

# Assembly Bill 1111 (AB 1111) and Its Impact on California Community College Curriculum Development

In an effort to streamline the transfer process and improve the overall experience for students across California Community Colleges, Assembly Bill 1111 (AB 1111) mandates the adoption of a common course numbering system. All general education and transfer pathway courses must comply with this new system by July 1, 2024. This initiative aims to simplify course selection, reduce unnecessary credit accumulation, and ensure that comparable courses across different campuses share the same course number, enhancing the transparency and efficiency of the transfer process.

## Background and Phased Implementation Timeline

Initially, the deadline for the adoption of this system was set for mid-2024. However, a subsequent bill extended this timeline, introducing a phased implementation plan over three years. The first phase of this process begins this year, focusing on the alignment of specific courses. The long-term goal is to have a fully integrated system that benefits students by offering a consistent numbering framework across all community colleges in the state.

## Purpose of AB 1111

The primary objective of AB 1111 is to create a unified course numbering system that simplifies the transfer pathway for students. By aligning courses across all 116 California Community Colleges, the new system will help students avoid confusion when enrolling in equivalent courses at different institutions. It will also address the issue of unnecessary credit accumulation, which often delays graduation or transfer. The legislation is designed to provide a clearer and more coherent roadmap for students aiming to transfer to four-year universities.

## Phase 1 Course Review

As part of this effort, eleven courses have been selected for review during the first phase of implementation. These courses, listed below, represent key areas in general education and transfer pathways:

- **EWRT 1A / EWRT 1AH** (Instructors: Karen Chow / Thomas Ray)
- **EWRT 2 / EWRT 2H** (Instructors: Karen Chow / Thomas Ray)
- **Math 10 / Math 10H** (Instructors: Fatemeh Yarahmadi / Mehrdad Khosravi)
- **POLI 1 / POLI 1H** (Instructors: Jim Nguyen / Elvin Ramos)
- **Psych 1** (Instructors: Mark Healy / Elvin Ramos)
- **COMM 1 / COMM 1H** (Instructors: Stephanie Anderson / Thomas Ray)

These courses will be the first to undergo the curriculum review process, but many more will follow in future phases. The courses have been identified as high-priority for ensuring that students can easily transfer credits between institutions without confusion or delay.

## Resources for Faculty

To support faculty in making the required updates to course outlines, state-provided [templates and resources](#) have been made available. Additionally, the curriculum office will offer training to ensure that faculty members

are well-prepared to implement these changes. This support will be crucial in meeting the legislative requirements and staying on track with the proposed timeline.

## Timeline for Phase 1

Given the tight deadlines set by the state, the following schedule outlines key dates for the eleven courses undergoing review:

- **Faculty Notified:** September 22, 2024
- **Faculty Q&A Session:** September 30, 2024
- **Begin Working with the Curriculum Office:** October 3, 2024
- **Stage 2 Elumen Deadline:** October 14, 2024
- **Stage 13 Elumen Deadline:** October 28, 2024
- **Technical Review:** November 5, 2024
- **Curriculum Committee Workflow Submission:** November 12, 2024
- **Board Approval Submission Deadline:** November 27, 2024

Faculty members are expected to adhere to this timeline to ensure that the courses are reviewed and approved by the Curriculum Committee and Board by the December 2024 meeting.

## Looking Ahead

As the first phase of AB 1111 implementation begins, future phases will roll out in subsequent years, expanding the number of courses covered under the common course numbering system. Updates and additional guidance from the state will be provided as more information becomes available.

In summary, AB 1111 represents a significant step towards improving the transfer experience for California Community College students. By adopting a common course numbering system, the community college system will be better positioned to support students' academic journeys and ensure a smoother path to transferring to four-year institutions. Faculty members, curriculum offices, and administrative teams are crucial to the successful implementation of this legislative requirement.

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about AB 1111

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### 1. What is AB 1111?

AB 1111 is a legislative mandate requiring California Community Colleges to adopt a **common course numbering system** by **July 1, 2024**. This initiative aims to simplify the process for students transferring between institutions, ensuring that courses with similar content and requirements are aligned across campuses using the same course numbers.

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### 2. Why was AB 1111 implemented?

AB 1111 was introduced to reduce confusion and streamline the transfer process for students by ensuring that comparable courses across community colleges have the same course number. This system will make it easier for students to plan their educational pathways and avoid accumulating excess credits.

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### 3. How does the common course numbering system work?

The common course numbering system will use the existing **Course Identification Numbering System (C-ID)**. For courses that do not yet have a C-ID descriptor, intersegmental discipline faculty will develop one. The goal is to ensure that courses meeting similar requirements across colleges share the same alphabetical and numerical identifier.

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### 4. Which courses are affected by AB 1111?

Initially, AB 1111 focuses on **general education requirement courses** and **transfer pathway courses**. Over time, the numbering system may expand to cover additional courses.

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### 5. What are the benefits of AB 1111 for students?

The common course numbering system will:

- **Simplify the transfer process** by ensuring students can easily identify equivalent courses across community colleges.
  - **Reduce confusion** about which courses fulfill transfer requirements.
  - **Prevent excess credit accumulation**, ensuring students take only the necessary courses for their degree pathway.
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### 6. How will faculty be involved in the implementation of AB 1111?

Faculty members will play a crucial role in reviewing and updating course outlines to meet the requirements of the common course numbering system. The curriculum office will provide training, resources, and templates to help faculty implement the necessary changes.

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## 7. What are the key deadlines for AB 1111 implementation?

The following timeline outlines the important deadlines for faculty and administration:

- **Faculty Notified:** September 22, 2024
  - **Faculty Q&A:** September 30, 2024
  - **Faculty begin working with the Curriculum Office:** October 3, 2024
  - **Faculty Elumen Stage 2 deadline (In Stage 2):** October 14, 2024
  - **Faculty Elumen Stage 13 deadline (In Stage 13):** October 28, 2024
  - **Technical Review:** November 5, 2024
  - **Workflow Submitted for Curriculum Committee Approval:** November 12, 2024
  - **Board due date for final approval at December board:** November 27, 2024
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## 8. Will there be resources and training available for faculty?

Yes, [templates and guidelines](#) for course changes are available, and training sessions will be provided by the curriculum office to support faculty in implementing the new common course numbering system.

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## 9. What are the next steps for faculty?

Faculty members need to:

1. Review the list of courses under their purview that require alignment with the common course numbering system.
  2. Attend the **Q&A session on September 30, 2024**, to address any questions or concerns.
  3. Begin working with the curriculum office to update course outlines by **October 3, 2024**.
  4. Submit updated workflows for technical review and final approval within the designated deadlines.
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## 10. How will AB 1111 impact the course catalog?

By **July 1, 2024**, all community college course catalogs must start the process to include the updated common course numbers to ensure alignment across the system. This change will make it easier for students to identify and register for courses that fulfill their academic requirements across different campuses.

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For more details on AB 1111 and its implementation, you can access the bill text and related resources [here](#).