

# THE ADVISOR

## A QUARTERLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2024

# ACHIEVE

20  
24

Transfer Student Success Conference

**MARCH 27-28, 2024**

Have you registered for the 6th Annual ACHIEVE Conference in Mobile, Alabama? The dates of the conference are set - March 27 & March 28. The two-day conference will be hosted on the campus of the University of South Alabama. Bishop State Community College and Coastal Alabama Community College are serving as co-hosts and will host a student-led reception in downtown Mobile on the first night of the conference.

We have three dynamic keynote speakers lined up. There will also be a transfer student panel Q&A session on the first day of the conference. In addition, the conference will offer three concurrent sessions and where attendees can listen to various presentations and/or participate in different workshops that all focus on meeting the ever-changing needs of transfer students across Alabama. **REGISTER TODAY!**



HOSTED ON THE CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA



**REGISTER**




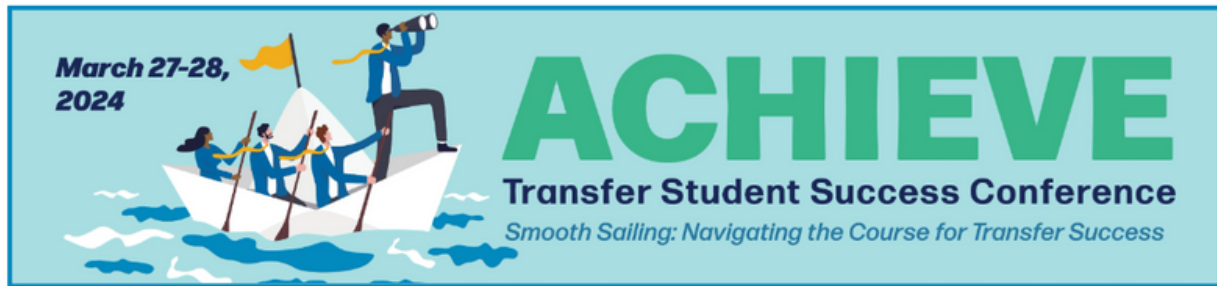
**THERE IS STILL TIME TO BE A PART OF THE CONFERENCE! REGISTER TODAY!**

MORE ACHIEVE CONFERENCE NEWS CAN BE FOUND BY VISITING: [ALABAMATRANSFERS.COM/ACHIEVE-CONFERENCE](https://alabamatransfers.com/achieve-conference)

CONFERENCE FEE \$150

**LAST DAY TO REGISTER - MARCH 13, 2024**

Conference Powered by 



## KEYNOTE SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT

### DR. DREW KOCH

Dr. Andrew Koch has substantive experience with undergraduate education administration, redesign of educational systems to address performance gaps, strategic planning, fundraising, reaffirmation of accreditation, postsecondary access and success, and enrollment management efforts. His work includes extensive grant writing and fundraising with support coming from sources such as Ascendium Education Philanthropies, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, ECMC Foundation, GEAR UP, Kresge Foundation, Lilly Endowment, Inc., Lumina Foundation, and the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Koch's scholarly and professional interests are focused on student success and the ways in which colleges and universities both reflect and shape democracy and culture in the United States. Through this work, he serves as a passionate advocate for historically underrepresented and underserved students – seeing higher education as a vehicle for advancing equity and social justice.

He is the author of an array of publications such as the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th editions of *The First-Year Experience in American Higher Education: An Annotated Bibliography* as well as *Improving Teaching, Learning, Equity, and Success in Gateway Courses: New Directions for Higher Education*, Number 180. He is the co-editor of *The Transfer Experience* (Stylus, 2021). His solo-authored book on gateway courses is forthcoming from Routledge in 2024.

Koch has served on several boards and commissions including the Gardner Institute's Board of Directors; the Board of Directors for Asheville Empire Youth Lacrosse; the Indiana College Access and Success Network; the Directorate Board for the American College Personnel Association Commission on Admissions, Orientation, and the First-Year Experience; the Military Family Research Institute; the Higher Learning Commission's Think Tank on Persistence and Completion; the Higher Learning Commission's Defining Student Success Task Force; the advisory committee for the Association of American Colleges and Universities Strengthening Guided Pathways and Career Success by Ensuring Students are Learning project; the National Advisory Board for the National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition; and the editorial review board of the *Journal of the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition*.



