
Administrative Procedure
Chapter 4 – Academic Affairs

**AP 4025 PHILOSOPHY AND CRITERIA FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE
AND GENERAL EDUCATION**

References:

Title 5 Section 55061;
ACCJC Accreditation Standard II.A

Responsibilities

The Vice President of Academic Affairs shall be responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of these regulations relating to the Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degrees and General Education.

The philosophy and criteria for the associate degree and general education addresses the considerations contained in Title 5 Section 55061. These include, but are not limited to:

- A. The programs of the District are consistent with the institutional mission, purposes, demographics and economics of its community.
- B. The philosophy and 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:
 - 1. the ability to think and communicate clearly and effectively orally and writing;
 - 2. use mathematics;
 - 3. understand the modes of inquiry of the other major disciplines;
 - 4. be aware of other cultures and times;
 - 5. achieve insights gained through experience in thinking about ethical problems;
 - 6. develop the capacity for self-understanding; and
 - 7. develop self-efficacy, the belief in their capacity to execute behaviors necessary to produce specific performance attainments.

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

- A. General education is designed to introduce students to the variety of means through which people comprehend the modern world.
- B. General education introduces the content and methodology of the major areas of knowledge and provides an opportunity for students to develop intellectual skills, information technology facility, affective and creative capabilities, social attitudes, and an appreciation for cultural diversity.

The process used to determine which courses satisfy the District's philosophy on Associate Degree and General Education requirements is in accordance with Curriculum Committee guidelines, as outlined in Administrative Procedure 4020 and the Curriculum Handbook. Approval by external agencies is required for courses to be added to CSUGE-Breadth and IGETC patterns.

Also see BP 4025 Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degree and General Education, AP 4021 Program Discontinuance, and BP/AP 4100 Graduation Requirements for Degrees and Certificates.

Approved: December 15, 2021