



## OFFICE OF THE PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC

8888 University  
Drive, Burnaby, BC  
Canada V5A 1S6

TEL: 778.782.6654  
FAX: 778.782.5876

avpacad@sfu.ca  
www.sfu.ca/vpacademic

**MEMORANDUM**

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ATTENTION	Senate	DATE	February 7, 2025
FROM	Paul Kingsbury, Vice-Chair Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies	PAGES	1/1
RE:	Undergraduate Program Block Admission and Transfer Pathways <i>(SCUS 25-37)</i>		

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Action undertaken by SCUS on February 6, 2025, gives rise to the following recommendations:

**Motion**

That Senate approve, effective Fall 2025, the discontinuation of the Undergraduate Program Block Admission and Transfer Credit Pathways.



OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR  
Student Services

3200 Maggie Benston Centre  
8888 University Drive,  
Burnaby, BC  
Canada V5A 1S6

TEL 778.782.3108  
FAX 778.782.5732

sfu.ca/students

## MEMORANDUM

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SCUS

January 9, 2024

Tom Nault

Registrar & Executive Director

Review of Undergraduate Program Block Admission and Transfer Pathways

### Background

Between 2011 to 2016, Simon Fraser University established Block Admission and Transfer Credit pathway agreements with institutions in British Columbia and Alberta to Undergraduate Programs. Our active agreements require re-articulation or discontinuation to comply with the B.C. Council on Admissions and Transfer (BCCAT) Principles for Articulation.

To uphold curriculum integrity and student success, BCCAT recommends that “articulation agreements should be reviewed at least every five years by the receiving institution, even if there has not been substantive change in the sending or receiving course or program.” (BCCAT, 2023). **Appendix B** provides a list of active Block Transfer agreements.

Block Transfer occurs “when a group of courses, often in the form of a certificate, diploma, or associate degree, is recognized as a whole for transfer credit” (BCCAT, 2023). A receiving institution compares the content and structure of an entire program, rather than individual courses, as the basis to grant transfer credit. As such, articulation of Block Transfer Credit requires significant time and resourcing of faculties and departments. Students are evaluated for admission under the [College/University Transfer admission pathway](#) or “Technology (TEC)” sub-pathway for Applied Arts and Technology institutions. Applied Arts and Technology institutions are those that focus on practical and technical education in fields such as applied arts, technology and skilled trades that emphasize hands-on learning and real-world application.

Student Services Business Analysis and Assessment and Undergraduate Admissions completed data analysis on the enrollment funnel of active partnerships. Results indicate that only the Faculty of Applied Sciences has enrolled more than 30 students in the past 5 years. Detailed information on admission and retention rates can be found in **Appendix A**.

### Motion

The SCUS approve -the discontinuation of active Block Admission and Transfer Pathway agreements that have not been articulated within 5 years, as listed in Appendix A.

Students will continue to be eligible to apply for admission to the institution and would be considered for admission, but not block transferable credit. Students would be required to satisfy specific program course requirements of the College/University Transfer pathway for admission and individual course transfer credit would be awarded based on BCCAT course articulation.

# Appendix A: Enrollment Funnel Data Analysis

In partnership, Student Services Business Analysis and Assessment and Undergraduate Admissions completed data analysis on the enrollment funnel of active partnerships.

## Data Notes

- **Application terms Fall 2019 to Summer 2024 (Academic Years 2019/2020 to 2023/2024)**
- Data pulled October 1, 2024, from Student Services Data Mart
- Students are identified by their Basis of Admission code. Any student with ‘TEC’ in the code has applied under a TEC Block Credit.

## Data Limitations

- The current data does not provide enough granularity to identify whether all TEC Block student program credits were attempted to be transferred
- Due to how the data was recorded, some students do not have ‘TEC’ in their Basis of Admission code. Over the last 10 years, several students have been found with this issue. Only one specific case was identified in this dataset—a student from the Douglas Early Education program.
- The programs from which students are transferring credits are not recorded in all instances.
- One Douglas College Early Education student was not captured in the graphs due to a database error

## Data Findings

**31%** of applicants are admitted to either their primary or alternative academic program. In comparison, SFU’s Non-FIC Post-Secondary Transfer admit percentage from the same time-period is **49%**.

