

Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD)
Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC)
2026-2027

Description

The Maricopa County Community College District Arizona General Education Curriculum (MCCCD AGECE) is a general education certificate that fulfills lower-division general education requirements for students planning to transfer to any Arizona public community or tribal colleges or Arizona State University (ASU), Northern Arizona University (NAU), and The University of Arizona (UA). The MCCCD AGECE transfers as a block without loss of credit. In most cases, all courses used to satisfy the MCCCD AGECE will apply to graduation requirements of the university major for which the AGECE was designed. Beyond completion of the AGECE, individual program or degree requirements will still apply.

As described below, the AGECE is a component of MCCCD associate degrees designed for transfer. The AGECE defines the general education requirements in the Associate in Arts (AA), Associate in Arts, Elementary Education (AAEE), the Associate in Arts, Fine Arts (AAFA), the Associate in Business-General Requirements (ABUS-GR), the Associate in Business-Special Requirements (ABUS-SR) degrees, the Associate in Science (AS) degree, the Bachelor of Arts (BA), the Bachelor of Arts, Elementary Education and Special Education (BAEE/SPED), the Bachelor of Science (BS), the Bachelor of Science, Nursing (RN to BSN), the Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), and the Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS).

As described in more detail below, the AGECE requires designated courses in Written Communication [WCM], Oral Communication [OCM], Quantitative Reasoning [QNR], Social and Behavioral Sciences [SCB], Arts and Humanities [AHM], Institutions in the Americas [IAM], and Natural Sciences [NSI].

Purpose of the AGEC

The Arizona public community and tribal colleges and public universities have agreed upon a common structure for a transfer general education curriculum. This curriculum provides students attending any Arizona public community or tribal college with the opportunity to build a general education curriculum that is transferable upon completion without loss of credit to another Arizona public community or tribal college or university. This common agreement, the AGEC, was designed to articulate with different academic majors at the state universities. In some major-specific pathways, students are allowed to choose from a broad list of courses to satisfy the AGEC requirements, and for others the courses are more restricted or even specified. Additional information on academic majors at the Arizona public universities can be accessed via [AZTransfer](#).

Academic Policies that Govern the AGEC

Requires completion of at least 35 credit hours in courses numbered 100 and above that have been approved for an AGEC designation; a minimum of 12 of those credits must be completed at one or any combination of the MCCCDColleges. See Written Communication [WCM] notes for credit minimum exceptions.

- **All MCCCDColleges courses applied to the AGEC** must be completed with a grade of “C” or better
- **All MCCCDColleges courses applied to the AGEC** must be accepted for transfer credit as a direct equivalent, departmental elective, or general elective credit at ASU, NAU, and UA according to the AGEC matrix for the academic year in which the course was taken
- **Courses approved for transfer exclusively** toward the Bachelor of Applied Science are ineligible for inclusion in the AGEC
- **Courses are assigned only one** AGEC designation
- **A single course can simultaneously count** between the AGEC and the Plan Course Prerequisites, Plan Course Requirements, MCCCDColleges

Requirements, Plan Course Electives, and degree plans

- **While multiple requirements can be met** with a single course, the credits are only counted one time toward the required minimum for the degree. Optimizing credits in this way is often recommended because some programs and universities limit transferable credits at 64.

Per [AZTransfer Policy 103: AGEC Transfer Institutions](#) and [104: Transferability of the AGEC Courses Between Community Colleges](#):

- **The certified (i.e., completed and documented** on the transcript) AGEC is transferable from any Arizona public community or tribal college to ASU, NAU, and UA as well as to any other Arizona public community or tribal college.
- **Arizona public community and tribal colleges** will accept AGEC coursework from any other Arizona public community or tribal college.
- **AGEC requirements will be accepted** and applied as defined by the source institution.
- **In some cases, a specific degree** or emphasis may require the student to select particular courses, rather than select freely from the list of approved AGEC courses.
- **A course that is specified within the AGEC** is considered a Plan Course Requirement for the purposes of degree completion.
- **Students who transfer to MCCC**D with a certified AGEC from another public Arizona community or tribal college or have already received an AGEC from within MCCCD will need to meet all courses specified within the AGEC for their emphasis pathway.

Transfer Credit from Institutions Outside of MCCCCD

- **Credits transferred from outside of MCCCCD** must be completed with a grade of “C” (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) or better.
- **Transfer credit graded pass/fail** or pass/no credit may be used to satisfy AGEC requirements if documentation collected by the community college indicates that this was the only grading option available and that the Pass grade (“P”) is equivalent to a “C” or better.
- **The P grade exception** does not apply to credits awarded by Arizona public community and tribal colleges.
- **The AGEC designations of courses completed** at other Arizona public colleges or universities will be applied as listed on [AZTransfer's Course Equivalency Guide](#) (CEG) for the semester(s) in which the course(s) were completed.
- **If a transcript evaluation determines** there is no MCCCCD direct equivalency to a course from another Arizona public college or university, applicability to AGEC and/or degree requirements will be based on the source institution's AGEC designation for the semester in which the course was completed.
- **Courses from private, out-of-state, and/or online institutions** (i.e., outside of the Arizona Transfer System composed of Arizona's public community colleges, tribal colleges and universities) will be applied toward AGEC and/or degree requirements based on the courses' evaluated MCCCCD equivalence At the time the evaluation is being performed, not when the course was taken.
- **If courses are not directly equivalent**, the credit may be articulated as a departmental elective, and if deemed appropriate, may have an AGEC designation applied to the course.

