

Colorado Commission on Higher Education
Resolution to Endorse the Colorado GenEd Foundational Skills Credential

Approved May 3, 2024

WHEREAS, the General Education Council is the statutory entity established in 2001 to develop and oversee Colorado's statewide general education transfer framework, known as Guaranteed Transfer Pathways, or GT Pathways; and

WHEREAS, GT Pathways is a 31-credit general education core in 6 different content areas that builds student competencies in civic engagement, creative thinking, critical thinking, diversity and global learning, information literacy, inquiry and analysis, problem solving, quantitative literacy, and written communication; and

WHEREAS, these competencies are regularly identified by employers as being in-demand and critical for success in the workplace, and by faculty as foundational for upper-division study and completion of a degree; and

WHEREAS, public colleges and universities in Colorado align select lower-division courses with the content and competencies in GT Pathways to facilitate student transfer and degree completion, making GT Pathways a part of the student experience across most associate of arts, associate of science, and bachelor's degree programs; and

WHEREAS, a national movement exists to better recognize student achievement on the way to a degree, both to reward student progress and to validate their career-connected learning; and

WHEREAS, at its June 2023 meeting, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education approved changes to its academic programs policy (Section I, Part V) to clarify that all institutions are allowed to offer certain sub-baccalaureate credentials, including certificates that can be applied to one or more bachelor's degree programs; and

WHEREAS, on January 8, 2024, the General Education Council endorsed a framework developed by a cross-institutional task force that provides guidance to institutions of higher education to offer a general education completion credential, awarded after fulfillment of all GT Pathways requirements, which rewards students for achieving a significant milestone and promotes the in-demand skills and competencies developed through general education;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Colorado Commission on Higher Education recognizes and thanks the General Education Council and the General Education Completion Taskforce for their work in developing the *Colorado GenEd Foundational Skills Credential* framework; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Colorado Commission on Higher Education encourages all public colleges and universities to develop aligned general education completion credentials and to communicate to students the value of the knowledge, skills, and competencies developed through general education.

