

ASSIST: Next Generation Project

What is ASSIST?

ASSIST.org is the official online repository for articulation agreements between the California Community Colleges, the California State Universities and the University of California. The site is used extensively by articulation officers, high school and college counselors, transfer center directors, evaluators and students. Over a million users visit the site annually to determine transfer requirements and applicability of coursework.

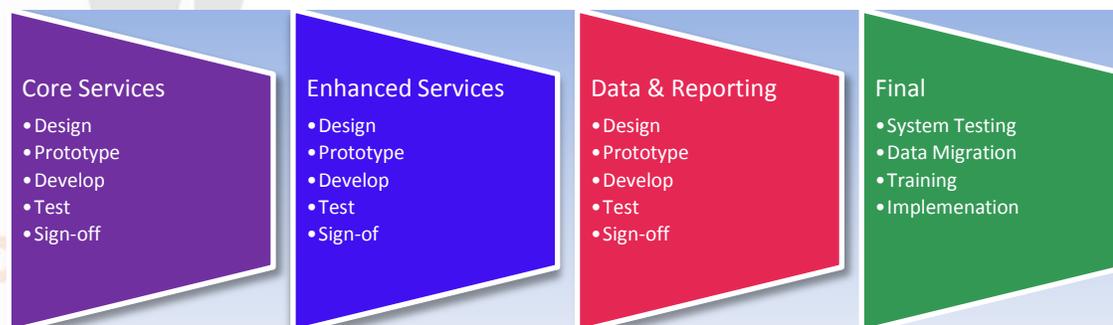
What is the ASSIST Next Generation Project?

Over time, the demand for ASSIST data has grown considerably, both by users of the current site and by related enterprise systems. Transfer and articulation data are increasingly critical components for automated admission systems, degree audit applications and a variety of online advising tools. However, the current system has not had a significant updates since the 1990's and does not have the capability to interact with secondary applications. Therefore, it was critical that a new ASSIST be developed.

In 2008, the three public segments of higher education began envisioning the "Next Generation" of ASSIST. This was followed by the establishment of intersegmental funding commitments and a business plan in 2009, initial user meetings in 2010 to gather input on requirements, and a request for a proposal (RFP) for a competitive bidding process issued in 2011. As a result, a vendor was selected and work began in 2012.

How does the project proceed and where are we now?

The project has three development phases, followed by a final phase and implementation.



The vendor and ASSIST team are currently engaged with the design, prototype and development of the Core Services phase. Anticipated completion will be in fall 2014.

Key Challenges

Development and implementation of the Next Generation ASSIST site includes a number of significant challenges including the migration and maintenance of current and past articulation agreements, converting information from a text format into formats more readily exportable and usable by other systems, implementation during current (active) cycles, and training of all users. Efforts are currently underway to address these challenges.

Please watch for additional updates as this important and exciting project moves forward.