What are Academic Degree Maps?

These are term-by-term sample course schedules that specify milestones, courses, and special requirements that are necessary for facilitating on-time completion. More information about academic degree maps is detailed by Complete College America.

Who Utilizes Academic Degree Maps?

- Current students use them to understand course sequencing and important information about their academic journey;
- Concurrent enrollment, transfer, and prospective students use them to consider options and plan their academic future;
- College academic advisors and high school counselors use them as an academic advising tool; and
- Families use them to support students with academic planning.

What are Some of the Professional Organizations that Recommend Academic Degree Maps?

- Complete College America (CCA);
- Education Advisory Board (EAB); and
- National Institute for Student Success (NISS)

What are the Basic Standards for Academic Degree Maps?

At a minimum, each academic degree map will need to:

- Specify any applicable milestones (e.g., specify that there is a minimum grade standard, a course must be taken during a specific semester to ensure the student is on a trajectory for on-time completion, etc.);
- Code each general education course requirement based on the following guidance;
- List specific courses required each semester;
- Provide a path to complete associate degrees in two years and baccalaureate degrees in four years.[1]
  - o In most cases, institutions will list at least 15 credit hours of course requirements in the Fall and Spring semesters OR 30 credit hours of course requirements over the course of the Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters;
- Be listed in alphabetical order on a centralized location on the institution's website to provide a one-stop shop approach for visitors to review all undergraduate degree program requirements. Here are some examples:
  - o Middle Tennessee State University;
  - o University of Texas @ Austin; and
  - o Perimeter College.

When are the Academic Degree Maps Due?

- A link to the academic degree maps, which will include the new systemwide GE and coding labels as noted above, must be sent to KBOR by July 1, 2024.
- Updated academic degree maps will be provided in subsequent years.

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[1] It is understood that a small number of programs may not be completed in two or four years. In such cases, the institution will need to outline the most efficient semester-by-semester route possible for timely completion.