DR. DREW KOCH

REGISTER

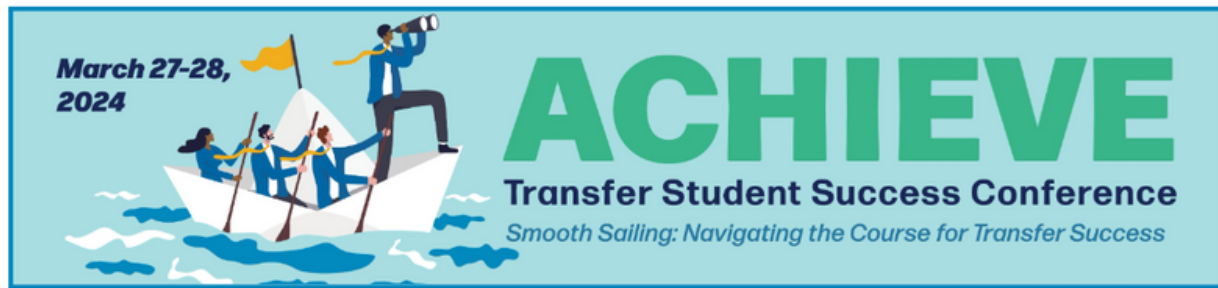


**\$150 REGISTRATION FEE**

**CONFERENCE  
REGISTRATION  
WILL END SOON!**

**THE LAST DAY TO  
REGISTER IS  
MARCH 13, 2024!**

**Only a few spaces remain!**



## 2024 ACHIEVE CONFERENCE SPONSORS



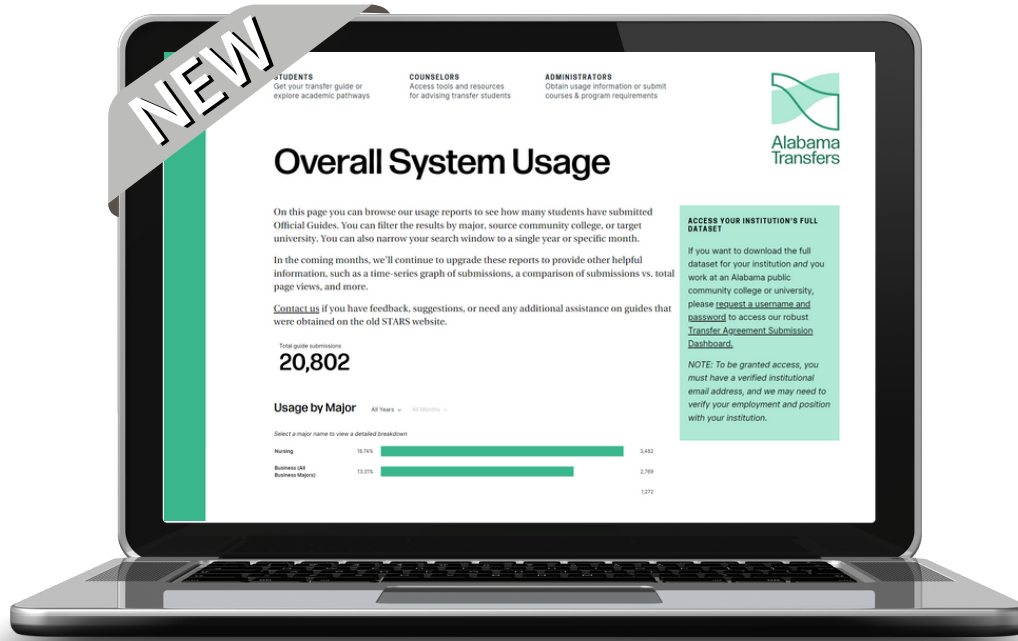
Tarah Keech Coaching



# THANK YOU!

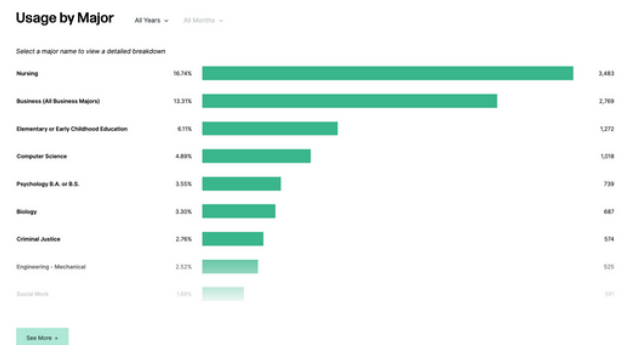
PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO CLICK ON OUR SPONSOR LOGOS ABOVE AND VISIT THEIR WEBSITES. OUR CONFERENCE WOULD NOT BE A SUCCESS WITHOUT THEIR SUPPORT AND GENEROSITY.