**Table 1: TEC BOA Student Number Totals**

Applications	Admitted	Registered	Current SFU Status
331	103	73	42 Active
			17 Completed
			14 *Discontinued

*\*No longer at SFU*

Although we have a small number of TEC Block Credit students, their retention rate is comparable to that of other Non-FIC Post-Secondary Transfers.

**Table 2: Retention Rates for Students Registered Academic Year 2019/2020**

<b>Student Basis of Admission Group</b>	<b>Total Registered Students</b>	<b>Retained % of Registered</b>
Non-FIC Post-Secondary Transfers	1473	79%
Only TEC Block Credit Transfers	15	80%

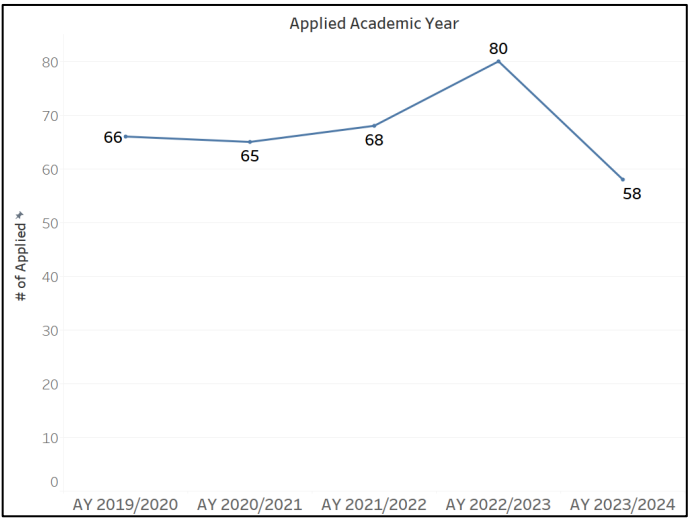
Our four partner institutions are British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT), Douglas College, Native Education College, and Vancouver Community College. As shown in the table below, most students apply from BCIT, with only a few students coming from Douglas College. When extending the timeframe to the past 10 years, only one student has applied from Vancouver Community College, and no applications have been received from Native Education College.

**Table 3: Unique Students Applied by Partner Institutions**

<b>Partner Institution</b>	<b>Number of Unique Students Applied</b>
British Columbia Institute of Technology	317
Douglas College	3
Native Education College	0
Vancouver Community College	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>320</b>

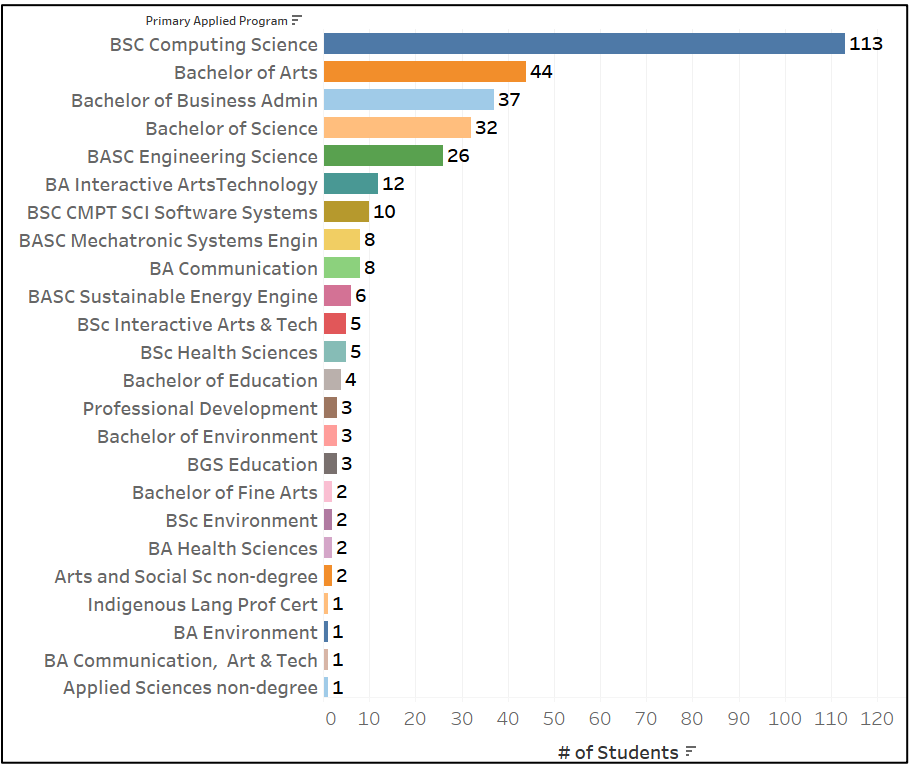
A total of 331 applications have been received over the timeframe. The number of applications exceeds the number of unique students, as some students applied more than once. Overall, the volume of applications has remained steady, with no significant changes over the past five years.

