



# the **GPA**

## how to ensure your program is Triton Transfer friendly

### → WHO ARE TRANSFER STUDENTS?

Transfer students are a diverse group of students, many of which are first-generation or low-income.

Triton Transfers make up one-third of the incoming undergraduate class, and yet often do not make up one-third of those who receive scholarship, research, internship, study abroad, or other programmatic opportunities.



### → WHAT IS A BARRIER TO INVOLVEMENT?

Often times, GPA requirements are used as a starting point for program eligibility. Incorporating a GPA requirement to a program application is a great assistance to ensuring the best decision for the talent you seek. However, if that GPA requirement is used with little context to the applicant and as the only filter, it might cause transfer students to assume they are ineligible, and they may simply weed themselves out of the application process.

### → WHY MAY A GPA REQUIREMENT BECOME A BARRIER? EXAMPLE 1:

Imagine your program is available to Junior level students with an advertised 3.0 GPA, and applications open in Fall.

Put yourselves in the shoes of a brand new transfer student who has yet to accrue a UCSD GPA.

Would they know they were eligible for your program?



### → WHY MAY A GPA REQUIREMENT BECOME A BARRIER? EXAMPLE 2:

Imagine your program is open to Junior level students with an advertised 3.0 GPA, and a Winter application.

Put yourselves in the shoes of a transfer student who has only completed 1 quarter at UCSD - a quarter which is impacted by the stressors of transfer shock. Their UCSD GPA would only incorporate those junior-level courses, and none of the lower-division courses which typically assist grade points.

Would they be eligible for your program? How would they know if they were?

### → WHEN DO WE MAKE AN ADJUSTMENT?

When programs provide unclear guidelines for GPA requirements, it creates a barrier to transfer students within the application process. But there are easy checks you can make to ensure your program is transfer friendly while using GPA as a requirement!

By clarifying program requirements, more transfer students may apply, and your program will benefit from the unique contributions of our eclectic transfer student population.



### → HOW DO WE MAKE OUR GPA REQUIREMENTS TRANSFER FRIENDLY?

- Explain on your application page that the GPA requirement can include transferable coursework, otherwise known as Transfer GPA.
- Include an option for your applicants to provide a transfer GPA. (*Tip:* include an option to upload transfer GPA. (*Tip:* include an option to provide a transfer GPA. (*Tip:* include an option to upload transfer information.)
- Should you wish to use UCSD GPA only, post your application in Winter or Spring, so junior-level transfers are eligible.
- Make GPA a factor - not the eliminating factor - to your application process (*Tip:* make this transparent on your application page.