



2024-25 RESEARCH PLAN

British Columbia’s credit transfer system is highly diverse, reflecting the province’s varied post-secondary programs and institutions and the flexible pathways by which students access them. Research allows BCCAT and its partners to better understand student demand, patterns, and demographics, and to ensure that the BC Transfer System effectively supports student access, mobility, and success.

TRANSFER AND ARTICULATION: POLICIES AND PROCESSES

Exploring the Use of Letters of Permission in the BC Transfer System: Letters of permission (LOPs) are issued by registrars’ offices to students who want to stay enrolled at the institution while taking a course at another institution. This proposed project examines how both sending and receiving institutions manage LOPs, and the transferred credit associated with them. *(Transfer and Articulation Committee)*

Business Processes for Awarding Equivalence for Institutions Outside of BC: This project will conduct an environmental scan on the processes and criteria used by BC Transfer System members to determine whether to grant transfer credit to courses or programs from non-BC institutions. *(Transfer and Articulation Committee)*

HIGHLIGHTED PUBLICATIONS:

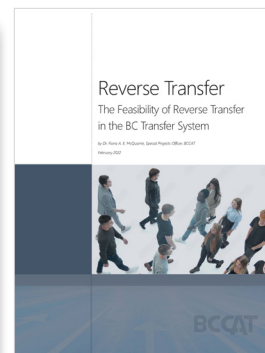


ADMISSIONS AND CREDIT ASSESSMENT: POLICIES AND PROCESSES

Students’ Affordability Considerations for Post-Secondary Access: Affordability influences post-secondary learners’ experiences and behaviours when it comes to enrolment, persistence, and transfer considerations. This project explores how the affordability of post-secondary education is assessed and defined in different sectors and institutions. *(Admissions Committee)*

Policies and Practices of Course Syllabi Distribution at BC Post-Secondary Institutions: Multiple studies assessed the design of course syllabi to facilitate better learning and student engagement and retention. A recent BCCAT study investigated course outline and syllabi policies and practices; however, the timing of syllabi distribution and related institutional practices have not been a focus of research. This study aims to close this gap. *(Admissions Committee)*

HIGHLIGHTED PUBLICATIONS:



CREDENTIALS AND PATHWAYS

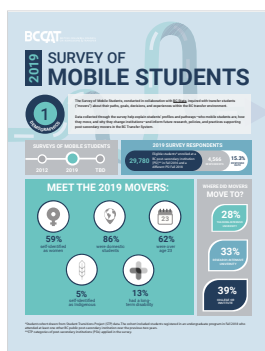
Pathways from Upgrading Programs into Further Post-Secondary: This project is aimed to identify successful pathways from upgrading to undergraduate programs at BC open access institutions. *(Admissions Committee)*

Transfer Pathways of International Students: This study aims at assessing the volume and flows of international students in transfer pathways from programs designed for these students, including at selected private PSIs. *(Admissions Committee)*

Tracking Interprovincial Transfer: This pilot project is aimed at assessing quantitative institutional data on transfer student and transfer credit volume from several Alberta and BC institutions to several BC and Alberta institutions respectively. *(Research Committee)*

Exploring Interprovincial Student Mobility with Statistics Canada Data: While much research has been done on post-secondary student mobility and tracking students' pathways in the province, there have been few studies on BC student mobility into non-BC post-secondary. This project is aimed at exploring Statistics Canada datasets to assess their usefulness in tracking interprovincial mobility of BC students. *(Research Committee)*

HIGHLIGHTED PUBLICATIONS:



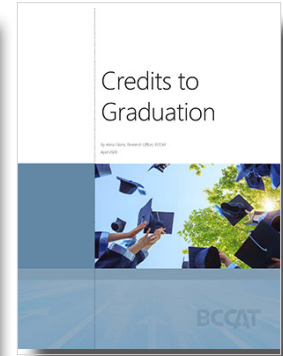
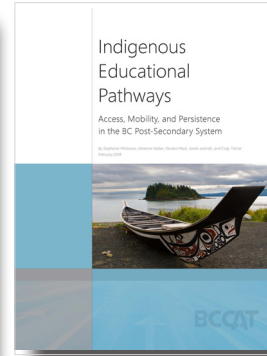
SUPPORTING STUDENT ACCESS, MOBILITY, AND SUCCESS

BC Transfer Students Profile and Performance Report 2018/19-2022-23: The goal of this project is to analyze current trends in the performance of transfer students at BC public universities as compared to direct-entry students enrolled at any time in the period 2018/19-2022/23. *(Research Committee)*

Delivery Preferences: An Overview of Students' Surveys and Institutional Responses: Post-pandemic, institutions indicated plans to adjust the mix of courses and programs offered in different learning modalities. This study aims at creating a repository of such institutional surveys in order to summarize key findings, and to provide a resource for institutions designing surveys in the future. *(Research Committee)*

