



ADMINISTRATIVE **PROCEDURE**

4100

DESERT COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR **DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES**

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 or 90 quarter units of college work with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0.

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 18 quarter 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.

In response to the Chancellor’s Office Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Call to Action, and in accordance with revisions to the California Code of Regulations, Title 5, implemented in July 2020, students must demonstrate competence in ethnic studies to qualify for an associate degree. Competence in ethnic studies shall be demonstrated by obtaining a satisfactory grade in a course from an ethnic studies discipline at the first- or second-year level.

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 or curriculum that consists of 16 or more semester units or 24 or more 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. Shorter credit programs may also be offered by a college and awarded as certificates of achievement when the program of study consists of 8 – 15.5 units and is approved by the Chancellor’s office.

Content and assessment standards for certificates shall ensure that certificate programs are consistent with the mission of the Desert Community College 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.

References:

Education Code Section 55060 et seq. and 55270 et seq.

Administrator: VP Instruction

Executive Cabinet Review/Approval: September 20, 2022

Educational Policies and Practices Committee Review/Approval, 1st Reading: November 3, 2022

Educational Policies and Practices Review/Approval, 2nd Reading: February 2, 2023

Educational Policies and Practices Review/Approval, 3rd Reading: March 2, 2023

Educational Policies and Practices Review/Approval, 4th Reading: May 4, 2023

All Faculty Senate/1st Reading: May 11, 2023

All Faculty Senate/2nd Reading: May 25, 2023

College Planning Council Review/Approval, 1st Reading: September 8, 2023

College Planning Council Review/Approval, 2nd Reading: September 22, 2023

Board Review/Information Item: October 20, 2023

Next Review: October 2028