

REACH ACT UPDATES



UNIVERSITY OF
South Carolina

REACH ACT COMPLIANCE

- In Fall 2023, CHE clarified the compliance process for transfer students:
 - Beginning in Fall 2024, if an incoming student has a transfer course equivalent to one of USC's REACH Act (FND) courses, the credit hours will be applicable toward their total hours, however, it will not count towards REACH Act compliance unless the transfer in course has been approved by CHE as REACH Act compliant. See [list](#) of CHE approved courses.
 - Additionally, as of Fall 2024 students should not be approved to take an FND course as a transient student at a non-USC institution, unless that course is a CHE-approved REACH Act course offered at another SC institution.



REACH ACT COMPLIANCE FOR STUDENTS WITH TRANSFER CREDIT

- Students with an equivalent, but not CHE-approved REACH Act course will be asked to complete an online module that covers the required founding documents.
 - Only transfer students with an equivalent transfer course will be eligible to take this module.
 - Students without an equivalent transfer course will still be expected to complete a 3-hour FND course at USC.
 - Students who need the module will be identified and notified after the drop/add period and be enrolled in the module.
 - The module takes a few hours to complete and will be graded as soon as it is completed.
 - Module completions will be updated by the end of the semester and attribute (FDMC) added to note compliance.



REACH ACT COMPLIANCE FOR STUDENTS WITH TRANSFER CREDIT

- Students and advisors have been notified of placement into the blackboard module
- Weekly reviews of module completions are taking place and DgW updates accordingly



REACH ACT COMPLIANCE FOR STUDENTS WITH TRANSFER CREDIT

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Advising • Faculty and Advisors • Student Profile

Student Profile • Henry Hunter

Term: Spring 2025 | Standing: Good Standing, as of Summer 2024

Bio Information Email: Phone: Emergency Contact: Emergency Phone:	
General Information ⓘ Level: Class: Status: Campus: First Term Attended:	Undergraduate Junior Active USC Columbia Fall 2023
Graduation Information Graduation Applications:	None
Advisors Primary / Undergraduate Academic Advisor	Julia Middlebrooks

Henry Hunter

- Curriculum and Courses
- Testing
- Additional Links
- Academic Transcript
- Concise Student Schedule
- View Grades
- Life GPA
- Remove Advisement Hold
- Maintain Student Attributes
- Registration Override
- Add or Drop Classes
- Maintain Student Min/Max Hours
- Select New Student
- Founding Documents**
- Transfer Evaluation Status
- Personal Information

- Founding Documents Self Service Page can be found on the Student Profile for both Students and Advisors.
- The page will indicate whether a student has met the requirement.
- If a student has met the requirement, the page will show how the requirement was met.



REACH ACT COMPLIANCE FOR STUDENTS WITH TRANSFER CREDIT

- Founding Document Requirement Met in DegreeWorks

Worksheets



Data refreshed 02/11/2025 6:52 PM

Student ID Name Degree

[Advanced search](#)

Level Undergraduate **Classification** Senior **College** Darla Moore School of Business **Major** Accounting **Minor** Physical Education (Athletic Coaching)

Advisors **Institutional GPA** 3.218 **FAFSA** RECEIVED **REACH Act Requirement Complete** PSC201



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REACH ACT COMPLIANCE FOR STUDENTS WITH TRANSFER CREDIT

- This new method for tracking the Founding Documents requirement will apply to the 2024-2025 Bulletin and Degreeworks and for academic years moving forward.
- Corresponding Data Warehouse Reports to identify students.
- We are reviewing SP25 graduates to identify any students not in compliance.
- Continue to alert Trena Houp (cc Amanda Shores) of any issues around currently enrolled students.



RESOURCES

- New Website for Students and Advisors
- Advisor Training Resource Available
 - Including strategies for transient study

REACH Act Requirements

Understanding the Founding Documents Requirement for University of South Carolina Students

South Carolina Act 26 of 2021, the Reinforcing College Education on American's Constitutional Heritage (REACH) Act mandates that all students complete a 3-credit hour course, or its equivalent, in American history, American government, or a related course that offers a comprehensive overview of significant events and turning points in American history and government ([Bill approved by the SC General Assembly](#)). We refer to these requirements as the "[Founding Documents](#)" requirements. As such, USC requires all undergraduate students take a 3-credit course or its equivalent with a passing grade in the subject areas of History, Political Science, or African American Studies that covers the founding documents including the United State Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation, one or more documents that are foundational to the African American Freedom struggle, and a minimum of five essays from the Federalist papers. This course may count as a requirement in any part of the program of study including the Carolina Core, the major, minor or cognate, or as a general elective.

Expand all

[Courses that apply towards the REACH Act / Founding Documents Requirement](#)



[Students with transfer credit equivalent to a USC REACH Act / Founding Documents course](#)



Frequently Asked Questions

Expand all

[1. How do students complete the Founding Document Requirement at the University of South Carolina?](#)



[2. How can students check their Founding Document Requirement status and its alignment with their major?](#)



[3. Is there a petition process to be exempt from this requirement?](#)



[4. What are the penalties for non-compliance?](#)



[Questions about the REACH Act / Founding Documents Module for students with transfer credit](#)



Compliance Reporting

The Office of Academic Program Planning and Decision Support collects and reviews applicable syllabi each semester to ensure they meet the provisions of the REACH Act. The office also reports annually to CHE regarding USC's compliance.

Students, Advisors, and others: If you have questions or concerns about the Founding Documents requirement, please contact Trena Houp at thoup@sc.edu.

Leaders at the University of South Carolina are continuing to receive guidance from CHE about complying with the REACH Act. Updates will be shared with students and the advising community as leadership receives them.



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THANKS!



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