

Transferring Credits

What is an “accredited institution”?

The term “accredited” usually means that a college or university has met or exceeded quality standards and has the resources to achieve its stated purpose. Emerson is accredited by the [New England Association for Schools and Colleges](#), one of six regional organizations in the United States.

Transfer credits are accepted only from other accredited institutions. Credits from foreign colleges and universities may be transferred from schools recognized by national authorities as degree-granting institutions of higher learning.

Can I transfer credits earned somewhere else, and which of my classes will be transferable to Emerson?

Transfer credit is granted for comparable courses from accredited two- and four-year institutions that were completed in the last 10 years with grades of “C” (73% or 2.0) or better. A pass “P” or “CR” grade must equal a “C” or better. Consult our [Undergraduate Catalogue](#) to read course descriptions. The College reserves the right to award or withhold transfer credit as well as change transfer policies.

Once you have been offered admission to Emerson, we send all your college or university transcripts to our [Registrar’s Office](#) to determine the number of General Education credits that are transferable. Faculty members in each academic department evaluate major-related courses. We then post an initial Evaluation of Transfer Credit Form online that you can access with your Emerson-issued ID (usually within two weeks from the date that you receive your admission offer). The Evaluation of Transfer Credit Form indicates which courses will transfer, the number of credits awarded, and your class standing.

Read the [Transfer Credit Policy](#) for more information.

Can I find out what courses will transfer to Emerson before I apply?

The volume of transfer applications prevents us from assisting students with credit evaluations prior to admission. However, we feel many of your questions will be answered by consulting our [Undergraduate Catalogue](#). Information regarding Emerson major or general education requirements is available at the [Advising Center](#).

You will find that general education or traditional liberal arts courses will be more readily accepted for transfer credit than specific upper division classes in a major. Keep this in mind when choosing courses at your current college/university. Keep your school’s catalogue, course descriptions, and course syllabi handy. You may be asked for additional information to evaluate your transfer credits.

What does the Registrar’s Office require to process my transfer credits?

Matriculating transfer students must supply the [Registrar’s Office](#) with final, official copies of all college/university transcripts. Faxed, unsealed, or student copies of transcripts are not considered official and will not be used to evaluate transfer credits.

What is the transfer policy for international transcripts?

If you have transcripts from a college or university outside the United States that are not in English, you need to have them evaluated by [World Education Services](#) (WES) before the application deadline. Processing

international credentials may take up to eight weeks, so please allow sufficient time for your documents to arrive by the application deadline.

My school doesn't grant 4 credits per class like Emerson. How do those classes transfer?

A 3-credit course completed at another institution will not transfer to Emerson as a 4-credit course. It will, however, satisfy a 4-credit (full-course) requirement. Credits awarded by other institutions in units, courses, or quarter hours, etc., will be converted to make them equivalent to Emerson's semester-hour credits. Quarter hours will be reduced by 1/3 to make them equivalent to semester hours.

What is the maximum number of transfer credits Emerson will accept?

A maximum of 80 credits may be transferred to Emerson; no more than 64 credits may be transferred from a junior or community college (even if you have an associate's degree with more than 64 credits). Consult our [Undergraduate Catalogue](#) regarding academic regulations.

Can I receive credit for AP, IB, or CLEP examinations?

Emerson grants transfer credit for Advanced Placement scores of 4 and 5, International Baccalaureate higher level exams with scores of 4, 5, 6, or 7 (with the exception of Language A/English, where a score of 6 or 7 is required), and CLEP exam scores of 50 or higher (for a full 4-credit course equivalent; freshman composition must be with essay).

Official test scores must be submitted to our [Registrar's Office](#) for evaluation before any examination credit can be awarded. Please refer to the [Undergraduate Course Catalogue](#) for more information.

What classes are definitely not accepted at Emerson?

Non-academic coursework from the following subject areas is generally not accepted for transfer credit at Emerson:

- Physical Education classes
- Engineering, Mechanical, and Technical courses
- Hotel, Restaurant Management, Travel and Hospitality courses
- College Success, Orientation, and First-Year Experience programs
- ESL classes
- Pre-College level (Pre-100 level) courses

How many classes will I need to take at Emerson?

Transfer students are required to complete a minimum of 48 credits at Emerson, of which at least 20 credits must be in their major. In addition, they are required to earn their final 16 credits at the College. Please refer to our [Undergraduate Catalogue](#) for additional academic regulations.