# NEW OVERALL SYSTEM USAGE PAGE

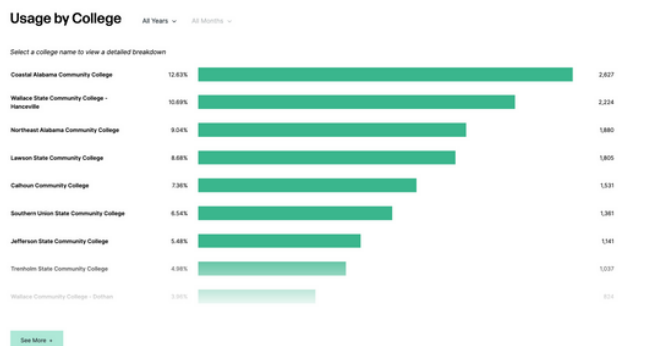


Our **new usage reports** let you see how many students have submitted Official Guides. You can filter the results by major, source community college, or target university. You can also narrow your search window to a single year or specific month. In the coming months, we'll continue to upgrade these reports to provide other helpful information, such as a time-series graph of submissions, a comparison of submissions vs. total page views, and more. In the meantime, please **contact us** if you have feedback, suggestions, or need any additional assistance on guides that were obtained on the old STARS website.

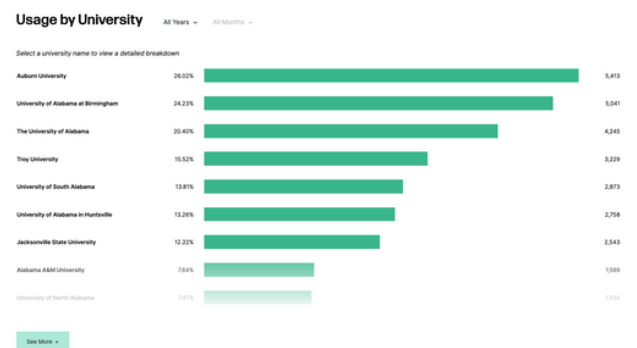
## Filter by MAJOR



## Filter by COMMUNITY COLLEGE



## Filter by UNIVERSITY



# DO YOU HAVE A PLAN FOR TRANSFER SUCCESS?

## WE CAN HELP!



**STUDENTS**  
Get your transfer guide or explore academic pathways

**COUNSELORS**  
Access tools and resources for advising transfer students

**ADMINISTRATORS**  
Obtain usage information or submit courses & program requirements

## Transfer Success Checklist



Alabama Transfers

**JUMP TO SECTION**

1. [Start Preparing Now! — Create a checklist.](#)
2. [Declare a major as soon as possible and try to stay the course.](#)
3. [Conduct your own research about the transfer process.](#)
4. [Gain a better understanding of the transfer admissions process.](#)
5. [Make a list of important dates and deadlines.](#)
6. [Obtain information about financial aid and/or scholarships.](#)
7. [Obtain accurate articulation information \(course credit\).](#)
8. [Set up a meetings with advisors or counselors to discuss the transfer process.](#)
9. [Attend a transfer orientation program at your new school.](#)
10. [Collect general information about your new university — academics, student life, etc.](#)

**① Start Preparing Now! – Create a checklist.**

**IT IS NEVER TO LATE TO START PLANNING**

It is *never* too late to start planning your educational path. However, if you are a freshman at a community college, the time to start planning is now! Even better than that... We suggest you start planning during your junior or senior years in high school. If you know you are going to attend a community college and later transfer to a four-year college to complete your bachelor's degree, begin to map out the process now – don't wait!



If you were familiar with our old STARS website, you may remember the **TRANSFER SURVIVAL KIT**. We have taken that same information and formatted it into our new **TRANSFER SUCCESS CHECKLIST** webpage. This is a great resource for orientation classes to use. In addition, advisors and counselors can help their students better prepare for their future transfer and transition from the community college to one of our public four-year institutions.

[alabamatransfers.com/students/transfer-checklist](https://alabamatransfers.com/students/transfer-checklist)



**CX collegexpress** WEB ARTICLE SPOTLIGHT

**HOW TO FIGHT FOR YOUR CREDITS: AN EXPERT LOOK INTO THE TRANSFER PROCESS**

By Eric Yeager - Project Manager, Carnegie Higher Education

[Link to article](#)



*Below we provide only the first few paragraphs of the article. To read the complete article, scan the QR code above or click on the link above the QR code.*

The transfer admission process requires a lot of advocating for yourself. Here's a look inside transferring credits and speaking up for what you've earned. Transferring colleges can be a scary thing, and knowing how your credits will transfer from one school to another can be an unclear process. Every year, thousands of students like you will transfer from one institution to another, and while understanding if you were accepted is straightforward, knowing what will happen with the college credits you've worked so hard to earn is not. As someone who was both a transfer student (a few times) and a staff member working with prospective transfers on the other side of the desk, I'm here to illuminate the process of transferring your credits and contesting how they're counted toward your degree if needed.

