

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ARTICULATION AGREEMENT AND TRANSFER GUIDE FOR GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Ferris Program: Elementary Education

Degree Type: Bachelor of Science

Ferris College: College of Arts, Sciences, and Education

Transfer School: Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC)

Consortium Eligible: Yes

Articulation Agreement: Yes

Total Credits Required: 121-124

Catalog Year: 2025-2026

The effective dates for this articulation agreement are September 1, 2025 to September 1, 2028. This Articulation Agreement and Transfer Guide establishes a transfer pathway from the Pre-Elementary Education, A.A. degree at Grand Rapids Community College into the Elementary Education, B.S. degree at Ferris State University. If a student covered by this Program Agreement is enrolled in an approved course at the time that the Ferris program is revised or updated, Ferris agrees to accept those courses as outlined in the Program Agreement and apply them toward the relevant degree program. GRCC Courses with an ^ are required for the GRCC Program.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS – 41 to 42 Credits Required

Courses in this section are required to satisfy the University General Education Requirements for a bachelor's degree. The University General Education requirements can be found on the: Ferris State University General Education Requirements Webpage.

Students are encouraged to work with an advisor to select appropriate general education courses.

Diversity Competency - 2 Courses Required. If not met by courses taken for Culture, Self and Society, or MTA, a student must meet the following: 1 course with the Global Diversity attribute and 1 course with the U.S. Diversity attribute.

A "C" or higher is required in all courses within the program. A student must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 prior to Student Teaching.

Communication Competency

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
COMM 121	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3	COM 131 ^
ENGL 150	English 1 (B or higher)	3	EN 101 ^
ENGL 250	English 2 (B or higher)	3	EN 102 ^
ENGL 321	Advanced Composition	3	No Equivalent

Quantitative Literacy Competency

Requirements for Quantitative Literary Competency can be met with the following:

- Official Pre-2016 Math SAT Score of 560 or Higher
- Official Post-2016 Math SAT Score of 580 or Higher
- Official Math ACT Score of 24 or Higher

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Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
MATH 114 or MATH 115 or MATH 117	Quantitative Reasoning for Professionals 2 or Intermediate Algebra or Contemporary Mathematics	4 or 3 or 4	MA 107 [^] or MA 124 [^] or MA 110 [^]

Natural Sciences Competency

Two courses are required with a minimum of 6 credits: must have at least one lab course.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
BIOL 103	Biological Concepts	4	BI 101 [^]
PHSC 115	Inquiry into Physical Science	4	PH 111 [^] *Approved Substitution

Culture Competency

Three courses are required with a minimum of 9 credits: must be from two different disciplines and have at least one at FSU 200 level or higher course.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
HIST 121	United States History to 1877	3	HS 160 [^]
HIST 230	Michigan History	3	HS 260 [^]
LITR 326	Children's Literature	3	EN 250 [^] *Approved Substitution

Self and Society Competency

Three courses are required with a minimum of 9 credits: must be from two different disciplines and have at least one at FSU 200 level or higher course, and at least one Self and Society Foundation course.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
GEOG 100	Geography of World Regions	3	GE 135 [^]
PLSC 121	American Government 1 - People & Politics	3	PS 110 [^]
ECON 201	Principles of Microeconomics	3	EC 252 [^]

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS – 80-81 Credits Required

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Major Courses

15 Credits Required. These courses are used to calculate the major 2.75 GPA requirement.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
MATH 208	Elementary School Mathematics 1	3	MA 226 [^]
MATH 209	Elementary School Mathematics 2	3	MA 227 [^]
EDLA 261	Foundations of Literacy	3	EDU 205 [^]
ENGL 301	Introduction to Linguistics	3	No Equivalent
MATH 307	Elementary School Mathematics 3	3	MA 240 [^]

