



Effective June 1, 2026

Dear Admissions Colleagues,

I am writing to inform you that California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly) will transition from a quarter system to a semester system beginning Fall 2026. As part of this transition, we aim to provide clarity on our coursework and how students are completing common prerequisite requirements for health professions programs.

All official course descriptions and semester offerings can be found in our academic catalog:

<https://catalog.calpoly.edu/>

Transition Overview

As a result of this transition, some students have completed coursework under the quarter system, while others are completing requirements under the semester system—or a combination of both. This has created multiple pathways for completing year-long sequences, while still meeting the intended learning outcomes.

To support students during this transition:

- In the 2026–2027 academic year, bridge and capstone (“cap”) courses will be offered, to help students complete the equivalent content of full-year sequences.
<https://registrar.calpoly.edu/bridge-and-cap-courses>
- If students are unable to enroll in these courses, they may be advised to repeat or supplement coursework through Cal Poly semester courses or at another accredited institution.

Pre-Health Coursework Guidance During Transition

To support students navigating a mix of quarter and semester coursework, we have developed advising guidance that outlines recommended pathways to complete prerequisite sequences. In some cases, multiple pathways may be appropriate depending on prior coursework.

This guidance is available in the attached document or on our website:

<https://prehealth.calpoly.edu/semester-information>

These recommendations were developed in consultation with the Departments of Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, and Statistics to ensure students complete the full content of admission prerequisites expected for health professions preparation.



We recognize this is a complex transition, and our goal is to ensure that all students have met the appropriate depth and breadth of foundational science content expected for health professions preparation.

We hope this information is helpful as you review applications from Cal Poly students during this transition period. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or would like additional clarification.

Thank you for your time and partnership.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristi Weddige". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kristi Weddige, MA Ed.

Director, Bailey College of Science and Mathematics Student Services

President, Western Association of Advisors for the Health Professions (WAAHP), 2025–2027

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA