



# PATHWAY PRESS

Office of Career & Transfer Pathways Monthly Newsletter

## Career & Transfer Pathways: Wrapping Up a Remarkable Semester



As the semester comes to a close, the Career & Transfer Pathways office celebrates the successes of our students and looks forward to a new year filled with opportunities.

This semester, we've hosted incredible events like National Transfer Week, on-campus employer tabling sessions, and career workshops designed to empower students in their career and academic journeys. We also introduced engaging new resources and strengthened connections with our university and employer partners.

Looking ahead, we encourage students to begin preparing for the spring semester by scheduling career and transfer advising sessions through Navigate 360. Be sure to explore Handshake, our online platform for finding internships, jobs, and networking opportunities tailored to your career goals.

A heartfelt thank you to our work-study students, staff, and partners who made this semester's events a success. Your dedication and creativity truly made a difference!

Stay tuned for more updates and events in 2024. Until then, we wish you a joyous holiday season and a successful start to the new year!

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**HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
*Hudson is Home!*

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Hudson County Community College provides its diverse communities with inclusive, high-quality educational programs and services that promote student success and upward social and economic mobility.

# How to Build a Standout Handshake Profile?



SCAN HERE

Start your Handshake journey today! Scan the QR code to activate your account using your HCCC email and unlock access to jobs, internships, and career resources tailored just for you.

Your Handshake profile is your gateway to career opportunities, connecting you with employers and internships that match your goals. Here's how to make your profile stand out from the crowd:

## Create a Professional Headline

Think of your headline as a snapshot of who you are. Use it to showcase your major, interests, or career aspirations.

### Example:

*"HCCC Business Administration Student | Future Marketing Specialist."*

## Add a Quality Profile Picture

Your profile picture should look professional but approachable. Use a clear, well-lit image of yourself in professional attire. If you need a headshot, check out career services events on campus for free photo opportunities.

## Write an Engaging Summary

Your summary should tell employers who you are and what you're looking for. Highlight your skills, achievements, and career goals in a few concise sentences.

### Example:

*"I'm a second-year Health Science student at HCCC with a passion for public health initiatives. I have experience in project coordination and community engagement, and I'm excited to pursue a career in healthcare administration."*

## Showcase Your Experience

List your jobs, internships, volunteer work, or relevant class projects. Be clear about your responsibilities and the results you achieved. Use bullet points for easy reading.

### Example:

*Work-Study Student, Career & Transfer Pathways Office*

- *Assisted with event planning for National Transfer Week.*
- *Supported students in creating resumes and job applications.*

## Highlight Your Skills

Add skills that align with your career goals. Employers search for keywords, so include both technical and soft skills like "customer service," "problem-solving," or "proficiency in Excel."

## Keep It Updated

Treat your Handshake profile as a living document. Regularly add new experiences, skills, or certifications to stay current and competitive.

A well-crafted Handshake profile can open doors to opportunities you might not have thought possible. Start building yours today and let your future begin! For more tips and personalized help, visit the Career and Transfer Pathways Office at HCCC.

## Star Employer: NJ Transit

# NJ TRANSIT

The Way To Go.



New Jersey Transit Corporation (NJ Transit) is committed to safe, reliable, convenient, and cost-effective transit for New Jersey residents. Here are five key career-enhancing opportunities at NJ Transit:

- **Engineering:** Work on vital infrastructure projects to keep and improve transit systems.
- **Operations:** Oversee daily operations to ensure smooth and efficient service for riders.
- **Customer Service:** Directly support and enhance rider experience.
- **Information Technology:** Develop and maintain tech solutions for transit improvements.
- **Professional Development:** Access training, leadership programs, and internships to grow within the organization.

These opportunities enable employees to advance their careers while contributing to NJ Transit's mission.

NJ Transit offers a dynamic environment where employees can grow their skills and make a tangible impact on public transportation in New Jersey. By offering a range of career paths and development opportunities, the organization fosters both professional growth and a commitment to serving the community. Through their dedication, NJ Transit employees help create a safer, more reliable, and accessible transit system for all

Scan to Apply!