PRE-KINDERGARTEN THROUGH THIRD GRADE CONCENTRATION (ELPK) – 66 Credits Required

Level 1 Courses

15 Credits Required. Students may only retake two of the six Level 1 courses. Students may not repeat any education course more than once. These courses are not used to calculate the major 2.75 GPA requirement.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
EDCD 112	Theories of Child Development	3	EDU 118 [^]
EDCD 115	Observations & Documentation of Children	3	EDU 212 [^]
EDCD 161	Foundations of Education	3	EDU 200 [^]
EDCD 211	Methods of Teaching Preschool & School Age Children	4	EDU 227 [^]
EDUC 261	Children's Healthy Living	2	No Equivalent

Level 2 Courses

39 Credits Required. Prior to enrolling in any Level 2 courses, all students must meet the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) requirements, currently Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP); see advisor for options. Complete all Level 1 courses with a minimum of 2.50 GPA with no grade lower than a C, have a 2.50 cumulative GPA, and complete a Level 2 application. Students may not repeat any education course more than once. These courses are not used to calculate the major 2.75 GPA requirement.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
EDCD 308	Teaching Special Needs in Education & Childhood Education	3	EDU 230 [^]

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Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
EDLA 311	Advanced Foundations of Literacy Pre-Kindergarten through Third Grade	3	No Equivalent
EDMA 331	Math Methods of Teaching Pre-Kindergarten through Sixth Grade	3	No Equivalent
EDSC 331	3D Science Methods for Elementary Education Pre-Kindergarten through Sixth Grade	3	No Equivalent
EDUC 361	Instructional Design	3	No Equivalent
EDLA 411	Literacy Instruction & Assessment Pre-Kindergarten through Third Grade	4	No Equivalent
EDLA 419	Literacy Methods Field Experience Pre-Kindergarten through Third Grade	1	No Equivalent
EDMA 419	Math Methods Field Experience Pre-Kindergarten through Third Grade	1	No Equivalent
EDSC 419	Science Methods Field Experience Pre-Kindergarten through Third Grade	1	No Equivalent
EDSS 419	Social Studies Methods Field Experience Pre-Kindergarten through Third Grade	1	No Equivalent
EDLA 431	Literacy Methods of Teaching Pre-Kindergarten through Sixth Grade	4	No Equivalent
EDMA 431	Math Assessments & Supports Pre-Kindergarten through Sixth Grade	3	No Equivalent
EDSC 431	Advanced 3D Science Methods of Teaching Pre-	3	No Equivalent

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Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
	Kindergarten through Sixth Grade		
EDSS 431	Social Studies Methods of Teaching Pre-Kindergarten through Sixth Grade	3	No Equivalent
EDLA 461	Language & Literacy Capstone	3	No Equivalent

Level 3 Courses

12 Credits Required. Prior to enrolling in Level 3 courses, all students must pass the Michigan test for teacher certification in their subject area. Students must obtain the appropriate GPA for their major as established by each department. A 2.75 GPA is required in the professional education course sequence. A 2.50 cumulative GPA is also required before student teaching. Students may not repeat any education course more than once. These courses are not used to calculate the major 2.75 GPA requirement.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
EDUC 499	Student Teaching (Dept. Approval)	12	No Equivalent

THIRD GRADE THROUGH SIXTH GRADE CONCENTRATION (ELTS) – 65 Credits Required

Level 1 Courses

14 Credits Required. Students may only retake two of the six Level 1 courses. Students may not repeat any education course more than once. These courses are not used to calculate the major 2.75 GPA requirement.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
EDCD 115	Observation & Documentation of Children	3	EDU 212 [^]
EDUC 161	Foundations of Education	3	EDU 200 [^]
EDUC 251	Human Growth Development	3	EDU 118 [^]
EDUC 261	Children's Healthy Living	2	No Equivalent
EDUC 289	Principles of Teaching & Learning	3	PY 251 [^] *This class is not required if completing both bands.

