

## 9.3.b

### General Education Requirements: Substantial Component

The institution requires the successful completion of a general education component at the undergraduate level that:

- b. is a substantial component of each undergraduate degree program. For degree completion in associate programs, the component constitutes a minimum of 15 semester hours or the equivalent; for baccalaureate programs, a minimum of 30 semester hours or the equivalent.

### Judgment

Compliant  Non-Compliant  Not Applicable

### Narrative

The University of South Carolina Columbia and regional Palmetto College campuses use the measure of at least one-quarter of the total hours required for graduation to ensure that general education represents a substantial component of each undergraduate degree program.

### Bachelor Degree Programs

Students seeking a bachelor degree are required to complete a minimum of 31 credit hours of general education, a little more than one-quarter of the 120 hours required for graduation. At the University of South Carolina Columbia and the regional Palmetto College campuses, the undergraduate general education component is called the Carolina Core. This requirement is outlined in the [Undergraduate Studies Bulletin](#) and on the [Office of the Provost's website](#). Individual degree programs may require students to complete more than 31 credit hours of general education; specific general education requirements for individual degree programs are listed in the [Undergraduate Studies Bulletin](#).

### Associate Degree Programs

Students seeking an associate degree are required to complete a minimum of 15 credit hours of general education, one-quarter of the 60 hours required for an associate degree. This requirement is listed in the Academic Bulletin of each regional Palmetto College campus:

*Regional Palmetto College Campuses*

[Lancaster Bulletin | Carolina Core](#)

[Salkehatchie Bulletin | Carolina Core](#)

[Sumter Bulletin | Carolina Core](#)

[Union Bulletin | Carolina Core](#)

### Transfer Students

The [Undergraduate Studies Bulletin](#) states:

*Transfer students who entered the University of South Carolina Columbia, Lancaster, Salkehatchie, Sumter, or Union are subject to the Carolina Core requirements. Any transfer courses that equate to Carolina Core courses will equate to both content and all outcomes associated with the University of South Carolina Course.*

This requirement is outlined in the [Undergraduate Studies Bulletin](#) and regional Palmetto College campus bulletins, as well as on the Office of the Provost's [website](#).

The evaluation and quality-assurance of all transfer courses, including those meeting general education requirements, is discussed in-depth via [Standard 10.8. Evaluating and Awarding Academic Credit](#). All transfer students who wish to earn transfer credit for Core courses are subject to the policies and procedures outlined in the Academic Bulletins and discussed in [Standard 10.8](#). The University of South Carolina Columbia publishes policies for evaluating, awarding, and accepting credit not originating from the institution on both the [Office of the Registrar](#) and Office of [Undergraduate Admissions](#) websites, as well as in its academic bulletins:

*University of South Carolina Columbia*

[Undergraduate Studies Bulletin | Course and Academic Credit Policies](#)

[Undergraduate Studies Bulletin | Transfer Admission](#)

## *Regional Palmetto College Campuses*






[Lancaster Bulletin | Course and Academic Credit Policies](#)

[Salkehatchie Bulletin | Course and Academic Credit Policies](#)

[Sumter Bulletin | Course and Academic Credit Policies](#)

[Union Bulletin | Course and Academic Credit Policies](#)

## **Sources**

-  [Lancaster Bulletin - Carolina Core](#)
-  [Lancaster Bulletin - Course & Academic Credit Policies](#)
-  [Office of Undergraduate Admissions - Transfer Credits](#)
-  [Office of the Provost - Carolina Core](#)
-  [Office of the Provost - Transfers](#)
-  [Office of the Registrar - Transfer Credits](#)
-  [Salkehatchie Bulletin - Carolina Core](#)
-  [Salkehatchie Bulletin - Course & Academic Course Policies](#)
-  [Standard 10.8](#)
-  [Sumter Bulletin - Carolina Core](#)
-  [Sumter Bulletin - Course & Academic Credit Policies](#)
-  [Undergraduate Bulletin - Course & Academic Credit Policies](#)
-  [Undergraduate Bulletin - Programs A-Z](#)
-  [Undergraduate Bulletin - Transfer Admission](#)
-  [Undergraduate Bulletin Carolina Core Requirements](#)
-  [Union Bulletin - Carolina Core](#)
-  [Union Bulletin - Course & Academic Credit Policies](#)