

# ASSIST Links on California Community College Web Sites – 2005

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## Overview

In January, 2003, the ASSIST Coordination Site (ACS) evaluated California Community College Web sites for the first time to see 1) how many included a link to ASSIST and 2) explained transfer-related concepts, such as *articulation*, so that students understand how to use the information they find in ASSIST. The results showed that only a handful of colleges had a link to ASSIST that was easy to find, described what ASSIST is, and included adequate information about transfer for students. As a result, the ACS sent an e-mail message to community colleges that included descriptive language about ASSIST and articulation asking that this information be added to their Web sites. The ACS also provided Web-ready ASSIST logos to help campuses draw attention to ASSIST and use as links to ASSIST on their Web pages.

The ACS has repeated this study in 2004 and 2005 to see if ASSIST and articulation are better presented on community college Web sites. The community college Web sites were evaluated to see which of them had a link to ASSIST, how easy the link was to find, and whether transfer information was presented in language understandable to students so they would understand the data they found in ASSIST.

As in previous years, the ASSIST Coordination Site has reviewed California Community College Web sites to gather the following information:

1. How many California Community College Web sites include links to ASSIST on their Transfer Center or other transfer-related pages?
2. How many sites with links to ASSIST use the language provided by the ASSIST Coordination Site describing ASSIST?
3. How many sites include an explanation of articulation?
4. How many schools that previously did not have links to ASSIST have added links to their Web pages?
5. How many related Web sites (i.e. CSU Mentor, UC Pathways, etc.) include links to ASSIST with appropriate explanations of ASSIST and articulation for students?

## Evaluation Results

### 2003

The results of the 2003 review of community college Web sites showed that 31 Web sites did not have a link to ASSIST. Some sites that had a link did not explain what ASSIST is. In addition, many sites used transfer terminology familiar to articulation officers and counselors without explaining it to students. Of the 108 sites reviewed in 2003, only 8 sites had an easy-to-find link that was appropriately placed and that explained the transfer process, articulation, and how ASSIST is useful to transfer students.

## **2004**

The 2004 report of California Community College Web sites showed that there was a significant increase in the number of sites with links to ASSIST as well as language describing articulation and transfer-related terminology. In 2004, only 8 sites did not have a link to ASSIST and there was a significant increase in language about articulation and transfer information in general. Nevertheless, 53 sites still provided no information or only minimal information about ASSIST and transfer using appropriate language for students. In some cases, a link to ASSIST was included on the Web site, but information about what ASSIST is or how it might be useful to students was missing.

## **2005 Update**

For the sake of consistency, the 2005 evaluation of California Community College Web sites answers the same questions as the previous studies. The findings of the 2005 evaluation are presented below.

### ***How many sites include links to ASSIST on Transfer Center or other transfer-related pages?***

A total of 103 community college Web sites have links to ASSIST. This is an improvement over 2004 when 94 sites had links to ASSIST. The majority of the sites include links to ASSIST on transfer-related Web pages. Some colleges have placed links on counseling pages or the path to the transfer pages is through the counseling pages.

### ***How many sites with links to ASSIST use the language provided or other adequate language describing ASSIST?***

28 community college Web sites use either the language provided by the ACS describing ASSIST or other appropriate language. This is an improvement over the 2004 when only 18 sites included a good description of ASSIST.

### ***How many sites include an explanation of articulation?***

43 community colleges have some kind of description of articulation. This has not changed much from 2004 when 41 sites provided an explanation or description of articulation. As in 2004, the descriptions of articulation vary quite a bit in detail and clarity.

The concern originally addressed by this question was that college Web sites use the word articulation as a link or in text without describing for students what it means.

### ***How many schools that previously did not have links to ASSIST have added links to their Web pages?***

Two community college Web sites now have links to ASSIST that did not in 2004. In 2005, only 6 community college Web sites do not have a link to ASSIST.

***How many related Web sites include links to ASSIST with appropriate explanations of ASSIST and articulation for students?***

The Web sites reviewed include:

CPEC Includes a link and our description on the FAQs page.

CSU Mentor Three links to ASSIST. Includes a sparse articulation description and a recommendation to use ASSIST to look up articulation agreements.

UC Pathways Several links to ASSIST on the Answers for Transfer PDF pages with explanations of ASSIST.

CCCApply.org One link to ASSIST on the FAQs page under *If I plan to transfer, how will I know which courses to take?*

CaliforniaColleges.edu No link to ASSIST.

California Virtual Campus Includes two links to ASSIST with our description of ASSIST. No discussion of transfer or articulation was found.

The ASSIST Coordination Site staff will continue to work with the community colleges to make information about ASSIST on their Web sites understandable and easy to find. Colleges without links to ASSIST on their Web sites will be asked to include a link. The ACS will again provide language describing ASSIST and articulation for these schools to use on their Web pages.

The community college findings are included on the following pages in Appendix 1.

## **Appendix 1**

Lists of the community colleges that do and don't have links to ASSIST are provided below.

### CCC sites with a link and good information about ASSIST and/or articulation: 28

Chaffey  
College of the Canyons  
College of the Sequoias  
Cosumnes River  
Crafton Hills  
El Camino  
Evergreen  
Feather River  
Fresno City  
Gavilan  
Grossmont  
Irvine Valley  
Lake Tahoe  
Las Positas  
Long Beach City  
Los Angeles Valley  
Los Medanos  
Modesto  
Monterey Peninsula  
Moorpark  
Orange Coast  
Palo Verde  
Palomar  
Reedley  
San Joaquin Delta  
Santa Barbara City  
Santa Rosa  
Vista

### CCC sites with a link and acceptable information about ASSIST and articulation: 10

Butte  
Citrus  
Cuyamaca  
Diablo Valley  
Golden West  
Los Angeles Mission  
Mt. San Jacinto  
Santa Monica  
Shasta  
Yuba

### CCC sites with a link but no information or minimal information: 65

Allan Hancock  
American River  
Antelope Valley

Bakersfield  
Barstow  
Cabrillo  
Canada  
Cerritos  
Cerro Coso  
Chabot  
City College of San Francisco  
Coastline  
College of Alameda  
College of Marin  
College of San Mateo  
College of the Desert  
College of the Redwoods  
College of the Siskiyous  
Columbia College  
Contra Costa  
Copper Mountain  
Cuesta  
Cypress  
De Anza  
East Los Angeles  
Foothill College  
Folsam Lake  
Fullerton  
Glendale  
Hartnell  
Imperial Valley  
Laney  
Los Angeles City  
Los Angeles Harbor  
Los Angeles Pierce  
Los Angeles Southwest  
Los Angeles Trade Tech  
Mendocino  
Merced  
Merritt  
Mira Costa  
Mission  
Napa Valley  
Ohlone  
Pasadena  
Porterville  
Rio Hondo  
Riverside Community  
Sacramento City  
Saddleback  
San Bernardino Valley  
San Diego City  
San Diego Mesa  
San Jose City

Santa Ana  
Santiago Canyon  
Sierra  
Skyline  
Solano  
Southwestern  
Taft  
Ventura  
Victor Valley  
West Hills  
West Valley

CCC sites with no ASSIST link: 6

Compton  
Lassen  
Mt. San Antonio  
Oxnard  
San Diego Miramar  
West Los Angeles