning in Rural and Remote Communities**

This project will utilize institutional data, and interviews, to explore how access to technology, and other learning resources, have affected students in rural and remote communities during 2020-2021 period of remote delivery. *(Research Committee)*

-> **Micro-Credentials: Options for Learning Recognition**

As a component of the BC Micro-credential Framework development, this project will examine a number of inter-related issues including: how micro-credentials may be stacked or laddered into longer programs; recognition and transfer of micro-credentials between institutions; and, how both credit- and non-credit micro-credentials could be included in the BC Framework. *(AEST)*

-> **Micro-Credentials: Options for a Registry in BC**

This project will survey existing and planned credential registries to determine which elements might be integrated with the BC Transfer Guide, EducationPlannerBC and/ or the Thompson Rivers University Credit Bank, to support learner, employer, and post-secondary institution awareness regarding micro-credentials offered in BC. *(AEST)*

CAPACITY, DEMAND, STUDENT MOBILITY, AND STUDENT SUCCESS



Research on student mobility patterns, and on the experiences of students who transfer, allows Council and its partners to better understand student demand, and to ensure the effectiveness of the B.C. Transfer System in supporting student access. Current projects focus on continuous improvement of student mobility data, a major survey of transfer student decision-making and experience, and exploratory research into student motivations for credit accumulation beyond program requirements.

-> **Increasing the Availability of Transfer Data**

For a number of years BCCAT has worked with BC Transfer System members and government to develop a data source that captures transfer credit granted at most BC public post-secondary institutions. Currently, the work focuses on improving data consistency and reliability, and sharing the data with articulation committees and other system-level groups in order to better understand credit mobility in the province. *(Admissions Committee)*

-> **Pandemic Response: Student Surveys**

This study aims at creating a repository of student surveys conducted at BC post-secondary institutions during the Covid-19 pandemic. Opportunities for meta-analysis of the survey data will be pursued to the extent possible. *(Research Committee)*

ADMISSION PROCESSES FOR DIRECT ENTRY AND TRANSFER STUDENTS



Admissions policies and practices have a significant impact on credit transferability and the transfer experience. This year, research projects focus on credit assessment and articulation practices, and the experience of students in pathway programs.

-> **Data Collection Supporting Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**

This project, developed in conjunction with the BC Registrar's Association and EducationPlannerBC, will provide an environmental scan of key considerations around the collection and use of data on student ethnicity and ancestry. The project is being aligned with the broader work being undertaken by the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives. *(Admissions Committee)*

-> **Pandemic Response: Admissions and Registrarial Processes**

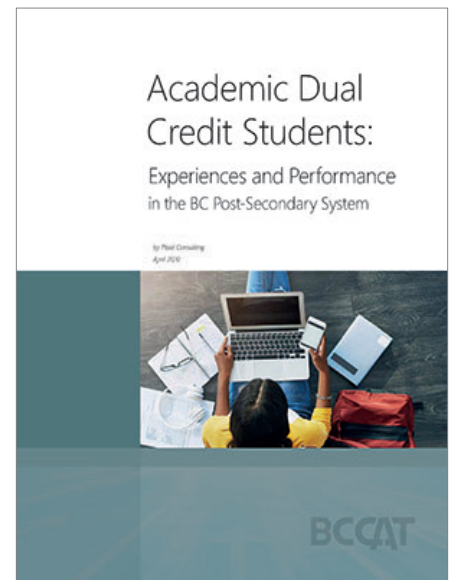
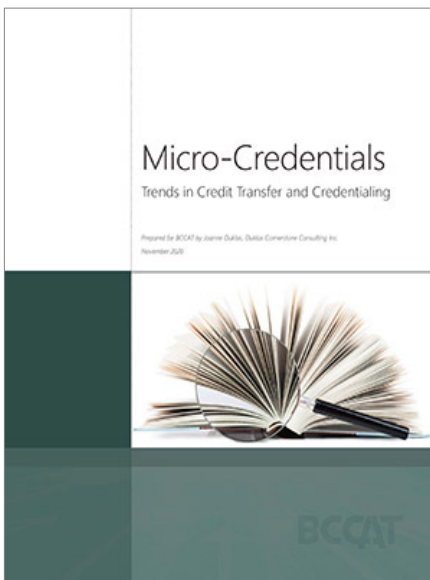
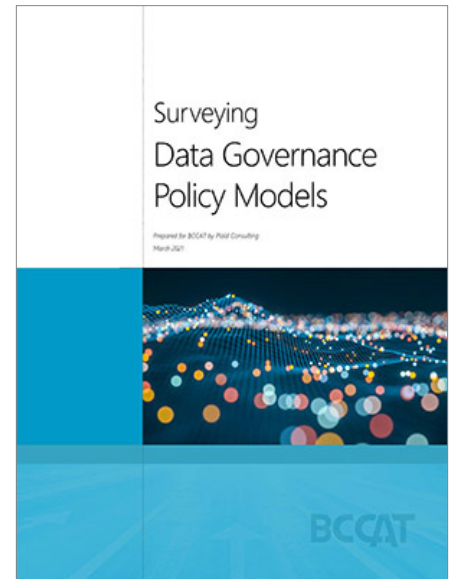
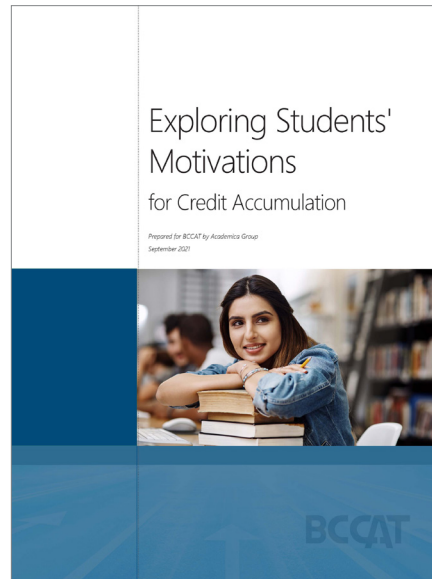
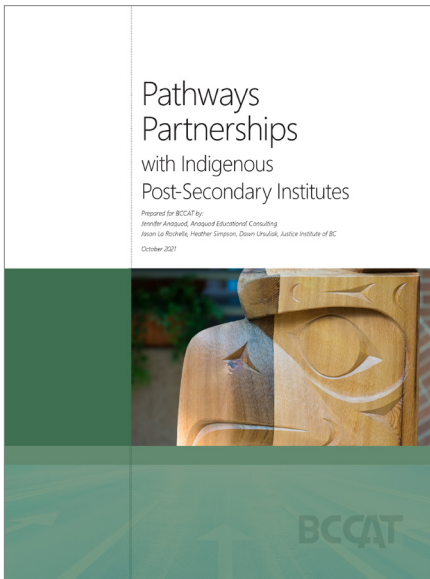
This study will capture key changes in admissions and registrarial policies implemented to support students and to respond to institutional challenges during the pandemic. *(Admissions Committee)*

