



# Major Ready Pathways

Higher Education Coordinating Board  
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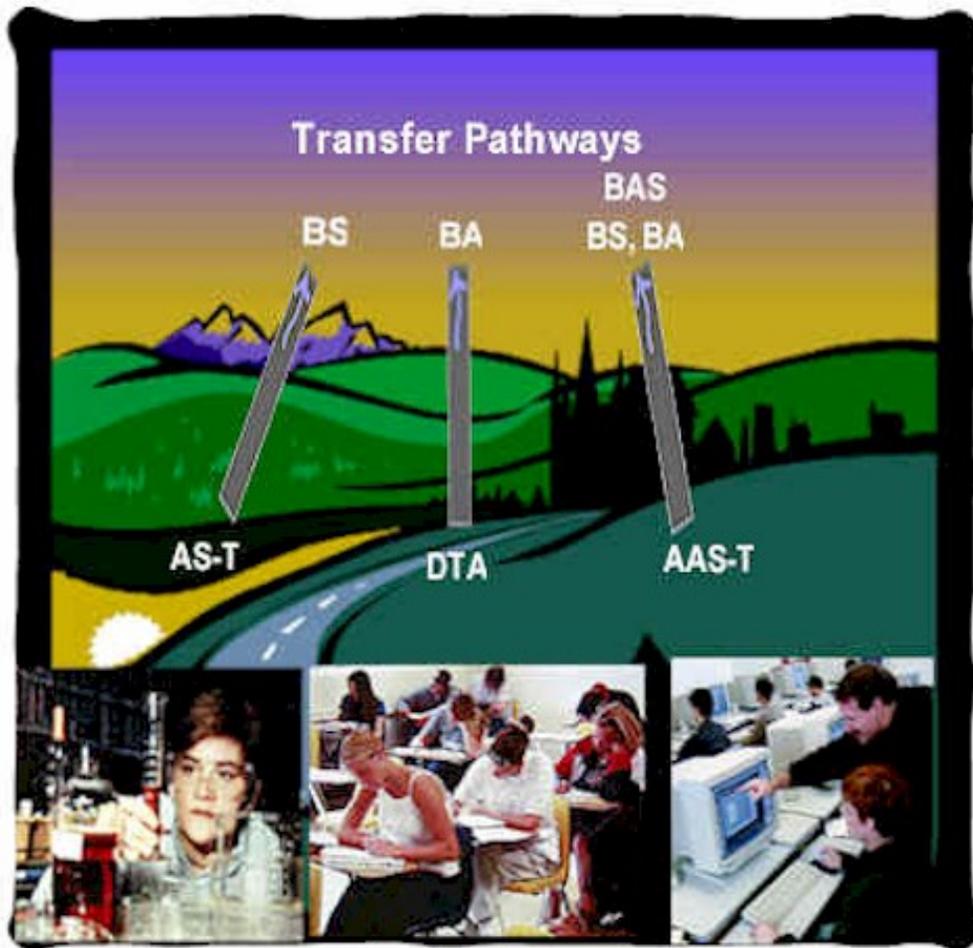
## *Overview of presentation*

- **Legislative mandate**
- **Definition of 'major ready pathway'**
  - What is it?
  - How does it differ from other transfer associate degrees?
- **Ongoing work**
- **Recommendations**

## *Legislative Mandate*

- **In 2004, House Bill 2382 stated that the HECB should “convene workgroups to develop transfer-associate degrees...”**
  - The Joint Access Oversight Group (JAOG) provided the workgroups with their charge, general timeline, and suggested guidelines
  - The degree must satisfy lower-division requirements at public four-year institutions for specific academic majors
  - The degree must be negotiated statewide so that admission requirements are similar across four-year institutions
  - The first degrees should be in nursing, elementary education, and engineering
- **Report to the legislature in January 2007**

# *What is a major ready pathway?*



- DTA used for most liberal arts majors
- AS-T has a similar structure, but is geared toward math and science

## *What is a major ready pathway?*

- **Stays within the boundaries of DTA and AS-T**
  - Completion of lower-division general education requirements
  - Priority consideration in admissions at public universities ahead transfer students without degrees
  - Coursework evaluated as “package” rather than individually

## *What is a major ready pathway?*

- **MRPs provide further specification of prerequisites**
  - Limited capacity at upper-division
  - Transfer students at competitive disadvantage
- **Transfer students are prepared for entry into a particular major**

## *Status of Current Work*

- **Pathways for nursing, elementary education, and engineering have been completed**
- **Work on business and engineering technology is on-going**
  - Business pathway will be presented to JAOG for review and approval in March 2006
- **Creation of inventory of existing associate degree pathways matched with corresponding four-year degrees**

## *Recommendations and Next Steps*

- **Staff are reviewing current transfer policies**
  - What is the HECB's statutory authority with reference to changes made in House Bill 3103?
  - What types of policies has the board adopted?
  - Where do the MRPs fit into the policy framework the board has developed?

## *Recommendations and Next Steps*

- **Identify areas of need**
  - HECB is mandated to report every other year regarding need for new MRPs
- **Data Gathering: How well are the MRPs working?**
  - Do we have estimates of the number of students using MRPs?
  - Do they attain degrees more often or more quickly than those not using MRPs?