



# Transfer Is the Answer

## Why making community college your first choice is a decision that is second to none

**S**tarting at Suffolk County Community College and then transferring to a four-year institution is a common strategy for students looking to earn a bachelor's degree. Suffolk has many resources available to help students who are looking to transfer.

### Ease into the College Experience

With dedicated faculty and smaller class sizes, Suffolk eases students into the college experience with more individualized attention. Class sizes for general education and major preparation courses are smaller than those at four-year institutions. Smaller class sizes allow for better access to the instructor and also more individualized attention, which translates into better learning and student success. At Suffolk, the average class size is 23 students.

### Save Money

Attending Suffolk can provide substantial savings. By starting and staying at Suffolk through completion of the associate degree, students can save tens of thousands of dollars – enough to significantly cover the tuition costs at another college or university. Additionally, Suffolk County Community College's campuses are conveniently local, saving students commuting costs and dorm expenses by living at home.

### Complete the Basic Requirements

Bachelor degree programs require that students fulfill a set of general education courses, and community colleges are good places to earn these credits. Suffolk students can take these courses and be guaranteed they will transfer seamlessly to four-year public institutions and many private institutions.

Community colleges are good places to explore career fields of interest before committing to a major. It's an opportunity to take time exploring options while paying less per credit than at a four-year institution.

### Assistance with Transferring

Long Island colleges and universities work routinely with Suffolk students throughout the academic year to create individual transfer plans so the transfer experience is as stress-free as possible. In addition, Suffolk's advisors and counselors can provide advice about what classes will fulfill your transfer requirements to other colleges and universities in New York and throughout the nation.

Articulation agreements are also worth exploring. Some universities will guarantee transfer admission for participating community college students who take a specific course load and maintain a minimum GPA. Suffolk currently has articulation, joint admission and "two-plus-two" agreements with more than 34

institutions including SUNY colleges, and private and out-of-state colleges and universities.

### Universities Value Transfer Students

Did you know that four-year colleges and universities value transfer students? Transfer students add to the maturity of the campus; they have already proven themselves in the classroom; they tend to stay on track and graduate on time, and they know what they want to do.

A number of well-regarded private colleges have special programs for transfer students and even Ivy League schools accept transfers who meet their high standards.

"The applicant pool for transfer students at competitive colleges is smaller than the applicant pool for freshmen," says Joanne Fawcett, a high school counselor from a

prominent school district on Long Island. "Simply put, the odds of gaining admission into a competitive college are increased by transferring from a community college."

"Students in the Honors Program at Suffolk County Community College routinely transfer to some of the most recognized colleges and universities in the nation," says Albin Cofone, Professor of Social Sciences and Director of Suffolk County Community College's Honors Program. "This past year we had graduates who transferred to Columbia, Cornell, Stony Brook University, NYU, Brandeis, and UNC Chapel Hill, just to name a few."

Transferring from Suffolk is a smart way to start college, save money and achieve academic goals. And, by utilizing the expertise of dedicated instructors, professionals and resources, the process provides a smooth transition to a four-year institution, especially for graduates with an associate degree.

To learn how attending Suffolk can help you transfer to a four-year college or university, simply call 631-451-4111 or visit [www.sunysuffolk.edu/Enroll](http://www.sunysuffolk.edu/Enroll).

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