Title: Degrees

6.2 DEGREES

6.2.1 Instructional Program Criteria

The District will develop, implement, modify or discontinue programs in accordance with program criteria. Recognition with differing titles: namely, Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, Associate of Applied Science, Associate in General Studies, Certificates, and Apprentice Programs, is granted for educational achievements.

Criteria are established as necessary to assure quality and consistency of programs within the District.

I. GENERAL CRITERIA FOR PROGRAM RECOGNITION

A. Programs requiring accreditation, approval by outside agencies or organizations, or programs whose graduates must be eligible to write licensure or certification examinations shall be adjusted to meet such standards as well as the prescribed criteria for the District.

B. Program designers of any given curriculum will take into consideration the recommendations of the Program Advisory Committee.

C. At least 25% of any program’s credits must be earned at WCCCD.

D. Wayne County Community College District accepts for transfer credit only grades of “C” or better from other institutions of higher education which meet the following criteria:

1. The institution is accredited at the college level by an agency that has been listed as nationally recognized by the Secretary of Education;

2. The institution holds reaccredited or candidacy status at the college level with a nationally recognized accrediting agency, or;

3. The institution has qualified under the “three institution certification method” established by Section 120 or the Higher Education Act of 1965. By this method, the Secretary of Education verifies that not fewer than three accredited college level institutions have accepted and do accept the unaccredited institution’s credits, upon transfer, as though coming from an institution accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency.

Credits for courses taken at other institutions will be evaluated for equivalency by the Records Office when official transcripts are received.

II. SPECIFIC CRITERIA FOR PROGRAM RECOGNITION

A. Associate Degree in Applied Science

1. Associate degree programs in Applied Science are developed to assist persons preparing for, or advancing in, an occupation. Curricula of Associate Degree programs are designed by taking into consideration state-wide competency requirements of the given business and/or industry.

2. Associate degree programs in Applied Science require a minimum of 60 semester credits or an equivalent. Deviation beyond 72 credits in the curriculum requires special permission of the Chancellor (e.g., licensure, certification and other requirements).

3. Curricula with more than the minimum credits shall reflect the additional credits in either the occupational specific or occupational supportive area or combinations thereof.

4. Occupational Specific Course Requirements – Minimum 27 Credits

   a. Occupational specific courses are those program courses which contain instruction directly related to a specific occupational area.

5. Occupational Supportive Course Requirements – Minimum 9 Credits

   a. Occupational supportive courses are those program courses which support and/or form the foundation for the occupational content of the program. These courses will be drawn from natural sciences, mathematics, social and behavioral sciences, communicative skills and other disciplines.

6. General Education Requirements – Minimum 18 Credits

   a. General education courses are those program courses which relate to the effective functioning of the individual in both occupational and community settings. These courses shall be drawn from communicative skills, behavioral and social sciences with a minimum of three semester credits in each of these areas.

7. Elective Course Requirements – Minimum 6 Credits

   a. Elective courses are those program courses which are determined by the student and can be drawn from any program within the District.
B. Associate Degree(s) in Art or Science
   1. Associate Degree programs in Art and Science are developed and conducted to assist persons preparing to transfer to senior institutions as well as to offer a broad exposure to the major fields of knowledge.
   2. Requirements for the Associate of Science degree, with the exception of the Natural Science Group Requirement, are the same as for the Associate of Arts degree.
   3. Courses are distributed in the following manner and should be transferable.
      
      a. **ENGLISH**: Six credit hours required.
      
      b. **SOCIAL SCIENCE**: Nine credit hours required.
      
      c. **MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCE**: Eight credit hours required for Associate of Arts Degree.
      
      d. **HUMANITIES**: Nine credit hours required.
      
      e. **AMERICAN GOVERNMENT**: Three credit hours required.
      
      f. **ELECTIVES**: Twenty-eight credit hours.

III. ASSOCIATE IN GENERAL STUDIES
   A. The Associate Degree in General Studies is designed for students wishing to study in a variety of areas without concentrating in a single area. This degree is not intended to be transferable.
   B. The Associate Degree in General Studies requires a minimum of 60 semester credit hours. At least 15 credit hours must be completed at Wayne County Community College District.
   C. Courses are distributed in the following manner.
      
      1. **ENGLISH**: Six credit hours of college level English is required.
      
      2. **MATHEMATICS**: Three credit hours required for Associates of Arts Degree.
      
      3. **SCIENCE**: Three credit hours required.
      
      4. **HUMANITIES**: Three credit hours required.
      
      5. **AMERICAN GOVERNMENT**: Three credit hours required.
      
      6. **ELECTIVES**: Forty-two credit hours.
IV. CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS
   A. Certificate programs are based on local needs of agencies, business and industry and are
designed to assist persons preparing for, remaining or advancing in, an occupation.
   1. Short-term certificates have a minimum of ten credits and a maximum of twenty nine.
   2. One-year certificates have a minimum of thirty credits and a maximum of thirtyfive credits.
   3. Two-year certificates have a minimum of sixty credits and a maximum of 72 credit

B. Occupational Specific Course Requirements
   1. Seventy percent to 100 percent of the total program credits shall be in courses which
   are occupational specific.
   2. Occupational specific refers to those program courses which contain instruction directly
   related to a specific occupational area.

C. Occupational Supportive/General Education
   1. Credits in occupational supportive general education may not exceed 30 percent for
   total program credits.
   2. Occupational supportive/general education courses are program elements that relate to
   effective functioning in an individual's occupational and community settings.
   3. These courses will be drawn from natural science, mathematics, social and behavioral
   sciences, communicative skills, and other disciplines.

V. APPRENTICE PROGRAMS
   A. Apprentice programs are developed to assist indentured apprentices acquire the related
   training necessary (academic and technical skills) for all aspects of their trade.
   B. The length of the Apprentice Program will vary according to the specific trade.
   C. Occupational Core Requirements
      1. A minimum of 90% of the instruction will be Occupational Core.
      2. Occupational Core refers to the content areas of applied math, applied drawing,
         drawing interpretation; trade and technical information; and skill development, as
         identified by local, state or national Joint Apprenticeship Committee.
   D. Support Courses
      1. A maximum of 10% of the instruction may be in support courses.
      2. Support courses include the content areas of employer/employee relations and
         communications (report writing, speaking, etc.).

(Apprvd: 11/28/84; Revised 7/22/87, 4/26/89, 1/23/91, 9/23/92)