

Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD)
Associate in Applied Science (AAS) Degree
2026-2027

Description

The Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree requires at least 60 credits in its program of study. The exact number of credits for a specific degree is identified as part of the presentation of its requirements at [Current Programs](#) or search in the offering college(s)' catalog.

Purpose of the Degree

The Maricopa County Community College District Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree is recommended for students who wish to gain a depth of technical expertise in a particular workforce-related area of study.

The AAS degree options vary at the different MCCCD colleges and can be searched by [Programs](#) or by [Field of Interest](#).

Requirements for each degree can be found on the linked web pages and in the corresponding college(s)'s catalog.

Academic Policies that Govern the AAS degree:

- **Degree requires 60 or more credits numbered 100 or above** and includes credits or the equivalent in the General Education areas
- **All courses must be completed with a grade of C or higher**; any additional requirements such as grades of B or higher or minimum grade point average requirements are listed on individual degrees and certificates
- **The graduation policies within the general catalog must be satisfied.** ([see General Graduation Requirements Administrative Regulation 2.3.9](#)). First Year Experience is required (FYE 101 or FYE 103).
- **Some courses also have equivalent combinations of modular variants**; all options are listed and completion of either the course or its modular equivalents will satisfy the AAS requirements.

- **Requires completion of General Education courses** as indicated in the General Education Requirements for the Associate in Applied Science degree from the Maricopa County Community College District, or completion of a curriculum as stated in the catalog.
- **Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) credit** may be applied toward Plan Prerequisites, General Education, Plan Requirements, Plan Electives, and General Electives that count toward the student's elected degree. Some restrictions may apply depending on the specific program of study ([see Credit for Prior Learning Administrative Regulation 2.2.4](#)).
- **Courses completed under different credit systems** (quarter hours, trimester, units) are converted to semester credit hours as outlined in MCCCDCD [Administrative Regulation 2.2.4](#). A deficiency in a requirement (Plan Prerequisites, Plan Requirements, Plan Electives, or General Education) category due to a quarter-hour or other credit system application must be recovered by additional credits to a minimum of 15 credits overall (or 12 credits overall if a student transfers a single course from an Arizona public university that fulfills the First Year Composition requirement).
- **Any course that is cross referenced with that of another discipline/subject** (for example EDU/ENH291, Children's Literature) covers identical contents. A course under either subject (for example, EDU291 or ENH291) will count only once toward degree requirements.

General Education Requirements 2026-2027

The general education course list below combines the requirements for the Associate in Applied Science (AAS) and the Associate in General Studies (AGS) degrees.

- **Shared Requirements:** Both degrees require First-Year Composition, Oral Communication, Critical Reading, Mathematics, Humanities, Arts and Design; Social-Behavioral Sciences, and Natural Sciences.
- **Additional Requirements for the AGS:** The AGS degree includes two additional areas: Computer Usage as well as Literacy and Critical Inquiry.

First-Year Composition (shared by AAS and AGS):

Select from the following:

- **ENG** (English): [101 or 107] AND [102 or 108]

Note: The 6-credit requirement may be met with fewer credits if a student has transfer credit from ASU, NAU, or UA for a single course that meets First-Year Composition in full.

Oral Communication (shared by AAS and AGS):

Select from the following:

- **COM** (Communication): 100, 110, 225, 230

Critical Reading (shared by AAS and AGS):

Select from the following:

- **CRE** (Critical Reading): 101 or equivalent as indicated by assessment

Mathematics (shared by AAS and AGS)

Select any course with **[QNR]** or **[MA]** designation.

The following may also be selected (regardless of designation):

- **MAT** (Mathematics): 112, 114, 115, 120, 121, 122, 126, 206, 217, 218, 256, 257

Humanities, Arts and Design (shared by AAS and AGS)

Select any course with **[AHM]** or **[HU]** designation. The following may also be selected (regardless of designation):

- **ARH** (Art Humanities): Any ARH Course(s)
- **ENH** (English Humanities): Any ENH Course(s)
- **HUM** (Humanities): Any HUM course(s)
- **PHI** (Philosophy): Any PHI Course(s)
- **REL** (Religious Studies): Any REL Course(s)

Note: Students are encouraged to choose courses from more than one discipline.

Social-Behavioral Sciences (shared by AAS and AGS)

Select any course with **[SCB]** or **[SB]** designation.

The following may also be selected (regardless of designation):

- **HIS** (History): Any HIS Course(s)
- **POS** (Political Science): Any POS course(s)
- **SOC** (Sociology): Any SOC course(s)

Note: Students are encouraged to choose courses from more than one discipline.

Natural Sciences (shared by AAS and AGS)

Select any course with an **[NSI]** or **[SQ/SG]** designation.

Additional Requirements for the AGS:

The following general education areas are required for the AGS, but are not required for the AAS.

Computer Usage: Select any course with a **[CS]** designation.

The following may also be selected (regardless of designation):

- **ACC** (Accounting): 115
- **AJS** (Administration of Justice Studies): 205
- **ARC** (Architecture): 243, 244, 245
- **AVC** (Art and Visual Communication):
100, 169, 170, 173, 175, 177, any AVC 180 course, 183, 283, 289
- **BPC** (Business-Personal Computers): Any BPC course
- **CIS** (Computer Information Systems): Any CIS course
- **CSC** (Computer Science): Any CSC course
- **DFT** (Drafting Technology): 105AA, 254AA
- **ELE** (Electronic): 131, 181, 241, 243, 245
- **ELT** (Electronic Technology): 131, 243
- **ENG** (English): 100AE
- **FON** (Food and Nutrition): 100
- **JRN** (Journalism): 133
- **LAS** (Paralegal Studies): 229
- **MUC** (Music: Commercial/Business): 191
- **OAS** (Office Automation Systems): 111AA

Literacy and Critical Inquiry:

Select any course with an **[L]** designation.

The following may also be selected (regardless of designation):

- **AIS** (American Indian Studies): 203
- **CUL** (Culinary Arts): 223

Note: This requirement may be met with 0 additional credits if CRE101 or COM225 is shared between Core and Distribution. While a single course can satisfy two requirements, the credits are only counted once toward the degree total.