



# TRANSFER TIMES

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## The Transfer Myth

The common 'transfer myth' amongst many students is that it's all right to delay transfer preparations or decisions about senior college choices until the final semester. Making transfer decisions when graduation is looming is a strategic error because it can severely restrict a student's options. Students who apply under the crunch of application deadlines are often forced to choose a college based on proximity. Some even fail to ask whether the institution offers the academic program of interest.

Late planning also means that students can only consider a limited number of colleges and academic programs. Many specialized programs have additional requirements (e.g., an audition, portfolio or community service) and earlier application deadlines. It may also be too late to apply for scholarships or institutional aid. The loss of potential financial assistance further restricts the number of schools that a student can consider for transfer. There is no great mystical process involved in applying to a senior college once you have decided on the appropriate institution. Many students seem surprised by this fact. Choosing the senior college that is right for you, however, requires planning and re-

search. This research should begin no later than your second semester at BMCC.

During your first semester you need to define your career objectives. Once these are clarified you are in a position to commit yourself to an academic program at BMCC. Your academic program here should be the one that satisfies the lower division requirements for the baccalaureate degree. In other

words, your program should be consistent with your goals and be one that offers a seamless transition to a four-year college. This is where early transfer advisement is crucial. An advisor can help you identify appropriate senior colleges according to the criteria you provide. An advisor can also help you select those courses within a degree program that are required by the senior college you are considering.

If you have transfer questions or concerns, please visit us in the Academic Advisement & Transfer Center (S763). In the meantime, turn the page for a transfer planning timeline.

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***Transfer Planning:  
What to do. When to do it.***

***When you have 0-12 credits***

- ◆ Determine possible career goals
- ◆ See an advisor
- ◆ Decide if you plan to transfer to a senior college after graduation from BMCC
- ◆ Select your degree program accordingly
- ◆ Attend a transfer fair

***With 24 credits***

- ◆ Begin scholarship research:  
Check with the Scholarship Office (S343)  
Register with Scholarship.com and Fastweb.com
- ◆ Begin to find the senior colleges that offer your degree program
- ◆ See your advisor
- ◆ Attend a transfer fair
- ◆ Do more research

***At 30 credits***

*You can see the light at the end of the tunnel*

- ◆ Narrow your search to a few Institutions
- ◆ Visit college web sites
- ◆ Contact senior colleges for information regarding:  
Admission requirements  
Application deadlines  
Institutional aid  
Special programs
- ◆ Attend a transfer fair



***WHEN YOU HAVE 34-45 CREDITS  
AVOID SURPRISES!***

- ◆ See an academic advisor for a pre-graduation audit
  - Have you passed all CUNY exams?
  - Have you taken a writing intensive course?
  - Have you registered for the CPE exam?
  - Are you on track with all the requirements for your degree?

***FINAL SEMESTER***

- ◆ Apply for graduation
- ◆ Complete transfer applications
- ◆ CUNY and SUNY application deadlines:  
Fall Admission: March 15  
Spring admission: October 1
- ◆ File for financial aid

***AFTER GRADUATION***

- ◆ Send a final transcript to the school you will be attending



***Transfer Resources***

***CUNY TIPPS***

<http://tipps.cuny.edu>

This is a very user friendly site that allows users to determine how courses transfer across the CUNY colleges. Keep in mind that the individual college is the final arbiter in determining how courses will transfer. This site also has information on all the registered programs within the CUNY system

***The Occupational Outlook Handbook***

<http://www.bls.gov/oco>

The handbook is a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor/Bureau of Labor Statistics. It is an invaluable source of information for career and academic planning. For each profession listed, there are sections that describe the nature of the work, the work environment, training and educational requirements and expected job prospects.

## EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS:

### Physical Therapist

#### Nature of the Work

Physical therapists provide services that help restore function, improve mobility, relieve pain, and prevent or limit permanent physical disabilities of patients suffering from injuries or disease. Therapists examine patients' medical histories and then test and measure patients' strength, range of motion, balance, coordination, posture, muscle performance, and motor function. After their assessment, physical therapists develop plans that outline a treatment strategy and its anticipated outcome.

#### Work Environment

Physical therapists practice in hospitals, clinics, and specially equipped private offices. These jobs can be physically demanding because therapists move heavy equipment and lift patients or help them turn, stand, or walk.

#### Training, Other Qualifications, and Advancement

Physical therapists need a master's degree from an accredited physical therapy program and a state license, requiring passing scores on national and state examinations.

According to the American Physical Therapy Association, there were 209 accredited physical therapist education programs in 2007. 43 programs offered master's degrees and 166 offered doctoral degrees. In the future, a doctoral degree may be the required entry-level degree. Master's degree programs typically last 2 years, and doctoral programs last 3 years on average.

#### Undergraduate Preparation

The undergraduate courses that are useful when one applies to a physical therapist education program are anatomy, biology, chemistry, social science, mathematics, and physics. Before granting admission, many programs require volunteer experience in the physical therapy department of a hospital or clinic.

#### Licensure

All states require physical therapists to pass national and state licensure exams before they can practice. They must also graduate from an accredited physical therapist education program.

#### Other Qualifications

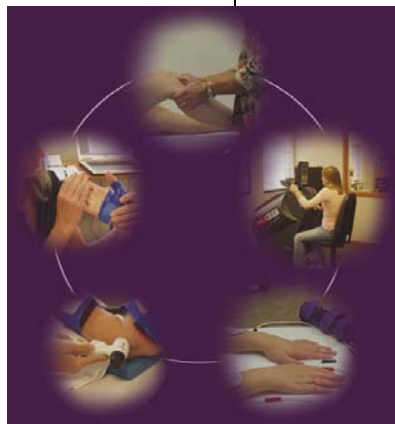
Physical therapists should have strong interpersonal skills so they can educate patients about their treatments and communicate with patients' families. Therapists should also be compassionate and possess a desire to help patients.

#### Advancement

Physical therapists are expected to continue their professional development by participating in continuing education courses and workshops. In fact, a number of states require continuing education as a condition of maintaining licensure.

This is an abridged version of the article that appears in: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2008-09 Edition*, Physical Therapists, on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos080.htm>

For more information contact:  
The American Physical Therapy Association at <http://www.apta.org>



# BMCC FALL 2008 TRANSFER FAIRS



## 3 DAYS! 3 OPPORTUNITIES!

- ◆ Gather information about the academic programs offered at the senior colleges
- ◆ Discover the career possibilities associated with various degree programs
- ◆ Speak directly to admissions counselors from CUNY, SUNY & other private colleges
- ◆ Explore scholarship opportunities

Nontraditional Career Transfer Fair  
Tuesday, September 16, 2008  
12PM-5PM  
Richard Harris Terrace Promenade

Senior College Transfer Fair  
Tuesday, September 23, 2008  
11AM-3PM & 4PM-8PM  
Richard Harris Terrace Promenade

Evening/Weekend Students Transfer Fair  
Saturday, September 27, 2008  
11AM-2PM  
Richard Harris Terrace Promenade

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## ABOUT THE AATC

The Academic Advisement & Transfer Center provides students with comprehensive one-on-one academic advisement and transfer services to facilitate well informed decisions about appropriate senior college choices after graduation.

Additionally, the AATC:

- ◆ administers the Title V program for liberal arts students and the Out-in-Two Scholarship Program
- ◆ houses and maintains a transfer library with both print and electronic resources
- ◆ offers e-advisement, distance learning advisement and nontraditional career advisement
- ◆ sponsors 6 senior college transfer fairs annually

**We are here to serve you 7 days a week**

***Please check our web site (<http://bmcc.cuny.edu/transfrcntr>) for our most up-to-date office hours***