#### **LEARN FROM MY TRANSFER EXPERIENCE**

In my college career, I transferred schools three times and had three very different experiences. When I first attended college, I wanted to explore a different part of the country, so I applied and was accepted to a small liberal arts school in Vermont. It was unlike anything I had experienced before, with small class sizes, a design-your-own-major program, and no prerequisite courses. For someone with no set direction at the time, this was a dream come true. In my first year, I studied pirates in the Caribbean, dance in South American literature, and the philosophy of math. After a year and a half, my course of study turned to Economics and Business—and the one-person department was not what I needed. This is where I first started to learn the troubles of transferring and the difficulties in determining a new direction.

#### **FITTING YOUR CREDITS TO A DEGREE PLAN**

Most degree programs out there are built along similar principles. You have your general education courses nearly everyone must take—some variation of English comp, US history, physical science, and social science courses. Then you have your major-specific classes and specialized courses within your field, which you take mainly during junior and senior years. The trouble comes in when your courses don't fit into this structure.

***TO CONTINUE READING THE ARTICLE - [CLICK HERE.](#)***



## HAS YOUR COMMUNITY COLLEGE UPDATED THEIR WEBSITE TO REFLECT THE RECENT CHANGE FROM “STARS” TO “ALABAMA TRANSFERS?”

In November of 2022, we launched the new Alabama Transfers website which replaced the old STARS website. One thing that is helpful to transfer students across the state is having the ability to find out more about Alabama Transfers and to see how obtaining an official transfer guide can help them save time, money, and credits should they choose to transfer to any of our public four-year universities in Alabama. Recently, we went through each of the participating community college websites to determine if they had updated their sites to reflect the change from STARS to Alabama Transfers. Here is what we found:

- ☑ BEVILL STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- ☑ BISHOP STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- ☑ CALHOUN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- 🔍 CENTRAL ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- ☑ CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- ☑ COASTAL ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- ★ DRAKE STATE COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
- ☑ ENTERPRISE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- ☑ GADSDEN STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- ☑ JEFFERSON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- ★ LAWSON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- ☑ LURLEEN B. WALLACE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- 🔍 MARION MILITARY INSTITUTE
- ☑ NORTHEAST ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- 🔍 NORTHWEST SHOALS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- ☑ SHELTON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- ☑ SNEAD STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- 🔍 SOUTHERN UNION STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- ☑ TRENHOLM STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- ☑ WALLACE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - DOTHAN
- ☑ WALLACE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - HANCEVILLE
- ☑ WALLACE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - SELMA

### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?



We visited your institution's website and were able to find links and information about Alabama Transfers. Thank you for promoting Alabama Transfers on your site. Do nothing!



We visited your institution's website and were able to find links and information about the old STARS Program. Please update your website to reflect the new Alabama Transfers branding. You can visit our website [“PRESS KIT” page](#) and download logos and written content to use as you update the information you provide to transfers students.



We visited your institution's website and were not able to find any links or information that would tell prospective transfer students about Alabama Transfers. If you find our assessment in error, please contact us and let us know where the information exists on your website. Please update your website to reflect the new Alabama Transfers branding. You can visit our website [“PRESS KIT” page](#) and download logos and written content to use as you update the information you provide transfers students.



*Thank you!*

FOR PROMOTING  
ALABAMA TRANSFERS  
ON YOUR WEBSITES!



**PRESS KIT PAGE**

[ALABAMATRANSFERS.COM/RESOURCES/PRESS-KIT](https://alabamatransfers.com/resources/press-kit)

# DO YOU NEED PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS FOR ALABAMA TRANSFERS?

- Do you have “New Student Orientation Days” on your campus?
- Do you host prospective students on your campus (visits/tours)?
- Do your faculty/staff discuss Alabama Transfers in orientation classes?
- Do your advisors/counselors talk to students about transferring in-state?

If you answered **YES** to any of the four questions, you need to know about all the **FREE promotional materials** that we can provide for you to give your students. Use the barcode (web address) below to order today!



POSTERS (11x17 INCHES)



POSTCARDS (5.5 x 8.5 INCHES)



BALL POINT PENS (BLACK INK)



GELL HIGHLIGHTERS (COLORS VARY)



## GO HERE TO ORDER!

[alabamatransfers.com/resources/request-promotional-items](http://alabamatransfers.com/resources/request-promotional-items)

Please only order the amounts you actually need for your students.



Thank you for your support of Alabama Transfers!



Alabama  
Transfers

334-670-3690

[alabamatransfers.com](http://alabamatransfers.com)



**GET THE GUIDE!**