- **Courses with different credit systems** (quarter hours, trimester, units) are converted to semester credit hours as outlined in MCCC CD [Administrative Regulation 2.2.4](#).
- **A deficiency in an AGEC category** due to quarter-hour or other credit system application must be recovered by additional credits within any requirement area of the AGEC as applicable to a total of 35 AGEC credits overall (or 32 credits overall if a student transfers in a single course from an Arizona public university that fulfills the Written Communication [WCM] requirement in full).
- **In cases where students have a certified AGEC** from another public Arizona community or tribal college with fewer than 35 credits, credits must be recovered within any requirement area of the degree to meet the minimum credits to graduate.
- **Students who have received a certified AGEC**, independently or within another degree, **before Fall 2026** from MCCC CD or another Arizona public institution will not need to complete Oral Communication [OCM] or Institutions in the Americas [IAM] designations, and credits must be recovered within any requirement area of the degree to meet the minimum credits to graduate.
- **Credit awarded at a Maricopa Community College through prior learning assessment** in a non-traditional setting is transferable to other colleges in the MCCC CD district but is not necessarily transferable to other colleges and universities outside of the MCCC CD system.
- **No more than 20 such assessed semester credit hours** may be applied toward the AGEC.

Completion and Transfer

- **Completion of the AGEC** with a minimum grade point average of 2.50 on a 4.0 scale meets ASU, NAU, and UA general admission requirements. It does not ensure admission to specific university majors or programs with selective

admission processes and/or limited enrollment.

- **Students planning to transfer to another college or university** are urged to refer to university requirements and consult with academic advisors from both institutions to be certain that all their selected coursework is applicable to the requirements of their intended transfer degree and will not require additional general education coursework after transfer. For some majors, the statewide Common Course matrix, [AZTransfer Pathway Guides](#) and/or [University Transfer Guides](#) can also provide some guidance.

AGEC Requirements

Descriptions and definitions of the requirements of the AGEC follow. AGEC designations are subject to change. It is important to verify a course's AGEC value in the semester it is taken. For convenience, this information is provided for the current and upcoming semester in the "[Find a Class](#)" on each MCCC college's website as well as in the AGEC matrix provided by [AZTransfer](#).

Note that for students pursuing an associate degree with a specific emphasis (for example: Associate in Arts, Emphasis in History; Associate in Arts, Fine Arts, Emphasis in Theatre; Associate in Science, Emphasis in Physics), or an MCCC Bachelor's degree, the AGEC course requirements are usually more prescriptive. Students pursuing a major-specific pathway should consult the Program (Degree) Search (select Current Programs) for specific degree and AGEC requirements. Consultation with an academic advisor about course selection is always recommended.

Arizona General Education Curriculum

The AGEC requires a minimum of 35 credits (or 32 credits overall if a student transfers in a single course from an Arizona public university that fulfills the **Written Communication [WCM]** requirement in full; see designation area below for course requirements); courses applied to meet AGEC requirements vary by degree type and emphasis.

Refer to the [Program \(degree\) Search](#) (select Current Programs) for specific course requirements. The Plan Course Requirements and/or Plan Course Electives for some areas of a degree may also have AGECE designations. A single course can simultaneously count between the AGECE and the Plan Course Prerequisites, Plan Course Requirements, MCCC requirements, and Plan Course Electives, but its credits are only counted once toward the total for the degree. The minimum credit requirements to satisfy each AGECE requirement are listed below. A course with more credit may also be used to satisfy a requirement if it carries the same AGECE value. AGECE designations are subject to change. See the AGECE matrix for each course's value(s) in the semester it is taken.

The minimum **Quantitative Reasoning [QNR]** and **Natural Science [NSI]** requirements for the awarding of the AGECE, when not specified by the degree requirements, may be fulfilled with any course(s) that meets the designation. Students are urged to refer to university requirements and academic advisors from both institutions to be certain that all their selected coursework is applicable to the requirements of their intended transfer degree and will not require additional general education coursework to be fulfilled upon transfer.

A. Written Communication [WCM]_____6 credits

All transfer Associate degrees and Bachelor's degrees

- ENG101 or ENG107 AND
- ENG102 or ENG108

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 [WCM] in full.

B. Oral Communication [OCM]_____3 credits

- Some degrees or emphasis require specific [OCM] courses

- Refer to [Current Programs](#) to search for specified [OCM] requirements by degree or emphasis

C. Quantitative Reasoning [QNR]_____3 credits

The following are generally the Quantitative Reasoning [QNR] requirements of each degree type.

- Some may require a specific or higher-level Quantitative Reasoning [QNR] course
- Refer to [Current Programs](#) to search for specified Quantitative Reasoning [QNR] requirements by degree or emphasis

Associate of Arts (AA, AAE, and AAFA), Bachelor of Arts (BA and BAEE), and Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS)

Requires a course in

- College Mathematics (MAT140, MAT141, MAT142, MAT145, MAT146) or
- College Algebra (MAT150, MAT151, MAT152, MAT155, MAT156) or
- Precalculus (MAT187, MAT188) or
- Higher mathematical level [QNR] approved General Education Course with a MAT prefix, not including MAT206

Associate of Business (ABUS-GR and ABUS-SR) and Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)

Requires a course in

- Brief Calculus (MAT212, MAT213) or
- Higher mathematical level [QNR] approved general education course with a MAT prefix

Associate of Science (AS) and Bachelor of Science (BS and BSN)

Astronomy, Biochemistry, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Geography-Meteorology, Geology, Physics, Secondary Education

- First semester of calculus courses designed for scientists and engineers (MAT220 OR MAT221) or any other [QNR] designated course with a MAT prefix for which Calculus I is a prerequisite.

Behavioral Sciences

- College Mathematics (MAT140, MAT141, MAT142, MAT145, MAT146) or
- College Algebra (MAT150, MAT151, MAT152, MAT155, MAT156) or
- Precalculus (MAT187, MAT188) or
- Higher mathematical level [QNR] approved General Education Course with a MAT prefix, not including MAT206

RN to BSN

- College Mathematics (MAT140, MAT141, MAT142, MAT145, MAT146) or
- College Algebra (MAT150, MAT151, MAT152, MAT155, MAT156) or
- Precalculus (MAT187, MAT188) or
- Higher mathematical level [QNR] approved General Education Course with a MAT, not including MAT206

D. Arts and Humanities [AHM]_____6 credits

- Some degrees or emphasis require specific [AHM] courses
- Refer to [Current Programs](#) to search for specified Arts [AHM] requirements by degree or emphasis
- Students are encouraged to choose course work from more than one discipline

E. Social and Behavioral Sciences [SCB]_____6 credits

- Some degrees or emphasis may require specific [SCB] courses;
- Refer to [Current Programs](#) to search for specified [SCB] requirements by degree or emphasis.
- Students are encouraged to choose course work from more than one discipline

F. Institutions in the Americas [IAM]_____3 credits

- Some degrees or emphasis may require specific [IAM] courses;
- Refer to [Current Programs](#) to search for specified [IAM] requirements by degree or emphasis

G. Natural Sciences [NSI]_____8 credits

The following are generally the Natural Science [NSI] requirements of each degree type.

- Some may require a specific or series of Natural Sciences [NSI] courses
- Refer to [Current Programs](#) to search for specified Natural Sciences [NSI] requirements by degree or emphasis.

Associate of Arts (AA, AAEE, and AAFA), Bachelor of Arts (BA and BAEE), and Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS)

- The lecture courses selected for Natural Sciences [NSI] must include or be accompanied by the corresponding laboratory courses
- Credits for lecture and lab may be combined or each may carry separate credits

Associate of Business (ABUS-GR and ABUS-SR) and Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)

- The lecture courses selected for Natural Sciences [NSI] must include or be accompanied by the corresponding laboratory courses for a total of four credits each.
- Credits for lecture and lab may be combined or each may carry separate credits.

Associate of Science (AS) and Bachelor of Science (BS and BSN)

Note: Students should refer to [Current Programs](#) to search for specific Natural Science [NSI] requirements by degree or emphasis.

Astronomy, Biochemistry, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Geography-Meteorology, Geology, Physics, Secondary Education

CHM150 General Chemistry I (4) OR
CHM151 General Chemistry I (3) AND
CHM151LL General Chemistry I Laboratory (1) OR
CHM150AA General Chemistry I with Lab (5) OR
CHM151AA General Chemistry I with Lab (4)

AND

CHM152 General Chemistry II (3) AND
CHM152LL General Chemistry II Laboratory (1) OR
CHM152AA General Chemistry II with Lab (4) 8-9

OR

PHY121 University Physics I: Mechanics (4) AND
PHY131 University Physics II: Electricity and Magnetism (4) 8

OR

BIO181 General Biology (Majors) I (4) OR

BIO181XT General Biology (Majors) I (4)

AND

BIO182 General Biology (Majors) II (4) OR

BIO182XT General Biology (Majors) II (4) 8

OR

GLG101 Physical Geology: Dynamic Earth Lecture (3) AND

GLG103 Physical Geology: Dynamic Earth Lab (1) OR

GLG101IN Physical Geology: Dynamic Earth (4)

AND

GLG102 Historical Geology: Primordial To Present Lecture (3) AND

GLG104 Historical Geology: Primordial To Present Lab (1) OR

GLG102IN Historical Geology: Primordial To Present (4) 8

Behavioral Sciences

- The lecture courses selected for Natural Sciences must include or be accompanied by the corresponding laboratory courses
- Credits for lecture and lab may be combined or each may carry separate credits

RN to BSN

- BIO201 Human Anatomy and Physiology I
- BIO202 Human Anatomy and Physiology II
- BIO205 Microbiology