

## Why was my program removed from participation in the Georgia Academic Common Market?

To be eligible for participation in the Georgia Academic Common Market, the course work in an out-of-state program must not overlap more than 50% with the coursework offered by any University System of Georgia institution. Only major/program-specific coursework is considered; core coursework is not considered.

The University System of Georgia periodically reviews programs that have been approved for participation in the Georgia Academic Common Market. Requests to review coursework for out-of-state programs are sent out to all University System of Georgia institutions that are likely to have programs overlapping with Academic Common Market programs. If any USG institution indicates that they have a program that has coursework that overlaps more than 50% with a program on the Georgia Academic Common Market list, that program will be removed from participation in the Georgia Academic Common Market.

As the Southern Regional Education Board (the sponsoring organization for the Academic Common Market) states on its website: **Program offerings are subject to change without notice.** Final decisions on program offerings are determined by state coordinators (<https://www.sreb.org/search-programs>).

When considering the overlap between programs/majors at University System of Georgia institutions and programs/majors at out-of-state institutions:

- The focus is only on coursework **overlap** between Georgia institutions and out-of-state institutions. There will always be differences between programs; these differences do not qualify an out-of-state program to be retained in the Georgia Academic Common Market.
- Programs at Georgia institutions and out-of-state institutions may be judged as similar even if they have different titles or are housed in different colleges, schools or departments.
- Programs at Georgia institutions and out-of-state institutions may be judged as similar even if they lead to different degrees (e.g., B.A. vs B.S.) as long as they are at the same level (i.e., bachelors, masters, specialist, doctorate).
- Program accreditations, industry certifications, state licensure requirements, or availability of internships, externships, or placement opportunities do not qualify out-of-state programs for participation in the Georgia Academic Common Market.
- The difficulty of access or acceptance to (i.e., limited access program) Georgia programs or the longevity (age) of the degree at a Georgia institution does not qualify an out-of-state program for participation in the Georgia Academic Common Market.
- The geographic location of an out-of-state institution (which may be closer than a University System of Georgia institution) does not qualify an out-of-state program for inclusion in the Georgia Academic Common Market.
- Access to unique student services/amenities or other non-academic features (i.e., programs geared specifically toward students with specific disabilities) does not qualify an out-of-state program for inclusion in the Georgia Academic Common Market.