



California Community Colleges

# **Title 5 Changes Associate Degree**

**§55060- §55064**

# Current Title 5

## Current § 55060. District Policy

- Establishes requirement for a District to have a policy on the associates degree

## Current § 55061. Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degree and General Education.

- Establishes need for districts to have policy stating philosophy on general education
- Confusing section conflating associate degree and gen ed

## Current § 55062. Types of Courses Appropriate to the Associate Degree

- Establishes course criteria for degree-applicability
- Allows students to count below-transfer level courses towards associate (Does this contradict AB 705?)

## Current § 55063. Minimum Requirements for the Associate Degree (@ BOG 7/2021)

- Establishes definition of major and area of emphasis
- Establishes residency requirement
- Establishes requirement that major or area of emphasis courses must be passed with “C” or better or Pass “P”
- Includes definition of satisfactory course completion and the 2.0 GPA requirement for earning an associate degree
- Includes gen ed areas and descriptions
- Includes competence demonstrations in reading, written expression, and mathematics
- Includes Ethnic Studies course requirement
- Establishes how a single course can be used to meet multiple requirements, including general education, major/area of emphasis and competency demonstration

## Current § 55064. Acceptance of Noncredit Courses

- Establishes student ability to petition to use noncredit coursework to meet credit requirements
- Section is currently “inoperative” but has not been repealed
- Language suggests using noncredit to satisfy credit requirements is aligned with credit for prior learning. From §55064: “This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2009. After that date, a student may nevertheless seek to receive credit for knowledge or skills acquired through completion of a noncredit course in accord with [section 55050](#).”

# Title 5 Proposed Revisions

§55060- §55064

## New §55060. Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degree and General Education

- Current §55060 section is unnecessary
- Similar language found in current §55061
- §55060 and §55061 have been collapsed into proposed §55060 Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degree and General Education
- Additional language revisions, including incorporation of “quantitative reasoning” to replace “mathematics”

## New §55061. General Education Areas of Study

- General education definitions extracted from current [BOG approved §55063 \(July 2021\)](#)
- Minor tweaks to current gen ed language to support readability

## New §55062. Associate Degree Approval

- Intent is to focus on standards and requirements for faculty when developing and revising associate degrees
- Clarifies the definition of “degree-applicable” to be supports §55002. Standards and Criteria for Courses
- Revises competency requirements to focus on knowledge areas rather than specific disciplines with the goal of contextualizing how students may demonstrate competence in quantitative reasoning, written expression and reading within their field of study
- Clarifying that Ethnic Studies courses are baccalaureate level courses

## New §55063. Student Completion of Associate Degree Requirements

- Intent is to focus on student requirements to *be awarded* degrees
- Establishes
  - residency requirement for associate degree (no changes)
  - requirement of a “C” or better or “P” for courses in the major/area of emp.
  - requirement of a minimum 2.0 GPA in degree-applicable courses
- New language puts the responsibility on district to calculate GPA solely on courses that satisfy degree requirements when a student earns over 60 units
- Clarifies that a course may be used by a student to meet a general education area, a major/area of emphasis requirement **AND** a competency demonstration
- Adds language from §55064 regarding the use of noncredit courses to fulfill credit requirements as a form of credit for prior learning





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## Thank you!

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