Level 2 Courses

39 Credits Required. Prior to enrolling in any Level 2 courses, all students must meet the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) requirements, currently Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP); see advisor for options. Complete all Level 1 courses with a minimum of 2.50 GPA with no grade lower than a C, have a 2.50 cumulative GPA, and complete a Level 2 application. Students may not repeat any education course more than once. These courses are not used to calculate the major 2.75 GPA requirement.

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Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
EDLA 321	Advanced Foundations of Literacy Third Grade through Sixth Grade	3	No Equivalent
EDMA 331	Math Methods for Teaching Pre-Kindergarten through Sixth Grade	3	No Equivalent
EDSC 331	3D Science Methods for Elementary Education Pre-Kindergarten through Sixth Grade	3	No Equivalent
EDUC 361	Instructional Design	3	No Equivalent
EDUC 415	Teaching Special Needs	3	No Equivalent *This class is not required if completing both bands.
EDLA 421	Literacy Instruction and Assessment Third Grade through Sixth Grade	4	No Equivalent
EDLA 429	Literacy Methods Field Experience Third Grade through Sixth Grade	1	No Equivalent
EDMA 429	Math Methods Field Experience Third Grade through Sixth Grade	1	No Equivalent
EDSC 429	Science Methods Field Experience Third Grade through Sixth Grade	1	No Equivalent
EDSS 429	Social Studies Methods Field Experience Third Grade through Sixth Grade	1	No Equivalent
EDLA 431	Literacy Methods of Teaching Pre-Kindergarten through Sixth Grade	4	No Equivalent
EDMA 431	Math Assessments & Supports Pre-Kindergarten through Sixth Grade	3	No Equivalent
EDSC 431	Advanced 3D Science Methods of Teaching Pre-Kindergarten through Sixth Grade	3	No Equivalent

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Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
EDSS 431	Social Studies Methods of Teaching Pre-Kindergarten through Sixth Grade	3	No Equivalent
EDLA 461	Language & Literacy Capstone	3	No Equivalent

Level 3 Courses

12 Credits Required. Prior to enrolling in Level 3 courses, all students must pass the Michigan test for teacher certification in their subject area. Students must obtain the appropriate GPA for their major as established by each department. A 2.75 GPA is required in the professional education course sequence. A 2.50 cumulative GPA is also required before student teaching. Students may not repeat any education course more than once. These courses are not used to calculate the major 2.75 GPA requirement.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
EDUC 499	Student Teaching (Dept. Approval)	12	No Equivalent

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

College of Arts, Sciences, and Education
School of Education
(231) 591-5361
SOE@Ferris.edu

Ferris Statewide - GRCC
(616) 451-4777
FSUGR@Ferris.edu

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

New Student Admission Requirements

- 2.50 High School GPA (on a 4.00 scale)
- Minimum Composite ACT Score of 17/SAT 900

Transfer Student Admission Requirements

- Combined college or university GPA of 2.00 (on a 4.00 scale) from all institutions attended. GPA based on completion of 12 transferable semester credit hours or more.
- Completion of ENGL 150 or transfer equivalent of C grade or higher
- Completion of MATH 114, 115, or 117 or transfer equivalent of C grade or higher.
- The degree completion program at a statewide and online location requires 30 transferable semester credits to be admitted and completion of ENGL 150, ENGL 250, COMM 121, MATH 114, 115 or 117, or transfer equivalent courses of C grade or higher.

MORE INFORMATION

To fulfill the residency requirement for a bachelor's degree a student must earn a minimum of 30 credits from Ferris State University.

