

Stanton University Launches Transfer-Focused AA Program to Broaden Pathways for Students

Stanton University's new AA in General Education blends university support with transfer flexibility

ANAHEIM, CA, UNITED STATES, December 1, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Stanton University, a WSCUC-accredited four-year institution in California, has received formal approval from the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) for a new [Associate of Arts in General Education program](#), an initiative designed explicitly to expand academic pathways for students whose desired majors are not currently offered at Stanton.

The move signals a strategic shift for the growing university: rather than attempting to add every possible major to its own catalog, Stanton is positioning itself as a high-quality, affordable academic launching pad for students who plan to transfer to other institutions to complete specialized bachelor's degrees. "We know that many students want to begin their studies at Stanton because of our strong teaching, low tuition, and high student satisfaction," a university representative explained. "At the same time, we recognize we cannot offer every major under the sun.



Stanton University students fostering community and shaping their future careers



Hands-on experience that prepares you for the real world

This new AA in General Education is our way of saying: start with us, build a strong academic foundation, and then we will help you move on to the exact major and institution that fits your long-term goals.”

Approved by WSCUC, the regional accrediting body for many of the West’s leading colleges and universities, the AA in General Education is structured as a two-year program. Students complete a comprehensive general education curriculum at

Stanton—covering core subjects such as communication, mathematics, natural and social sciences, and humanities—then transfer as third-year (junior-level) students to another institution that offers their chosen major.

For students, the model offers several tangible advantages:

- A cost-effective start: Stanton’s comparatively affordable tuition allows students to complete the first two years of college at a lower cost while earning credits from a WSCUC-accredited institution.
- High-quality foundation: The university emphasizes small classes, close faculty interaction, and strong academic support, factors that have contributed to notably high student satisfaction.
- Flexibility of destination: Because Stanton does not require students to remain for a four-year degree in a limited set of majors, the new AA program explicitly encourages them to transfer to other universities that align with their academic and career ambitions.

Higher education observers note that this approach reflects a broader national conversation about access, affordability, and mobility in postsecondary education. By embedding transfer into the design of a degree at a four-year institution, Stanton is effectively blending elements of the community college transfer model with the resources and campus environment of a university. “What is unusual here is that a four-year university is deliberately creating a program whose core purpose is to send students on,” said one independent higher-education analyst. “It’s an acknowledgment that serving students well sometimes means preparing them to leave for a place that offers the exact program they need.”

According to Stanton University, the AA in General Education is open to a broad range of students, including recent high school graduates, international students, and adult learners seeking a flexible pathway into a four-year degree. The institution plans to work closely with partner universities and receiving institutions to streamline transfer processes, improve credit



Dedicated faculty, supporting every student’s journey

recognition, and reduce the risk of students losing time or coursework when they transition.

While Stanton continues to develop and strengthen its own bachelor's programs, administrators stress that the new AA degree is not a fallback option, but a proactive commitment to student-centered planning.

"Our priority is not to keep students here at any cost," the representative said. "Our priority is to help them succeed—academically, professionally, and financially. If that means they spend two years with us and then transfer to study a major we do not offer, we consider that a success story."

In an era when many families are concerned about rising tuition and uncertain outcomes, the university hopes that its WSCUC-approved AA in General Education will provide clarity and opportunity: a structured, affordable first two years, followed by a guided transition into the major and institution of each student's choice.

Stanton University officials believe that this initiative will open "tremendous opportunities" for students who might otherwise feel constrained by the limited program menus at smaller institutions. By combining accredited coursework, a supportive academic environment, and an explicit commitment to transfer, the university is betting that more students will see Stanton as a smart place to start—even if they intend to finish somewhere else.

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