Figure 1: Applications by Academic Year



Computer Science is the largest applied academic program by a significant margin, representing **31%** of all applications. The Bachelor of Arts is the second most popular, accounting for **13%** of applications.

Figure 2: Applications by Primary Academic Applied Program



In addition to the low admission rates, a breakdown of each applied program shows that many students are not admitted to their primary choice and are instead accepted into their secondary program.

**Table 4: Primary Program Applied to Admitted Program**

*\*Primary Program Applied is the same as Admitted Program*

Primary Program Applied	# Applied	Admitted Program	# Admitted
BSC Computing Science	113	*CMPT	45
		CMPS	3
		BSC	3
		BA	3
Bachelor of Arts	44	*BA	6
Bachelor of Business Admin	37	BA	3
		HLTH	1
		BSC	1
Bachelor of Science	32	*BSC	14
BASC Engineering Science	26	*ENSC	4
		BSC	2
		BA	2
		BSCH	1
BA Interactive Arts Technology	12	*IATAC	3
BSC CMPT SCI Software Systems	10	*CMPS	2
BASC Mechatronic Systems Engineering	8	-	0
BA Communication	8	*CMNSC	2
BASC Sustainable Energy Engineering	6	-	0
BSc Interactive Arts & Tech	5	*IATCA	1
BSc Health Sciences	5	BA	1
Bachelor of Education	4	-	0
Bachelor of Environment	3	-	0
BGS Education	3	-	0
Professional Development Program	3	*PDP	1
Bachelor of Fine Arts	2	-	0
BSc Environment	2	-	0
BA Health Sciences	2	*HLTH	1
Arts and Social Sc non-degree	2	*NARTS	2
Indigenous Lang Prof Certification	1	-	0
BA Environment	1	-	0
BA Communication, Art & Tech	1	-	0
Applied Sciences non-degree	1	-	0

<b>Total</b>	<b>331 Applied</b>		<b>103 Admitted</b>
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Program changes are common during students' academic careers at SFU. Bachelor of Arts (BA) students are the most likely to switch, with **50%** of BA admits either active in or completing other academic programs.

**Table 5: Registered to Current SFU Program**

*\*Admitted Program is the same as Current Program*

<b>Admitted Program</b>	<b># Registered</b>	<b>Current Program</b>	<b># in Program</b>
BSC Computing Science	38	*CMPT	37
		BUS	1
Bachelor of Arts	10	*BA	5
		ENSC	2
		BUS	2
		BSCH	1
Bachelor of Science	10	*BSC	8
		CMPT	1
		BGSED	1
BSC CMPT SCI Software Systems	4	*CMPS	3
		CMPT	1
BA Interactive Arts Technology	3	*IATAC	2
		IATCA	1
BASC Engineering Science	3	*ENSC	3
BA Communication	2	*CMNSC	2
BSc Health Sciences	1	*BSCH	1
BSc Interactive Arts & Technology	1	*IATCA	1
Professional Development Program	1	*PDP	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>73 Registered</b>		



## Appendix B: Active Admission and Block Transfer Agreements

Sorted by Faculty Area with Largest Percentage of Curriculum

Primary Faculty Area of External Program Curriculum	Date of Implementation	Partner Institution	Partner Institution Program	Students are Eligible for Admission to:	External Institution Webpage(s)	Notable Mentions
Arts and Social Sciences						
	2011	Native Education College	Aboriginal Justice Studies Certificate	Bachelor of Arts – Criminology Major	<a href="https://necvancoover.org/nec/programs/ijs/">https://necvancoover.org/nec/programs/ijs/</a>	Program name change.  As per BC Transfer Guide, students require a letter of reference from the Academic Dean of NEC.
	2021	Native Education College	Indigenous Land Stewardship Certificate	Any SFU Program	<a href="https://necvancoover.org/nec/programs/ils/">https://necvancoover.org/nec/programs/ils/</a>	Last articulation has been completed within 5 years.
Applied Sciences						
	2011	BCIT	Computer Systems Technology Diploma	Any SFU Program	<a href="https://www.bcit.ca/programs/computer-systems-technology-diploma-full-time-5500dipma/#courses">https://www.bcit.ca/programs/computer-systems-technology-diploma-full-time-5500dipma/#courses</a>	A variety of sub-streams with different courses in the curriculum.
	2011	BCIT	Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology Diploma – Electrical Power	Any SFU Program	<a href="https://www.bcit.ca/programs/electrical-and-computer-engineering-technology-diploma-electrical-power/">https://www.bcit.ca/programs/electrical-and-computer-engineering-technology-diploma-electrical-power/</a>	

