

AP 4100 Graduation Requirements for Degrees and Certificates

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Reference:

Title 5 Section 5580 et seq. and 55270 et seq.

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For the Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degree, a student must demonstrate competence in reading, in written expression, and in mathematics, and satisfactory completion of a course in ethnic studies. The student must satisfactorily complete at least 60 semester units (or 90 quarter units) of college work. A minimum of "C" (2.0) grade point average (GPA) and a minimum of "C" in all courses in the major (field of study), local requirements, and competency fields. Double counting of coursework is permitted. A course may be used to satisfy both a major requirement and a general education requirement, but not two general education areas.

A definition of "college work" that provides that courses acceptable toward the associate degree include those that have been properly approved pursuant to Title 5 Section 55002(a), or, if completed at other than a California community college, would reasonably be expected to meet the standards of that section.

The work must include at least 18 semester units (or 27 quarter units) in general education and at least 18 semester units (or 27 quarter units) in a major listed in the Community Colleges "Taxonomy of Programs."

The work must include at least 12 semester units (or 19 quarter units) of study in residence; the Board may excuse the residence requirement to alleviate injustice or undue hardship.

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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 count toward the satisfaction of requirements for an associate degree.

The District must offer ethnic studies.

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District policies and procedures regarding general education and degree requirements must be published in the college catalog and must be filed with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

For a certificate of achievement, a student must successfully complete a course of study that consists of 16 or more semester units (or 24 quarter 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.

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

Content and assessment standards for certificates shall ensure that certificate programs are consistent with the mission of the District, meet a demonstrated need, are feasible, and adhere to guidelines on academic achievement.

Certificates for which California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office approval is not sought may be given any name or designation deemed appropriate except for certificate of achievement, certificate of completion, or certificate of competency.

[The District may obtain approval of a direct assessment competency-based program from the California Community College Chancellor's office.](#)

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