

Alabama Numeracy Act Sub-Committee Report

Report provided by Dr. Mary Beth Lancaster

In April and September of 2025, ALSDE, ACCS, and ACHE convened faculty workshops to expand transfer opportunities for community college students entering Elementary and Early Childhood Education programs. Participants identified several existing lower-division courses that could be revised to meet Professional Studies requirements at four-year institutions, leading to planned framework updates for PSY 210 (Human Growth and Development), PSY 240 (Educational Psychology), CHD 201 (Child Growth and Development Principles), and CHD 210 (Educating Exceptional Children).

The workshops also highlighted opportunities to include a lower-division numeracy course within Educator Preparation Program requirements for Elementary, Early Childhood, and Collaborative Special Education (K-6). Specific numeracy course sequences have been approved by the Alabama State Department of Education and will be shared with AGSC once final confirmation is received. These sequences may then be reviewed for potential alignment with two-year institution curricula and evaluated for inclusion in transfer pathways for applicable four-year programs. A preliminary report published by ACHE indicates that several universities have chosen to include a lower-division numeracy course, including Auburn University, the University of Alabama, UAH, the University of South Alabama, the University of Mobile, and Faulkner University. Among these, Auburn's and Alabama's mathematics department courses appear especially promising for transfer.

While Education-prefixed courses may be more challenging to align with ACCS offerings due to curriculum and faculty credentialing requirements, collaboration from four-year institutions can help accelerate the development of transferable courses and strengthen pathways for aspiring teachers beginning at community colleges. In particular, the University of South Alabama is providing syllabus templates and technical assistance to several public and private universities, and there may be opportunities for community college faculty to collaborate with them as well.