			and Industrial Control		<a href="#">technology-electrical-power-and-industrial-control-option-diploma-full-time-534bdipma/#courses</a>	
	2012	Vancouver Community College	Computing Science and Software Systems Certificate	Bachelor of Science (Computing Science, Software Systems - Major)	<a href="https://www.vcc.ca/programs/university-transfer-computing-science-and-software-systems/">https://www.vcc.ca/programs/university-transfer-computing-science-and-software-systems/</a>	
	Unknown	BCIT	Biomedical Engineering	Any SFU Program	<a href="https://www.bcit.ca/programs/biomedical-engineering-technology-diploma-full-time-5063dipma/#courses">https://www.bcit.ca/programs/biomedical-engineering-technology-diploma-full-time-5063dipma/#courses</a>	
	Unknown	BCIT	Computer Information Technology	Any SFU Program	<a href="https://www.bcit.ca/programs/computer-information-technology-diploma-full-time-5540dipma/#courses">https://www.bcit.ca/programs/computer-information-technology-diploma-full-time-5540dipma/#courses</a>	
Beedie School of Business						
	2011	BCIT	Accounting Diploma	Any SFU Program	<a href="https://www.bcit.ca/programs/accounting-diploma-full-time-6035dipma/#courses">https://www.bcit.ca/programs/accounting-diploma-full-time-6035dipma/#courses</a>	
	2010	BCIT	Marketing Management Diploma – includes the following specializations: Tourism,	Any SFU Program	<a href="https://www.bcit.ca/programs/marketing-management-diploma-">https://www.bcit.ca/programs/marketing-management-diploma-</a>	

			Professional Sales, Entrepreneurship, Marketing Communications		<a href="#">full-time-6422dipma/</a>	
	Unknown	BCIT	Business Information Technology Management – includes the following specializations: analytics data management, artificial intelligence management, enterprise systems management	Any SFU program	<a href="https://www.bcit.ca/programs/business-information-technology-management-diploma-full-time-6235dipma/#courses">https://www.bcit.ca/programs/business-information-technology-management-diploma-full-time-6235dipma/#courses</a>	
Communication, Art and Technology						
	2012	Vancouver Community College	Dance Diploma	Dance Major Program in the School of Contemporary Arts	<a href="https://www.vcc.ca/programs/courses/music-and-dance/dance/dance/">https://www.vcc.ca/programs/courses/music-and-dance/dance/dance/</a>	
Education						
	2011	College of the Rockies	Early Childhood Education Diploma	Bachelor of General Studies Major (Education)	<a href="https://cotr.bc.ca/programs/early-childhood-education/">https://cotr.bc.ca/programs/early-childhood-education/</a>	
	2011	Douglas College	Disability and Applied Behavior Analysis	Post-Baccalaureate Education or Special Education  OR  Psychology Major, Applied Behavior Analysis Concentration		
	2011	Douglas College	Early Childhood Education Diploma	Bachelor of General Studies		