When creating a new profile, use an  
HCCC email address

SCAN



# HCCC & University of Phoenix Transfer Agreements



University of Phoenix was founded in 1976 and is headquartered in Phoenix, AZ. The University has been a leader and innovator in online education with a focus on programs designed for students looking for flexibility, time and cost savings, career-relevant programs, and Career Services for Life™. The university taught its first online course in 1989 and pioneered conveniences like flexible schedules, digital libraries, computer simulations, accelerated degree completion options and more. Even more than it was 45 years ago, the lives of students are unique and complex. University of Phoenix strives to build pathways that connect a student’s academic path with their career path. A strong alliance between University of Phoenix, our community/technical college partners and or employer partners is a critical component of a student’s success in school and beyond. We didn’t make college easier, we made it more accessible and over a million alumni are a testament to our commitment to helping students succeed. UOPX has enrolled students from across the USA and from more than 70 countries around the world seeking career-relevant programs at the bachelor’s master’s and doctoral levels. Helping students achieve their academic goals and successfully transition to pursuing their career goals is a top priority for everyone at the University.

**Transfer Representative Contact Information**  
 Vincent Rizzi  
[vincent.rizzi@phoenix.edu](mailto:vincent.rizzi@phoenix.edu)

**Listed below are the most common types of transfer agreements and how each of them works. If you have any questions, please contact your assigned academic advisor.**

HCCC Major	Bachelor Program	Type of Agreement
Nursing – RN, AS	BSN	Dual Admission
AS in Environmental Studies	BS in Environmental Science	Articulation
AS in Health Services	BS in Health Management	Articulation
AS in Criminal Justice	BS in Criminal Justice Administration	Articulation



**DR. JOHN SPERLING,  
 FOUNDER,  
 UNIVERSITY OF  
 PHOENIX**

As we move to meet the educational needs of working adults in a mobile society, our conception of the University must extend beyond place, and embrace process. A career-focused University cannot be campus bound, rather its borders must be defined by the lives of its students.

# Career Support Timeline

The career support timeline is a comprehensive guide that outlines the various stages and key milestones students experience as they prepare for their future careers. This timeline serves as a valuable resource for students, offering a clear understanding of the steps they should take at each phase of their academic journey to build a strong foundation for their professional life. Whether you are just starting to explore career options or are ready to launch your career, this timeline will serve as a roadmap to ensure a successful and strategic transition into the workforce.

## Early Stages (0-15 credits)

- **Self-Assessment:** Take career assessments or interest inventories to identify potential career paths that align with your interests and strengths.
- **Explore Career Options:** Attend informational sessions to learn about various industries and career opportunities related to your major.
- **Begin Networking:** Join campus clubs or organizations connected to your field of interest and start building your network through volunteering or participating in events.
- **Download Handshake App:** Download the Handshake app, create your profile, and begin exploring internships, part-time jobs, and other career opportunities.
- **Part-Time Jobs/Volunteer Work:** Use Handshake to search for part-time jobs and volunteer opportunities to gain early experience in different industries.

## Mid-Stages (15-30 credits)

- **Resume Building:** Create or update your resume by attending workshops and using resources available through Handshake. Submit your resume for review and feedback.
- **Career Advising:** Schedule a meeting with a career advisor to discuss your career goals, pathways, and strategies for gaining relevant experience. Book appointments via Handshake.
- **Workshops/Job Fairs:** Register for and attend career skills workshops (e.g., resume writing, interview techniques) and job fairs to expand your knowledge and connections.
- **LinkedIn and Handshake Profiles:** Create or refine your LinkedIn and Handshake profiles. Add any relevant experiences and start connecting with potential employers.

## Preparing for Career (30-45 credits)

- **Internships/Work-Based Learning:** Apply for internships, co-op programs, or work-study positions via Handshake to gain practical, firsthand experience in your field.
- **Mock Interviews:** Participate in mock interview sessions and use Handshake's resources to practice your interview skills.
- **Researching Job Markets:** Use Handshake to research different job markets, industries, and employers that align with your career goals.
- **Networking Events:** Attend Handshake-hosted employer info sessions, career fairs, and other networking opportunities to build valuable connections.

## Application and Final Stages (45-60 credits)

- **Job Search Strategy:** Develop a targeted job search strategy using Handshake. Set up job alerts for positions that match your skills and interests.
- **Apply for Jobs/Internships:** Use Handshake to apply for full-time jobs and internships. Take advantage of resume and cover letter review services.
- **Interview Preparation:** Prepare for interviews by scheduling mock interviews and using Handshake's interview practice tools. Seek advice on how to negotiate job offers.
- **Job Offers/Salary Negotiation:** Review job offers and use Handshake's resources to understand salary expectations in your field. Learn about salary and benefits negotiation techniques.
- **Post-Graduation Support:** Continue using Handshake and accessing the Career and Transfer office for job search support and career advice even after graduation.