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Steps to Apply

- Complete your [free application](#).
- Submit official transcripts
 - Submit official transcripts from every school attended to Transfer@Ferris.edu
 - Or mail to:
Ferris State University Admissions Office
1201 S. State St., CSS 201
Big Rapids, MI 49307
- Submit test scores (if required)
 - ACT Scores; go to the [ACT website](#) - Ferris State University School Code: 1994
 - SAT, CLEP and AP Scores; go to the [College Board website](#) - Ferris State University School Code: 1222

Advising Notes

It is recommended that potential applicants meet with an advisor to review the degree, course schedule, transfer policies and have any questions answered prior to completing an application. Ferris accepts transfer courses in which the student earned a letter grade of "C" or better. Additional policies such as the Ferris Sunset and Residency Requirement should be discussed with a Ferris advisor. Students who are completing the MTA may have different general education course requirements for the particular degree selected.

Meeting with a Ferris advisor prior to the selection of general education or elective coursework may reduce the chance of completing a course that will not apply toward the selected degree. Students must work with their Ferris advisor to declare a Minor or Concentration and for the selection of Directed Electives.

Once admitted, students are required to complete an orientation and should continue to meet with an advisor as they work toward graduation.

To schedule an appointment or for additional transfer resources and policies see our [Transfer Resource](#) page.

*Indicates an approved Ferris course substitution

Reverse Transfer Agreement

Ferris has reverse transfer agreements with several Michigan Community Colleges. Under such agreement, Ferris will provide your official University transcript to a partner school you have attended, so that they may grant you an associate or bachelor's degree upon completion of sufficient and appropriate credit hours from both institutions. In turn, the degree-granting institution will provide Ferris with an updated transcript reflecting the newly earned credential.

Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA)

Ferris participates in the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA). This agreement will facilitate the transfer of general education requirements from one Michigan institution to another. Students may complete the MTA as part of a degree program or as a stand-alone package. The MTA consists of a minimum of 30 general education credit hours as identified by the college or university.

Students transferring to Ferris with the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) and entering a degree program will have met a 30-hour block of lower-level general education courses. However, this does not exempt students from completing program-specific prerequisites or higher-level general education course requirements. Students should contact their advisor regarding classes that meet the MTA.

Transfer Equivalencies Tools

The transfer equivalencies link is located in the Transfer Resources section at transfer.ferris.edu.

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Disclaimer

Transfer guides are not intended to be a contract with Ferris. The information in this guide is subject to change and is aligned with the catalog year listed above. Students should contact their community college and/or Ferris to keep informed of changes. Students' final responsibility for verifying all transfer information lies with the student. Please refer to the [Ferris catalog](#) for the most current curriculum.

Partners may contact the Office of Transfer and Secondary School Partnerships with questions or updates at TransferGuidesArticulations@Ferris.edu.

ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

The original, signed document is kept on file in the Office of Extended and International Operations (EIO). To obtain a copy of the original, signed document, please email TransferGuidesArticulations@ferris.edu.

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ARTICULATION AGREEMENT WITH GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE: ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Original Signed Articulation Agreement

The original signed document is on file with the Office of Extended and International Operations. To request a copy, please contact the office at transferguidesarticulations@ferris.edu.

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original. Together, all counterparts shall be deemed to be a single and same agreement. A signed copy of this Agreement delivered via mail, email, or other electronic transmission shall have the same legal effect as the delivery of an original signed copy.

Indemnification

To the extent permitted by law, **Ferris State University** and **Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC)** agree to indemnify and hold one another harmless from any and all claims initiated by student participants, their parents, survivors, or agents, arising from any negligent acts or omissions on the part of either institution or any of their employees.

Articulation Agreement Effective Dates:

This Agreement shall commence as of September 1, 2025, and shall be for an initial term of three years. Minor updates to the agreement may be made during this time. This agreement may be renewed at the end of three years. Either party may terminate this agreement by providing the other party with written notice of the intent to terminate the agreement. The agreement shall terminate not less than one hundred eighty (180) days from the date of the termination notice unless otherwise agreed in writing by both parties.

Ferris State University
1201 S. State Street
Big Rapids, MI 49307
Phone: (231) 591-2000

Grand Rapids Community College
143 Bostwick Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-3295
Phone: (616) 234-4000