FUTURE PROJECTS

In developing and prioritizing research projects for future years, the following areas will be considered:

PROJECT AREA	PROJECTS UNDER CONSIDERATION
Transfer and Articulation Policies and Processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster effective and efficient articulation processes through sharing practices and undertaking environmental scans • Survey and support articulation and partnerships for innovative courses/ blocks • Assess implications of open educational resources for articulation • Outline credit banks and credit accumulation mechanisms in other jurisdictions • Analyze the impact of course and program indigenization on articulation and transfer • Describe and compare competency-based articulation processes • Assess the impact of regulatory bodies on articulation • Integrate existing and potential articulation agreements into the program review process
Credentials and Pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the implications of badges and other micro-credentials for transfer, articulation, access and mobility, and transcription. • Evaluate the effectiveness of associate degree, flexible pre-major and block transfer pathways • Describe the impact of post-degree credentials on articulation • Survey and share successful examples of laddering and degree pathways
Extra-Provincial Credit Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe, assess and support extra-provincial credit and credential evaluation and recognition • Analyze international student mobility within the BC Transfer System • Survey examples of credit transfer for international field schools
Supporting Student Access, Mobility and Success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify educational planning needs of various groups of learners, including indigenous students, mature students and international students • Evaluate the effectiveness of the BC Transfer System in supporting student access and persistence • Capture mobile student motivations, decision-making, expectations and experiences.
Demographics and Metrics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and apply transfer student success metrics, including employment outcomes • Analyze supply and demand for educational programs and describe the implications for transfer and admissions policies and practices • Analyze patterns of student mobility and persistence • Increase understanding of mobility between private and public institutions in the BC Transfer System • Assess the impact of demographic shifts on student program choice and mobility patterns • Assess the impact of living costs on student program choices, and student mobility patterns
Policies and Processes Related to Access, Credit Assessment, and Admissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe and compare approaches to calculating grades and GPAs for transfer students for the purposes of admission, academic standing, merit awards and other purposes • Assess transcription practices and their impact on credit transfer • Describe and share transfer credit assessment practices, including recognition of prior learning, advanced standing and course exemption • Describe and share policies and programs supporting transfer student persistence and success • Support credit transfer in centralized application processes • Survey policies and practices in recognition of prior learning, credit recognition, advanced standing, and course exemption • Assess the implications of hybrid and fully-online programming for student access and mobility
High School Transitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze high school performance, graduation and admission requirements, and post-secondary success • Survey other jurisdictions that utilize secondary-exit and post-secondary entrance examinations • Survey successful practices in dual credit programs • Analyze patterns of dual credit student transition to post-secondary

Check out these recent research publications at bccat.ca/search/publications:



For more information about BCCAT research projects and publications, see:

- **Current Projects:** www.bccat.ca/projects
- **Highlighted/Completed Projects:** www.bccat.ca/projects/research
- **All about BCCAT Publications & Resources (Overview):** www.bccat.ca/pubs/Resources/AllAboutPubsResources2021.pdf

Your guide through **BCCAT**
post-secondary education

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