# Transfer Support Timeline

The transfer support timeline is a comprehensive guide that outlines the various stages and key milestones a student typically experiences when transitioning to a new educational institution. This timeline serves as a valuable resource for transfer students, providing them with a clear understanding of what to expect during their journey. Whether you are considering transferring or have already embarked on this path, this timeline will serve as a valuable roadmap to ensure a smooth and successful transition to your new educational destination.

<p><b>Early Stages</b> (0-15 credits)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Research:</b> Start researching potential transfer universities and their transfer requirements, including GPA, prerequisite courses, and application deadlines. Consider factors such as location, program offerings, and financial aid options.</li> <li>• <b>Academic Advising:</b> Meet with an academic advisor at the college to discuss your transfer goals. They can guide you on the appropriate courses to take and ensure you are on track to meet transfer requirements.</li> <li>• <b>General Education Courses:</b> Focus on completing your general education requirements, as these are typically transferable to most universities. Consult with your advisor to determine which courses fulfill these requirements.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mid-Stages</b> (15-30 credits)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Target Schools &amp; Career Services:</b> Narrow down your list of potential transfer universities based on your research and personal preferences. Visit their websites and attend transfer information sessions or college fairs to gather more information. Additionally, reach out to your community college's career services department for guidance on how your academic choices align with your long-term career goals. They can provide insights into which universities offer programs that best match your desired career path.</li> <li>• <b>Major Exploration:</b> If you have an idea of your intended major, start exploring the prerequisite courses required by your target universities. Ensure that you are taking the necessary courses at your community college.</li> <li>• <b>Maintain GPA:</b> Aim to maintain a competitive GPA, as many universities have minimum GPA requirements for transfer students. Strive for a GPA above the minimum requirement to enhance your chances of acceptance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Preparing for Transfer</b> (30-45 credits)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Transfer Agreements:</b> Check if your community college has any transfer agreements or articulation agreements with specific universities. These agreements outline the courses that will transfer and fulfill major requirements at the receiving institution.</li> <li>• <b>Visit Transfer Offices:</b> Visit the Transfer Pathways office at the college and the universities you are interested in to seek guidance and ensure you are on track. They can provide information on transfer scholarships, housing options, and other resources. Additionally, check in with your academic advisor during this stage to discuss your progress, ensure you're meeting the necessary academic requirements, and get their input on your transfer plans.</li> <li>• <b>Extracurricular Activities:</b> Engage in extracurricular activities, such as clubs or volunteer work, to enhance your transfer application. These activities demonstrate your involvement and commitment outside of academics.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application and Final Stages</b> (45-60 credits)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Application Deadlines:</b> Be aware of transfer application deadlines for your target universities. Start working on your application well in advance to ensure you have enough time to gather necessary documents, such as transcripts and recommendation letters.</li> <li>• <b>Personal Statement:</b> Begin drafting your personal statement, highlighting your academic achievements, extracurricular activities, and reasons for transferring. Seek feedback from advisors, professors, or mentors to strengthen your statement.</li> <li>• <b>Financial Aid:</b> Research and apply for financial aid and scholarships specific to transfer students. Contact the financial aid offices at both your community college and the transfer universities to explore your options.</li> <li>• <b>Check with Registrar Office regarding Graduation:</b> As you approach the completion of your community college coursework, check with the Registrar's Office to ensure you are on track for graduation. They can provide guidance on any final requirements and procedures. To complete the graduation process, follow these steps: Visit <a href="http://HCCC.edu">HCCC.edu</a>-Click on the menu-Select "Student Success"-Click on "Graduation Application."</li> </ul>

# Career & Transfer Champion



**RUTGERS**  
UNIVERSITY | NEWARK

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, A.S.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, B.S.  
MINOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

**Hamza Saleem,  
Class of 2027**



## What motivated you to transfer to your current college/university?

I transferred to Rutgers University to pursue additional academic qualifications and to take advantage of the enhanced career opportunities that a four-year college could provide. I was drawn to Rutgers for its strong reputation, especially in my field of study, and the access it offers to a broad network of professionals and resources. This move allowed me to deepen my knowledge while positioning myself for greater job prospects and connections that support my long-term career ambitions.

