

Feeder Courses for Charles Darwin University Students Transferring to Partner Universities Policy

INTRODUCTION

A Feeder Course is a program of study that leads to an award, which in turn allows University students seamless progression into an award course offered through another Higher Education Provider (HEP), which is classified as a partner university.

Feeder courses are a key strategy in the University's drive to be relevant and sustainable. They have the following benefits:

- Providing pathways for Northern Territory students into degree courses that the University does not provide;
- Drawing first year enrolments to the University that may otherwise not be attracted; and
- Strengthening relationships that may lead to further beneficial arrangements with partner universities.

STATEMENT OF AUTHORITY

The authority behind this policy is the [Charles Darwin University Act 2003](#) part 3, section 15.

COMPLIANCE

This is a compliance requirement under the:

- [Higher Education Standards Framework \(Threshold Standards\)](#);
- [Standards for Registered Training Organisations \(RTOs\)](#); and
- [National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students](#).

INTENT

This policy is intended to apply only to courses specifically designed in partnership with partner universities as feeder courses to those institutions. It recognises that feeder courses may or may not be guided by formal agreements with the partner university.

RELEVANT DEFINITIONS

In the context of this document

Award means the particular qualification and achievement - certificate, diploma, degree, graduate certificate, or graduate diploma - conferred upon successful completion of the requirements for that specified program;

Award Course means a program of study formally approved/accredited by a HEP or any other relevant accreditation authority which leads to an academic award granted by the Higher Education Provider. It includes courses of an equivalent nature undertaken overseas;

Common Unit means a unit designed to be completed by all students enrolled in any University undergraduate course. The common units have been developed to help students make a successful transition into higher education by providing the skills and knowledge required to succeed in their studies;

Credit Point means a value allocated to individual units in the higher education (HE) sector indicating its contribution to the overall course requirements and to the enrolment load of a student. Most units are ten (10) credit points which represents normally ten (10) hours per week of study, or a quarter of a full-time load for a semester. A full load for a semester is forty (40) credit points; a full load for the year is eighty (80) credit points. Points which are allocated to individual units in the HE sector in order to give value to a unit indicate its contribution to the requirements of a course and to the enrolment load of a student. Credit points are also an indicator of the amount of work the unit might entail;

Elective Unit means a unit that a student chooses to undertake other than core units in order to satisfy the requirements of his/her particular course/qualification. Elective units in the HE sector cover material that is relevant to undergraduate or postgraduate study generally, rather than being course-specific;

Feeder Course means a University award course designed to allow students seamless progression into an award course offered through another Higher Education Provider, which is classified as a partner university; and

Unit means a prescribed amount of academic work often characterised by a set of lectures, tutorials, workshops or online contact and other teaching and learning sessions or materials and which form the basic building blocks of a course of study. A unit is normally studied over one semester.

POLICY

Feeder Courses will be formally accredited University award courses with specific entry requirements and a recognised award conferred on completion. The award will typically be a Diploma but may, under certain circumstances, be an Advanced Diploma/Associate Degree or a Postgraduate Diploma. In exceptional circumstances, feeder courses may be approved which do not result in conferral of a University award.

Feeder Courses are normally expected to comply with the Common Course Rules. These rules include the requirement that undergraduate students undertake common units totalling at least twenty (20) credit points.

Exemptions to the Common Course Rules may apply to Feeder Courses in certain circumstances. It is not intended that this policy set a precedent for exemption from common units for non-feeder courses. In respect of undergraduate Feeder Courses:

- If the partner university's own course requirements provide for two (2) or more elective units first year (100 level or equivalent), then the University's Feeder Course should include two (2), ten (10) credit point common units;
- If the partner university's own course requirements provide for only one (1) elective unit in first year (100 level or equivalent), then the University's Feeder Course should include one (1), ten (10) credit point common unit; and

- If the partner university's own course requirements provide for no elective units in first year (100 level or equivalent), then the University's Feeder Course will be exempt from the requirement to include common units.

ESSENTIAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Internal

[Common Course Rules - Associate Degree](#)

[Common Course Rules - Bachelor Degree](#)

[Common Course Rules – Bachelor Honours Degree](#)

[Common Course Rules - Diploma](#)

[Common Course Rules - Doctor of Philosophy \(PhD\)](#)

[Common Course Rules - Graduate Certificate](#)

[Common Course Rules - Graduate Diploma](#)

[Common Course Rules - Masters Degree by Coursework](#)

[Common Course Rules - Masters by Research](#)

[Higher Education Course Accreditation and Reaccreditation Procedures \(CARP\)](#)

[Higher Education Course Delivery Relationships with Other Entities Policy](#)

[Higher Education Students Academic Progression Procedures](#)

Document History and Version Control

Last amendment:	15 Dec 2017	Next Review:	May 2015
Sponsor:	Pro Vice-Chancellor, Education and Student Success		
Contact Officer:	Pro Vice-Chancellor, Education and Student Success		

Version	Date Approved	Approved by	Brief Description
1.00	25 May 2012	Academic Board	Creation of original document and upload to CDU website.
1.01	26 Feb 2015	Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated and added hyperlinks • Minor changes to wording, formatting and grammar • Modified relevant definitions in line with other current governing documents • Assigned document number
1.02	15 Dec 2017	Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversion to new template due to new University branding • Updated hyperlinks • Amend Contact Officer from Pro Vice-Chancellor to Pro Vice-Chancellor, Education and Student Success • Amend Sponsor from VC to PVC, ESS