				Major (Education)		
	2012	Vancouver Community College	Adult Education Diploma	Bachelor of General Studies Major (Education)		Could not find – has program been discontinued?
	2012	Vancouver Community College	Provincial Instructor Diploma	Bachelor of General Studies Major (Education)	<a href="https://www.vcc.ca/programs/provincial-instructor-diploma-program-pidp/">https://www.vcc.ca/programs/provincial-instructor-diploma-program-pidp/</a>	
Environment						
	2011	BCIT	Fish, Wildlife & Recreation Diploma	Any SFU Program	<a href="https://www.bcit.ca/programs/fish-wildlife-and-recreation-diploma-full-time-7935dipma/#courses">https://www.bcit.ca/programs/fish-wildlife-and-recreation-diploma-full-time-7935dipma/#courses</a>	
	2016	BCIT	Forest and Natural Areas Management Diploma	Any SFU Program	<a href="https://www.bcit.ca/programs/forest-and-natural-areas-management-diploma-full-time-7470dipma/#courses">https://www.bcit.ca/programs/forest-and-natural-areas-management-diploma-full-time-7470dipma/#courses</a>	
	Unknown	BCIT	Environmental Health Diploma	Any SFU program		Appears program has transitioned to a bachelor's degree Program
	Unknown	BCIT	Landscape (Horticulture)	Any SFU program		Cannot be found.
Health Sciences – N/A						
Science						
	2011	BCIT	Biological Science (Food Technology) Diploma	Any SFU Program	<a href="https://www.bcit.ca/programs/food-technology-diploma-full-">https://www.bcit.ca/programs/food-technology-diploma-full-</a>	

					<a href="#">time-5135dipma/</a>	
	2011	BCIT	Biotechnology Diploma	Any SFU Program		Appears program is no longer offered and transitioned to a bachelor's program.
	2011	BCIT	Chemical Sciences Technology Diploma – appears to be renamed to Chemical and Environmental Technology and there are two sub-options (Analytical Science or Process Engineering)	Any SFU Program	<a href="https://www.bcit.ca/programs/chemical-and-environmental-technology-analytical-science-option-diploma-full-time-537adiplt/">https://www.bcit.ca/programs/chemical-and-environmental-technology-analytical-science-option-diploma-full-time-537adiplt/</a>	
	2013	BCIT	Medical Radiography Diploma	Any SFU Program	<a href="https://www.bcit.ca/programs/medical-radiography-diploma-full-time-6635dipma/#courses">https://www.bcit.ca/programs/medical-radiography-diploma-full-time-6635dipma/#courses</a>	
	Unknown	BCIT	Medical Laboratory Science Diploma	Any SFU program	<a href="https://www.bcit.ca/programs/medical-laboratory-science-diploma-full-time-6615dipma/#courses">https://www.bcit.ca/programs/medical-laboratory-science-diploma-full-time-6615dipma/#courses</a>	
	Unknown	BCIT	Nuclear Medicine Diploma	Any SFU program	<a href="https://www.bcit.ca/programs/nuclear-medicine-diploma-full-time-6700diplt/#courses">https://www.bcit.ca/programs/nuclear-medicine-diploma-full-time-6700diplt/#courses</a>	

	Unknown	BCIT	Occupational Health and Safety Diploma	Any SFU program	<a href="https://www.bcit.ca/programs/occupational-health-and-safety-diploma-full-time-6850dipl/#courses">https://www.bcit.ca/programs/occupational-health-and-safety-diploma-full-time-6850dipl/#courses</a>	
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#### **Programs with Block Transfer Credit Previously Discontinued**

1. BCIT Business Management Diploma – ended December 2017
2. BCIT Auto & Instrument Technology Diploma – ended December 2015
3. BCIT Computer Control Technology Diploma – ended December 2015
4. BCIT Environmental Chemistry (Natural Resources) Diploma - ended December 2017
5. BCIT Financial Management Diploma – ended December 2017
6. BCIT Forestry Technician Diploma – ended December 2017
7. BCIT Human Resources Systems Diploma – ended December 2017
8. BCIT Industrial Chemistry Diploma – ended December 2017
9. BCIT Management Systems Diploma – ended December 2017
10. BCIT Nursing Diploma – ended December 2010
11. BCIT Operations Management Diploma – Ended December 2017
12. BCIT Pulp and Paper Chemistry Science Diploma – Ended December 2017
13. BCIT Telecom Technology (Electrical) Diploma - ended December 2015
14. BCIT Computing Systems Technology (expert) Diploma - ended December 2017
15. BCIT Diploma of Technical Studies – ended December 2017

## References

BCCAT. (2023). *How to articulate: A handbook for post-secondary institutions*. British Columbia Council on Admissions & Transfer.

