

Graduation Requirements for Degrees

Reference: Title 5, Sections 55060 et seq., 55070, et seq.

Associate Degrees

Degree programs shall have at least one of the following purposes:

1. To extend general education and cultural understanding.
2. To prepare for entrance to an occupation.
3. To provide credits for transfer to a four-year college or university at the junior level.

In accordance with Title 5 regulations, the following are the graduation requirements for degrees:

- For the Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degree, a student must demonstrate competence in reading, in written expression, and in mathematics.
- The student must satisfactorily complete at least (60) semester units of college work.
- The work must include at least 18 semester units in general education and at least 18 semester units in a major listed in the Community Colleges "Taxonomy of Programs."
- The work must include at least 12 semester units of study in residence; exceptions to the residence requirement can be made by the Board when an injustice or undue hardship would result.
- The general education requirements must include a minimum of work in the natural sciences, the social and behavioral sciences, humanities, and language and rationality.
- Students may petition to have noncredit courses counted toward the satisfaction of requirements for an associate degree.
- Ethnic studies must be offered.
- District policies and procedures regarding general education and degree requirements must be published in the college catalog and must be filed with the State Chancellor's Office.
- For a certificate of achievement, a student must successfully complete a course of study or curriculum that consists of 18 or more semester units of degree-applicable credit coursework. The certificate of achievement shall be designed to demonstrate that the student has completed coursework and developed capabilities relating to career or general education.

- Shorter credit programs that lead to a certificate may be established by the District.
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