

## Academic Standards and Practices

**Associate Degree Requirements –  
Associate of Applied Science Degree (AAS)**

The Associate of Applied Science degree is awarded to students in Career/Technical programs who meet the requirements listed below. Many Career/Technical programs require more than 90 credits for an associate degree.

The Associate of Applied Science degree is awarded to students who meet the following requirements:

- 1. PCC Comprehensive Degree Requirements**
- 2. PCC Associate of Applied Science Requirements**

**A. The final 16 credits** that apply to the degree must include at least eight credits at PCC that apply to the specific program requirements, excluding courses used solely for the General Education requirements. Students may apply to the department chair for waiver of this requirement if they can demonstrate currency in the field.

All candidates must earn 24 credits from PCC that apply to the specific program requirements excluding courses used solely for the General Education requirements. See specific program requirements in the PCC Catalog.

**B. General Education Requirements:**

All candidates must earn 16 credits of General Education\*\*. These credits must come from courses taken in the following categories:

1. Arts and Humanities
2. Social Sciences
3. Mathematics, Natural and Physical Sciences, and Computer Studies

The 16 credits must include at least one course with a minimum of 3 credits from each category. No more than two courses may come from program prerequisites or from courses required by specific programs. Because of these restrictions, it is possible that a course is acceptable as General Education for some students while it is not acceptable for others. Students should consult an administrator or faculty member in an Associate of Applied Science degree program for advice on General Education courses appropriate to their goals and interests.

General Education requirements will be waived for students who enroll at PCC with an A.A., A.A.S., A.G.S., A.S., B.A., B.S. degree or higher from an accredited United States institution. Program-specific General Education requirements for some AAS degrees will not necessarily be waived. Students should consult the Career/Technical program department for specific courses required for General Education

*\*\*Taken from the General Education List.*

### **C. PCC Basic Competency Requirements in Writing and Math:**

Writing: Competency in writing must be demonstrated by either:

- Completing WR 121 with a grade of C or better, or
- Passing a lower division collegiate\* writing course for which WR121 is a prerequisite with a letter grade of C or better or
- Passing the PCC WR 121 Challenge Exam. Students must meet criteria to sit for the exam.

*\*See "Course Descriptions" in PCC Catalog for a complete list.*

Students with A.A., A.A.S., A.G.S., A.S., B.A., B.S., degrees or higher from a U.S. accredited institution will have the basic competency in writing (WR 121) waived. Other writing requirements specified by the program remain in effect.

Math: Competency in mathematics must be demonstrated by either:

- Completing MTH 65 or MTH 63 with a grade of C or better, or
- Passing the PCC competency exam for MTH 65, \* or
- Passing a math class with a grade of C or better for which MTH 65 or higher level math skills are a prerequisite. Excludes MTH 93.

### **D. Program Requirements:**

All candidates must complete a program of approved course work in the major field. The program descriptions in the PCC Catalog contain these course work requirements. No more than 3 credits (100 level and above) in physical education (PE) may be applied to an AAS Degree unless specifically required by the program.

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