



## FACT SHEET: Curriculum Phase-in for Students PASSHE WESTERN INTEGRATION

The new western integrated university will launch in Fall 2022. However, the curriculum for the new integrated university will be phased in over the next three years. The new curriculum will capture the strengths of academic programs now offered across our three campuses, creating a single, unified curriculum. Phasing in these changes will ensure a smooth transition for students throughout their educational journey.

Our commitment to students:

- **You can finish what you've started:** You may complete your program of study in your chosen discipline on the campus where you enrolled.
- **You can graduate on time:** The transition to a new version of your academic program will NOT require additional credits that would extend the time required to complete your degree.

### GENERAL TIMELINE

**For undergraduates:** Existing programs at the California, Clarion and Edinboro campuses will continue for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic years. New program requirements/curriculum versions for most undergraduate programs will begin in Fall 2023. Some undergraduate programs with complex accreditation or licensure requirements will transition later, perhaps as late as Fall 2024, to ensure there is no break in recognized quality and benefit to students.

**For graduate students:** Most graduate programs at the California, Clarion and Edinboro campuses will transition to their new program requirements/curriculum versions in Fall 2022. Some graduate programs with complex accreditation or licensure requirements will transition later, perhaps as late as Fall 2024.

**In all cases,** undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in academic programs prior to the transition will be given clear direction on how to complete their degree requirements.

Students who complete their degree requirements by June 30, 2022, will receive a degree from their current university (California, Clarion, or Edinboro). Students who complete their degree requirements after that date will receive a degree from the new integrated university; your campus location will be reflected on your diploma.

### INFORMATION FOR UNDERGRADUATES, BY YEAR\*

*\*Assumes typical four-year cycle; individual cases may vary*

#### **Current first-year students** (entering Fall 2021 – Spring 2022)

- Freshman and sophomore years – In the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic years, programs remain the same as currently offered on your campus.
- Junior year – In Fall 2023, most programs transition to new versions that are consistent across all three campuses. All students will receive information outlining a course of study that leads to timely degree completion with no loss of academic progress.

- Senior year – Degrees are awarded by the new integrated university once program requirements have been met.

**Current second-year students** (entered Fall 2020 – Spring 2021)

- Sophomore and junior years – In the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic years, programs remain the same as currently offered on your campus.
- Senior year – In Fall 2023, most programs transition to new versions that are consistent across all three campuses. All students will receive information outlining a course of study that leads to timely degree completion with no loss of academic progress. Degrees are awarded by the new integrated university.

**Current third-year students** (entered Fall 2019 – Spring 2020)

- Junior and senior years – In the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic years, programs remain the same as currently offered on your campus.
- Senior year – Students who complete their course of study are awarded a degree from the integrated university. Students who have not yet completed program requirements receive information outlining a course of study that leads to degree completion.

**Current fourth-year students** (entered Fall 2018 – Spring 2019)

- Senior year – Programs remain the same. Students who complete their course of study by June 30, 2022, are awarded a degree from either California, Clarion or Edinboro.

**Future students** (entering Fall 2022 – Spring 2023)

- Freshman year – Programs are the same as those currently offered at California, Clarion and Edinboro.
- Sophomore year – In Fall 2023, most programs transition to new versions that are consistent across all three campuses. All students will receive information outlining a course of study that leads to timely degree completion.
- Junior and senior years – Students continue on the path toward graduation; most courses are consistent across all three campuses. Degrees are awarded by the new integrated university.

**NOTE:** *A few programs with complex accreditation or licensure requirements will transition later, perhaps as late as Fall 2024. In these cases, students will enter one of the existing versions of the program (on campus or virtual); when the new version of the program is ready, students will receive detailed information about how their completed courses will be used to meet graduation requirements. Student will NOT be required to take more credits to complete the new version of the program than were required in their original program.*

*In the unlikely event that an academic program does not continue, students in that program either will be transitioned into a “close substitute” program or they will receive a plan of study outlining what courses remain to be taken and when those courses will be offered, so they can finish their current program.*

**INFORMATION FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS\***

*\*Individual cases may vary*

- Current graduate programs will continue through the 2021-2022 academic year. Students who complete their course of study by June 30, 2022, will receive a degree from California, Clarion or Edinboro.
- In Fall 2022, most graduate programs will transition to new program requirements/ curriculum versions. Before that transition (in Spring 2022), all graduate students who are not completing their course of study in Summer 2022 will receive detailed information explaining how their current program aligns with new requirements, and how

their completed courses will be used to meet graduation requirements. Students will NOT be required to take more credits to complete the new version of the program than were required in their original program. Degrees will be awarded by the new integrated university.

- Most graduate students who enter in Fall 2022 and beyond will be enrolled in an academic program that captures the strengths of programs currently offered across all three campuses. Degrees will be awarded by the new integrated university.

***NOTE:*** A few graduate programs with complex accreditation or licensure requirements will transition later, perhaps as late as Fall 2024. When the new version of the program is ready, students will receive detailed information about how their completed courses will be used to meet graduation requirements. Grad students will NOT lose academic progress during this transition process.

###