

**AP 4025 CRITERIA FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE & GENERAL EDUCATION****References:**

Title 5 Section 55061;  
ACCJC Accreditation Standard II.A.3

The criteria for the associate degree and general education addresses the considerations contained in the references listed above. These include, but are not limited to:

- The programs of the District are consistent with the institutional mission, purposes, demographics, and economics of the community.
- The criteria regarding the associate degree references the policy of the Board of Governors that the associate degree symbolizes a successful attempt to lead students through patterns of learning experiences designed to develop certain capabilities and insight, including:
  - the ability to think and communicate clearly and effectively orally and writing;
  - use mathematics;
  - understand the modes of inquiry of the major disciplines;
  - be aware of other cultures and times;
  - achieve insights gained through experience in thinking about ethical problems; and
  - develop the capacity for self understanding.

The criteria regarding general education references the policy of the Board of Governors that general education should lead to better self-understanding, including:

- General education is designed to introduce students to the variety of means through which people comprehend the modern world.
- General education introduces the content and methodology of the major areas of knowledge including the humanities and fine arts, the natural sciences, and the social sciences, and provides an opportunity for students to develop intellectual skills, information technology facility, affective and creative capabilities, social attitudes, an appreciation for cultural diversity, and a recognition of what it means to be an ethical human being and effective citizen.

Academic departments review and propose new courses and revisions to current courses, certificates, programs, and/or majors based on changing industry standards and practices, baccalaureate transfer requirements, newly added associate degree standards, and/or recommendations from the State Chancellor's Office. The Curriculum Committee evaluates the content of every new and revised course, certificate, program, or major submitted for consideration.

Office of Primary Responsibility: Office of Student Learning

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