Exploring Indigenous Ways of Knowing: The project will use a review of literature and of institutional websites, as well as interviews with Indigenous post-secondary organizations to explore how Indigenous approaches to research could inform BCCAT’s approach to research. *(Research Committee)*

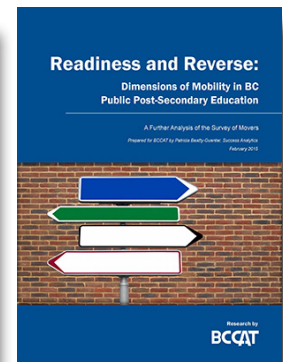
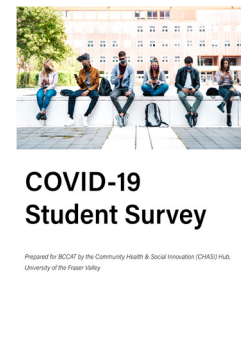
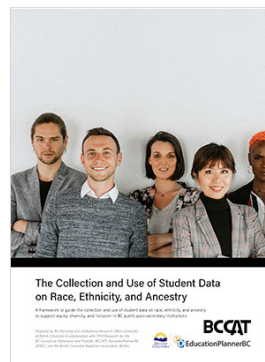
HIGHLIGHTED PUBLICATIONS:



POST-SECONDARY CAPACITY, DEMAND AND DEMOGRAPHICS

Exploring Summer Melt in BC: The term “summer melt” denotes students who, having received an offer of admission, do not enrol anywhere in their first fall semester following high school graduation. The project is aimed at reviewing existing literature and identifying aspects of the phenomenon that may impact its expression in BC. *(Admissions Committee)*

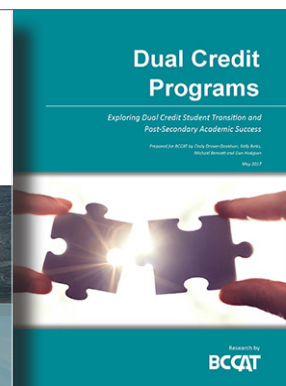
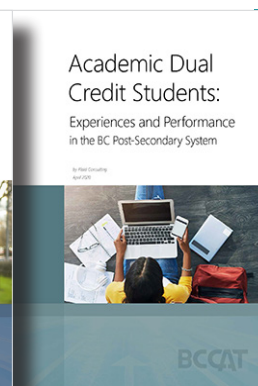
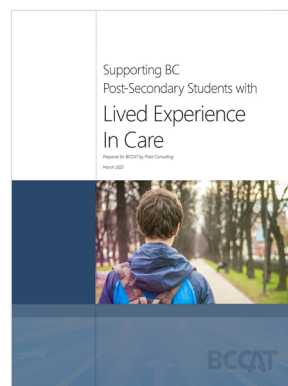
HIGHLIGHTED PUBLICATIONS:



HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITIONS

Student Transitions Project: The Student Transitions Project links student data from the BC Ministry of Education with public post-secondary student data. The data allows investigation of student transitions, mobility, and outcomes from the Kindergarten-Grade 12 (K-12) education system to the public post-secondary system. The Student Transitions Project is governed by a steering committee with representation from British Columbia’s public universities, colleges and institutes; the Ministries of Education and Advanced Education, and BCCAT. Find out more about the [Student Transitions Project](#).

HIGHLIGHTED PUBLICATIONS:



TOPICS OF INTEREST

- Undertake environmental scans of articulation processes to foster effective and efficient course and program articulation
- Survey and support articulation and institutions for innovative courses/blocks
- Assess implications of open educational resources for articulation
- Overview 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
- Explore options to integrate existing and potential articulation agreements into the program review process
- Describe, assess, and support extra-provincial credit and credential evaluation and recognition
- 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
- Outline policies and programs supporting transfer student persistence and success
- Support credit transfer in centralized application processes
- Review 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
- Assess the impact of prerequisite courses on student access and success
- Explore innovative admissions strategies and practices and their impact on access and mobility
- Assess the implications of different types of short credentials for admissions, transfer, articulation, student access and mobility, and transcription
- Evaluate the effectiveness of associate degree, degree partnerships, and block transfer pathways
- Describe the impact of post-degree credentials on articulation
- Survey and share successful examples of laddering and degree pathways
- Survey examples of credit transfer for international field schools
- 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
- Review and analyze the impacts of pre- and post-transfer advising on student mobility and success
- Survey students who have moved between institutions to better understand their motivations, decision-making processes, and experiences
- Analyze patterns of student mobility in BC
- Develop 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
- 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
- Analyze international student mobility within the BC Transfer System
- Analyze high school performance, graduation and admission requirements, and post-secondary success
- Survey the efficacy of secondary-exit and post-secondary entrance examinations in other jurisdictions
- Assess impacts of dual credit programs on student post-secondary access and mobility
- Analyze patterns of dual credit student transition to post-secondary



Scan to view this
publication online:

