

Planning/Transitioning to Gen Ed 28

A Guide for Department Chairs/Schools Directors & Program Coordinators

LEGEND

- Applies if your department offers or could offer courses in the new general education program
 - Applies if your undergraduate programs require general education courses
- Italicized text* = supplementary guidance for chairs

Fall 2026

■ Submit new and existing courses for consideration in the General Education Program.

- If the course is not already approved for the IAI General Education Core Curriculum, contact the IAI Director at IAIcourses@illinoisstate.edu regarding IAI course submission. More information about IAI: itransfer.org/about

This applies to every approved gen ed course, not just those in transfer-heavy programs; IAI submission benefits any transfer student entering any ISU major.

■ Determine which required courses for your undergraduate programs that count in the old general education program have been approved for the new gen ed. See:

gened.illinoisstate.edu/gened27/implementation-plan

- If some have not been approved for new gen ed, reach out to that department/school to discuss submitting a proposal for consideration.

In practice, this is your dual-purpose course audit: identifying which of your required courses serve double duty as both a major requirement and a gen ed requirement, and flagging any not yet approved. Suggested internal target: complete this initial pass by mid-September 2026, so you have runway to reach out to other departments before the semester ends.

Late Fall 2026 – Spring 2027

■ Review requirements for each undergraduate program.

Complete this review outside of Coursedog's Curriculum Management System.

- Which required courses that counted in the old general education program have been approved for the new gen ed?
- Are there new gen ed courses you may want to require in your program(s) instead of a current course requirement?
- What revisions to the program requirements/sample plans of study need to be made? The new general education program requires fewer credit hours, so each sample plan of study needs to be reviewed and likely revised.

Suggested internal target: aim to complete this planning-stage review by February 2027, so proposal drafting isn't compressed into the end of the semester.

Determine how many required courses (where students don't have an option to complete another course) for the major/sequence will satisfy a general education category, to determine how many more general education courses students in that major/sequence must complete to satisfy the general education program.

- Determine the type of proposal form needed for each major/sequence.
 - **Minor Edit proposal form** may be used for revisions to electives and/or sample plans of study.

Approval routing: Department Chair → AVP → Technical Review.

- **Revise Major/Sequence/Minor/Certificate proposal form** must be used if proposing revisions to specifically required courses (where there is only one course option), and/or changes to total required credit hours.

Approval routing: Department Curriculum Committee & Department Chair → College Curriculum Committee → Dean → Council for Teacher Education (if applicable) → Technical Review → Undergraduate Curriculum Committee → Academic Senate.

- Coordinate with all faculty involved with each major and associated sequences so that all necessary revisions are addressed on one proposal.
- Only one proposal for a major/and associated sequence may be “in-flight” (working through the approval workflow) at a time.

Note: the new general education program does not currently cap how many required courses may count toward both a major and gen ed. If this raises concerns about total required hours in your program, that's a conversation for your proposal drafting stage.

Spring 2027

■ Continue with curriculum proposal submissions as needed.

- Revise Major/Sequence/Minor/Certificate proposals should be submitted during the month your department/school is assigned. To keep College Curriculum Committees, UCC, and Academic Senate from being overwhelmed all at once, each unit will be given a submission window ahead of time; there's nothing to plan for yet beyond preparing your proposal.

■ Project seat and/or section needs based on new general education categories and in consultations with Dean's Office.

Use HighPoint projections and historic enrollment trends to estimate demand for your gen ed offerings.

Summer 2027 & Fall 2027

■ Continue with curriculum proposal submissions as needed.

- Revise Major/Sequence/Minor/Certificate proposal form type should be submitted based on your department/school's staggering plan, to avoid potential bottlenecks at College Curriculum Committees, UCC, and Academic Senate.

■ Confirm seat/section needs based on new general education categories.

Plan for the Fall 2028 course schedule.

- Ensure all necessary course proposals are fully approved by stated deadlines on Curriculum.illinoisstate.edu.
- **Fall 2028 Schedule is due to the Registrar's Office by November 1.**

In consultations with CGE and departments/schools, academic advisors learn the new General Education Program categories and courses.

Protect time on your advising staff's schedules for this; it's a significant structural change to absorb.

Spring 2028 & Summer 2028

■ Review all catalog copy for accuracy; an email will be sent by Curriculum staff to chairs/directors.

- New general education program requirements apply to students in the 2028–2029 Catalog.

■ If proposals for revisions to majors/sequences/minors/certificates for the 2028–2029 Catalog were submitted/approved, review requirements in Campus Solutions Advisement Reports (degree audit) for accuracy.

- For any Coursedog process or curricular step, including catalog copy and degree audit accuracy, contact curriculum@ilstu.edu.
- For questions about CGE processes, the implementation timeline, or the gen ed pipeline more broadly, contact GeneralEducation@IllinoisState.edu.
- For all other questions, contact Dr. Marko Dumančić, mdumanc@ilstu.edu.