

**REQUIREMENTS FOR RETURNING STUDENTS.
COMPARISON OF PS 00-00 WITH PROPOSED POLICY**

Students who completed all GE requirements before the break in attendance do not have to meet any other requirements. Students who were close to completing GE may have a right to their old pattern (see table) but could choose the new pattern. Students who had not been close to completing GE are under the requirements at the time they return. The proposed pattern would require fewer units, allow flexibility in the distribution of courses, and allow use of more units from the major department. Therefore a student who had not completed all requirements of the previous pattern might have completed everything required by the new pattern or might need fewer courses. Although students under the proposed policy would not usually have to complete any more courses than under an older pattern, they might need to choose courses that meet the Global Issues and Human Diversity in the US requirements. See notes following table.

GE completed before break in attendance	Required under PS 00-00	Required under proposed policy
All GE completed Including 9 units upper division	No further requirement	No further requirement
“The entire lower division requirement” completed i.e. Either GE certified from a Community College or 42 units completed including all required categories in A-E	No additional requirements except completion of the 9 upper division Capstone General Education units. [See below.]	If no more than 1 course remains to be completed, may follow the old pattern. If more than one course was still needed, follow the new pattern.
“The entire lower division requirement” not completed	Meet all requirements of PS 00-00, including HD and including Global unless Category D was certified as completed at a Community College.	If only 1 course remains to be completed, may follow the old pattern. If more than one course was still needed, follow the new pattern
Student started earlier than Fall 1981, completed the 40-unit GE pattern required then	Complete 9 units Upper Division GE	Complete 9 units Upper Division GE
Student started earlier than Fall 1981, completed at least 90 units and at least 24 units of the 40-unit GE pattern required then, including at least one course in each category 1-5.	Complete the pre-1981 requirements, plus 9 units upper division GE	If student has only one course remaining, complete the pre-1981 requirements, plus 9 units upper division GE. If more than one course is still needed to complete the old pattern, student must complete all requirements of the new pattern.

Student started earlier than Fall 1981, completed fewer than 90 total units or fewer than 24 units of the 40-unit GE pattern OR did not take at least one course in each category.	Complete all requirements of PS 00-00	Complete all requirements of the new pattern.
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Upper division requirement

PS 00-00 requires that all 9 units of upper division GE be Capstone courses. By administrative interpretation, we allow a student to use any upper division GE courses completed prior to the break in attendance, so long as the student completes at least two Interdisciplinary classes. This language is included in the proposed policy.

What difference does it make for a student to be allowed to complete the requirements in effect at an earlier time?

Before 1985, there was no requirement that students take either an International or a Human Diversity course. Students who completed most or all of the GE pattern under earlier catalogs probably have not taken courses that meet those requirements.

Starting in 1985 students were required to complete at least one International course in Category D. Starting in 1999, this was changed to a Global Issues course in any category. This requirement was waived for students who had lower division GE certified as completed at a Community College. The proposed policy would not include this waiver, so transfer students must complete a Global Issues course if they had not completed one previously.

Starting in 1993, one of the courses (can be any category) must meet the Human Diversity requirement.

Starting in 1999, students at CSULB must earn at least a C in each of the four Foundation courses (Categories A and B2). The requirement that transfer students have a C or better in those courses went into effect many years earlier.

Why the special rules for students who started before 1981?

There was a very different distribution pattern before 1981. When the CSU changed to the present framework in 1981, students who were near graduation and who had completed a substantial portion of the old pattern were allowed to continue to complete the old pattern even if they had a break in attendance. That provision continued to be included in the GE policies through PS 00-00 but is not included in the proposed policy. There continue to be returning students who began before 1981 but they are not necessarily affected by omission of that provision. Some of them had completed GE before the break in attendance. Others had not completed enough units or had not completed the distribution required by that provision.

Can courses completed many years ago be used to meet the new GE requirements?

Yes. There is no time limit for GE courses. Even courses completed before the big change in 1981 can be applied to the current GE requirements.