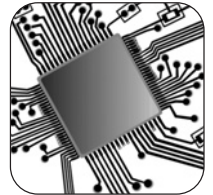# MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS ADVISING GUIDE:
Computer Science Transfer

The **Computer Science Transfer Associate in Science degree program** provides the technical and general education courses necessary for transfer into a bachelor's degree program in computer science or related disciplines. Programming knowledge and training in problem solving and analysis is emphasized. This program qualifies for *MassTransfer*, which guarantees credit transfer to Massachusetts state universities and the University of Massachusetts. A considerable amount of hands-on computer experience is incorporated into the curriculum.

This advising guide includes information that will help you explore your academic and career interests and determine whether the **Computer Science Transfer Major** will support your long- term goals.

EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS WITH ACADEMIC ADVISING

Throughout each semester, meet with your advisor so that he/she can guide you through a self-exploration process that will help you identify your academic and career interests.

Beginning of Semester:

____ Schedule an appointment to meet with your academic advisor during the first few weeks to discuss future plans and how a **Computer Science degree** can help you achieve your goals.

____ Explore your personal interests by completing Focus2, an online career assessment tool: https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/careerservices/focus2.aspx

Mid-Semester:

____ Schedule an appointment with academic advisor review your academic progress, Focus2 results and create an academic plan in DegreeWorks.

Before Semester Ends:

____ Schedule an appointment to discuss and register for the classes you will take the following semester. (Early November for spring, Early April for fall and summer)

____ Visit the Academic Career & Transfer Center or call 1-800-818-3434 to schedule an appointment.

→ INSIDE THIS GUIDE

- **Exploring Your Options**
- **Personality Inventory**
- **Career Path**
- **Transfer Path**

COMPUTER SCIENCE TRANSFER PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Graduates of the program are prepared to:

- Apply fundamental concepts of programming languages and software development to solve a diverse array of problems and recognize these concepts in different languages;

- Communicate clearly, accurately, and succinctly through written and verbal means;

- Work effectively with others to design, develop, evaluate and present solutions to business and software;

- Analyze a problem, gather data and use logic to solve, predict and analyze results for such relevance, accuracy and consistency;

- Recognize solutions patterns of common problems and apply to new challenges.

IS THE COMPUTER SCIENCE TRANSFER MAJOR A RIGHT FIT FOR ME?

Think about whether you have the following personality traits and abilities that people in the Software Development Industry must posses:

- **Computer Programming:**
  Writing Computer Programs to perform specific information handling operations.

- **Designing:**
  Analyzing requirements for a new product or service and creating a design to satisfy those needs.

- **Listening:**
  Paying attention to what other people are saying, and taking the time to understand the points being made.

- **Problem Solving:**
  Ability to identify a problem, review related information, develops and evaluates options, and implements a solution.

- **Reading Comprehension:**
  The ability to understand complex written paragraphs, instructions or reports.

- **Troubleshooting:**
  Analyzing the symptoms of a problem and deciding what actions should be taken to resolve the problem.

TAKE OUR QUIZ TO DETERMINE IF COMPUTER SCIENCE IS THE RIGHT FIT FOR YOU:
http://bit.ly/mcccompscience

Should I Be in Computer Science?

Test Your Aptitude for this career path. Answer the following True/False questions, then click **Submit** in the lower right corner.

Click the arrow to begin.

THE CAREER PATH

Career opportunities are open to students who transfer to a baccalaureate degree-granting institution and complete a bachelor's degree. Upon completion of a bachelor's degree, students in computer science qualify for a variety of positions including, *Software Engineer, Programmer, Applications Programmer, Systems Programmer, Computer Engineer, Systems Analyst* and *Quality Assurance Engineer.* delay in completing the associate degree.

Career Planning Activities:

____ Work with career advisor to create resume, cover letter and help improve your interview skills

____ Identify internship and volunteer opportunities in your desired field

____ Attend career workshops and job fairs

THE TRANSFER PATH

Transfer Planning Activities:

____ Work with an advisor to discuss *MassTransfer*, Articulations and transfer agreements.

____ Visit your selected campuses in person. Every college looks good online or in a glossy photo, but you can get a better feel when you visit.

____ Meet with a transfer counselor to identify transfer scholarships.

____ Research admissions requirements and deadlines at four-year colleges and universities.

MCC ADVISING RESOURCES

Career Services:
https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/careerservices

Transfer Services:
https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/transfer

MassTransfer:
https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/transfer/masstransfer.aspx

Financial Aid:
https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/financialaid

Foundation Scholarships:
https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/foundation/scholarships

College Board Match Maker:
https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search

You can find more information about careers and salaries at: www.bls.gov

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Schools offering a Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Science:

University of Massachusetts Lowell:
www.uml.edu/sciences/computer-science/default.html

University of Massachusetts Amherst:
www.framingham.edu/computer-science/index.html

Framingham State University:
www.framingham.edu/computer-science/index.html

Northeastern University:
www.ccs.neu.edu

Boston University:
www.bu.edu/cs