



Policy/Standard Name: Associate Degree Requirements-Associate of Applied Science Degree (AAS)

Policy/Standard Identifier: A102

Authority:

Units responsible for review and update: Degrees and Certificates Committee, Registrar

Approval: District President

Responsibility: Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

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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's degree.

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

1. Associate Degree Comprehensive Requirements
2. 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 an exception to 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: Students must earn a minimum of 16 credits of General Education taken from the General Education/Discipline Studies List. These credits must come from courses taken in the following categories:
 1. Arts and Letters
 2. Social Sciences
 3. Science/Math/Computer Science

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 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 advisor 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 AA, AAS, AGS, AS, BA, BS degree or higher from a regionally-accredited United States institution. Program-specific General Education requirements for some AAS degrees will not necessarily be waived.

c. PCC Basic Competency Requirements for Writing and Math in the AAS Degree

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

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

Students with AA, AAS, AGS, AS, BA, BS degrees or higher from a U.S. regionally-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 with a grade of C or P or better MTH 65 or MTH 63, or
- Passing the PCC MTH 65 Competency Exam, or
- Completing with a grade of C or P or better a MTH class with a minimum of 3 credits, for which MTH 65, MTH 63, or higher level math skills are a prerequisite, or
- Completing with a grade of C or P or better a career-technical computation course of 3 or more credits that aligns with and supports the program goals or intended outcomes, or
- Completing with a grade of C or P or better all courses that comprise 90 hours of embedded related instruction in computation that aligns with and supports the program goals or intended outcomes.

d. Program Requirements:

All AAS candidates must complete a program of approved course work in the major field. The Programs and Disciplines section of the PCC Catalog contains 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.