## What resources or support systems were most helpful during your transfer process?

During my transfer to Rutgers, I faced significant challenges due to the lack of support and guidance. I was unaware of any available transfer services and struggled to navigate the process on my own. Sending my transcript from HCCC to Rutgers proved particularly difficult, and I eventually had to reach out to the Dean of Enrollment for assistance to ensure it was properly sent.

## Can you describe any challenges you faced when transferring and how you overcame them?

One of the biggest challenges I faced when transferring was not knowing which college would be the best fit for me, along with uncertainty about how the financial aid process would work for a transfer student. I also struggled with understanding the transfer process itself, particularly with not knowing how many of my credits would transfer until my transcript was fully evaluated. Additionally, the costs of application and acceptance fees added to the stress. I navigated these challenges by researching as much as possible on my own and reaching out to any available advisors for guidance, though support was limited.

## What motivated you to pursue your chosen career path?

My own struggles as a student motivated me to pursue a career in higher education (career change after B.S. from Rutgers), where I could help others navigate the challenges I once faced. I remember how difficult it was to find the right support and resources, and I wanted to ensure that future students have a smoother, more guided experience. Working in higher education allows me to make a difference in students' lives, helping them reach their potential and overcome obstacles, just as I worked to overcome mine.

## How did transferring affect your career goals or opportunities?

Transferring opened new doors for my career goals by providing access to a wider range of academic resources and professional connections. At my new institution, I was able to engage with experienced faculty and network with industry professionals, which helped refine my career path and broaden my opportunities. The transfer allowed me to gain valuable skills and insights that would have been harder to access otherwise, ultimately setting me on a stronger path toward my goals.

## How did the career services at HCCC and your new college/university help you in your job search?

The career services at HCCC offered valuable foundational support, such as resume templates and access to job boards, which helped me start my job search. Although I had to take additional steps on my own, these resources provided by HCCC gave me a solid starting point and boosted my confidence as I worked to achieve my career goals.

# CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) MAJORS & PROGRAMS

## Overview

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) offers several Career and Technical Education (CTE) majors designed to provide students with practical skills for the workforce. These programs combine classroom instruction with hands-on training, internships, and externships, allowing students to gain real-world experience. Upon completing these programs, students can either enter the workforce immediately or continue their education at a four-year institution.

## School of Nursing and Health Professions

### Exercise Science

**Overview:** The Exercise Science AS program is designed to transfer to a baccalaureate degree program to pursue degrees in Exercise Science, Biomechanics, Kinesiology, Health, or other pre-professional programs.

**Career Paths:** Our students who study Exercise Science can enter these careers: Athletic Trainers, Biostatisticians, Exercise Physiologists, Fitness and Wellness Coordinators, Exercise Trainers, and Group Fitness Instructors.

### Health Services

**Overview:** The Health Services program at HCCC focuses on the administrative and management aspects of healthcare. The curriculum covers healthcare systems, medical terminology, ethics, healthcare law, and patient care management, preparing students for entry-level positions in the healthcare industry.

**Career Paths:** Medical Office Manager, Health Services Administrator, Healthcare Coordinator, Patient Services Representative, Medical Billing and Coding Specialist, Health Information Technician.

### Health Sciences

**Overview:** HCCC offers several programs in health sciences, including Nursing, Radiography, and Medical Assisting. These programs emphasize clinical training and patient care.

**Career Paths:** Registered Nurse (RN), Radiologic Technologist, Medical Assistant, Healthcare Administrator.

### Medical Assisting

**Overview:** The Medical Assisting program at HCCC prepares students to perform both clinical and administrative tasks in healthcare settings. The curriculum covers areas like medical terminology, anatomy, clinical procedures, and medical office management.

**Career Paths:** Students will pursue a career as Certified Medical Assistant (CMA), Medical Office Assistant, Clinical Assistant, Phlebotomist, Medical Biller/Coder, and Patient Care Technician.

### Nursing

**Overview:** The Nursing program at HCCC prepares students to become Registered Nurses (RNs) through rigorous clinical and theoretical education.

**Career Paths:** Graduates can work in hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, and other healthcare settings.

### Paramedic Science

**Overview:** The degree program consists of credits in general education and basic sciences at Hudson County Community College, and credits in the professional component of Paramedic Science courses taken through RWJ/Barnabas Health.

**Career Paths:** Through the performance of patient assessments and the provision of medical care, the paramedic's goal is to prevent and reduce mortality and morbidity due to illness and injury. Paramedics primarily provide care to emergency patients in an out-of-hospital setting.