<https://www.bccat.ca/resources/HowToArticulate2023.pdf>

BCCAT. (2023). *Transfer principles and guidelines*. British Columbia Council on Admissions & Transfer. <https://www.bccat.ca/resources/TransferPrinciplesGuidelines2023.pdf>

## Block Transfer Search Results

20 agreements found

Generated Dec 17, 2024

From Institution	Program	To Institution	Program	Transfer Credit	Academic Year
BCIT	Accounting Diploma	SFU	Any SFU program	26 credits <b>Note:</b> Business & Media concentration. <b>NOTE:</b> Competitive average required	2016/17 -
BCIT	Biological Science (Food Technology)	SFU	Any SFU program	15 credits <b>Note:</b> BCIT overall average of 70% required for transfer credit.	2011/12 -
BCIT	Biotechnology Diploma	SFU	Any SFU program	15 credits <b>Note:</b> BCIT overall average of 70% required for transfer credit.	2011/12 -
BCIT	Chemical Sciences Technology Diploma	SFU	Any SFU program	22-30 credits depending on option. <b>Note:</b> BCIT overall average of 70% required for transfer credit.	2011/12 -
BCIT	Computer Systems Technology Diploma	SFU	Any SFU program	0 - 49 credits, depending on option. <b>Note:</b> BCIT overall average of 70% required for transfer credit.	2011/12 -



BCIT	Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology Diploma(Electrical Powerand Industrial Control)	SFU	Any SFU program	30 credits <b>Note:</b> BCIT overall averageof 70% required.	2011/12 -
BCIT	Fish, Wildlife & Recreation Diploma	SFU	Any SFU program	24 credits <b>Note:</b> BCIT overall average of 70% required for transfer credit.	2011/12 -
BCIT	Forest and Natural Areas Management Diploma (Applied and Natural Sciences)	SFU	Any SFU program	22 credits <b>Note:</b> Competitive average required.	2016/17 -
BCIT	Marketing Management Diploma (Tourism, Professional Sales, Entrepreneurship, Marketing Communications)	SFU	Any SFU program	30 credits <b>Note:</b> BCIT overall grade of 70% required.	2010/11 -
BCIT	Medical Radiography Diploma	SFU	Any SFU program	12 credits <b>Note:</b> BCIT overall average of 70% required for transfer credit.	2013/14 -
COTR	Early Childhood Education (Diploma)	SFU	Bachelor of General Studies (Education)	EDUC 2XX (30 credits) <b>Note:</b> Minimum 3.0 grade point average	2011/12 -
DOUG	Disability and Applied Behaviour Analysis	SFU	PBD Education or Special Education	DOUG DACS 5111, 5112 & 5113, 5121, 5122 5123 = SFU EDUC 4XX (15) <b>Note:</b> Minimum grade required for credit is B.	2011/12 -

DOUG	Disability and Applied Behaviour Analysis	SFU	Psychology Major, Applied Behavior Analysis Concentration	DOUG DACS 5111 (or DACS 3430), 5112, 5113, 5121, 5122 and 5123 = SFU PSYC 4XX (15) <b>Note:</b> See SFU Calendar	2011/12 -
DOUG	Early Childhood Education (Diploma)	SFU	Bachelor of General Studies (Education)	EDUC 2XX (30 credits) <b>Note:</b> Minimum 3.0 grade point average	2011/12 -
NEC	Aboriginal Justice Studies Certificate	SFU	Bachelor of Arts (Criminology)	Up to 25 credits <b>Note:</b> Students require a letter of reference from the Academic Dean of NEC.	2011/12 -
NEC	Indigenous Land Stewardship Certificate	SFU	Any SFU program	GEOG 104 (3) - B-Soc/Sci, ARCH 1XX (3), ARCH 389 (0) Waiver, GEOG 1XX (6), INDG 101 (3) - B-Hum/Soc, REM 100 (3) - B-Soc, REM 207 (3), REM 211 (3), SD 281 (3) - B-Soc, ENGL 1XX (3) - W	2021/22 -
VCC	Adult Education Diploma	SFU	Bachelor of General Studies (Education)	EDUC 3XX (15) <b>Note:</b> Completed Diploma	2012/13 -
VCC	Computing Science and Software Systems Certificate	SFU	Bachelor of Science (Computing Science, Software Systems)	1 year (transfer into 1st-year standing) <b>Note:</b> 2.75 overall GPA	2012/13 -

VCC	Dance Diploma	SFU	Dance Program in Contemporary Arts	30 credits in Fine and Performing Arts courses <b>Note:</b> Completed Dance Diploma.	2012/13 -
VCC	Provincial Instructor Diploma	SFU	Bachelor of General Studies (Education)	EDUC 1XX (15) <b>Note:</b> Completed Diploma	2012/13 -