### Personal Fitness Trainer, Proficiency Certificate

**Overview:** This 16-credit certificate program prepares graduates to sit for a national certification exam in Personal Training from the National Academy of Sports Medicine (NASM).

**Career Paths:** The proficiency certificate in Personal Fitness Training prepares students for the entry-level workforce in the fitness industry, including commercial and clinical settings such as health clubs, corporate fitness centers, personal training, health promotion, program management, and personal coaching.

### Practical Nursing Certificate

**Overview/Career Paths:** This certificate program prepares students for careers as Licensed Practical Nurses. Graduates will participate in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of caring interventions in a variety of healthcare settings under the direction of a Registered Nurse or physician. Responsibilities may include case finding, and reinforcing patient and family teaching programs through health teaching, health counseling, and provision of supportive and restorative care.

### Radiography

**Overview:** This program trains students to perform diagnostic imaging procedures, such as X-rays, to assist in patient care.

**Career Paths:** Graduates can become Radiologic Technologists, and work in hospitals, medical imaging centers, and clinics.

# November Recap

## Journal Square Campus Open House

Our team attended the Journal Square Campus Open House along with transfer success coach Madeline to showcase the HCCC-NJCU CONNECT Program and our office services.



## CTE Information Session Tabling

Our Career and Transfer Specialists hosted a tabling event to answer CTE related questions and educate the students about the support available for them.



## Stevens Institute of Technology Tour

Jessica Cortez, Jonathan Bowmen, Marselly Almanzar and Brianna Casagrande joined our team and led conversations regarding advisement and transfer of credits with our colleagues at Stevens.



## Princeton University Tour

Our students explored the Princeton University campus, learned about the Transfer Scholars Initiative, and worked on a group project to identify what matters most when transferring to a four-year college.



## Navigate & Accelerate Workshop

In collaboration with the Registrar, and Testing and Assessment Center, our office provided a workshop with insights into navigating career & transfer pathways effectively, understanding registrar services, and meeting assessment criteria.



## International Fashion Show

In collaboration with the International office, our office hosted a evening where the runway transformed into a vibrant cultural mosaic, showcasing traditional attire from countries near and far!



Onsite Visit: Partners					
Day	Month	Date	Event	Campus	Time
Tues.	Dec.	3	Montclair State University	JSQ, G Bldg, Student Center, 1st Fl.	2PM- 5PM
Wed.	Dec.	4	Fairleigh Dickinson University	NHC, 1st Fl. Lobby	10AM- 2PM
Wed.	Dec.	4	Bloomfield College of Montclair State University	NHC, 1st Fl. Lobby	2PM- 5PM
Thurs.	Dec.	5	Rutgers University- New Brunswick School of Management and Labor Relations	JSQ, Library Lobby, 1st Fl.	10AM- 2PM
Thurs.	Dec.	5	Western Governors University	NHC, 1st Fl. Lobby	2PM- 5PM
Thurs.	Dec.	5	Rutgers University- Newark	JSQ, G Bldg, Student Center, 1st Fl.	10AM- 2PM
Tues.	Dec.	10	Fairleigh Dickinson University	JSQ, G Bldg, Student Center, 1st Fl.	10AM- 2PM
Tues.	Dec.	10	New Jersey City University- CONNECT Program	JSQ, G Bldg, Student Center, 1st Fl.	2PM- 5PM
Thurs.	Dec.	12	Rutgers University- Newark	JSQ, G Bldg, Student Center, 1st Fl.	2PM- 5PM

Instant Decision Days					
Day	Month	Date	Event	Campus	Time
Fri.	Dec.	6	New Jersey City University	JSQ, G Bldg, Student Center, 1st Fl. No appointment/ Walk-in	2PM-5PM
Mon.	Dec.	9	Fairleigh Dickinson University	JSQ, G Bldg, Student Center, 1st Fl. RSVP	10AM-2PM
Fri.	Dec.	13	Rutgers University-Newark	JSQ, G Bldg, Student Center, 1st Fl. RSVP	10AM-2PM

*ALL STUDENTS must print an unofficial transcript for each visit.*

*Visit our Transfer Support website for to RSVP for any "Instant Decision Days."*





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## Contact

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Jersey City, NJ 07306



### Schedule appointments easily with our Team

Download the App for:

Apple



Android



Desktop Link:

