

Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD)
**General Academic Policies for Associate Degrees Designed
for University Transfer**
2026-2027

The following academic policies govern the associate degrees designed for university transfer: Associate in Arts (AA); Associate in Arts, Elementary Education (AAEE); Associate in Arts, Fine Arts (AAFA); Associate in Business-General Requirements (ABUS-GR); Associate in Business-Special Requirements (ABUS-SR); and Associate in Science (AS). Note that academic policies that govern the Associate in General Studies (AGS) and Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degrees are listed separately, with the requirements for each of those degrees.

- **The graduation policies** within the general catalog must be satisfied (administrative regulation 2.3.9).
First Year Experience required (FYE101 or FYE103)
- **Minimum semester credits for completion vary** slightly by degree and specific emphasis (when applicable). Refer to the [Program \(Degree\) Search](#) for credit minimums for individual degree programs.
- **Credits completed toward these minimums** must be in courses numbered 100 or above with a grade of “C” or better. These credits must include the completion of the Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC) at a minimum of 35 credits. Detailed degree requirements are maintained by the Center for Curriculum and Transfer Articulation (CCTA)
- **Refer to the [Program \(Degree\) Search](#).** Credit minimums may be lower if students have transfer credit from ASU, NAU or UA for a single course that meets Written Communication [WCM] in full. See notes on individual degree policies.

General Education Requirements

- The AGEC requirements include a designated number of courses approved for each of the following areas:
 - Written Communication [WCM]
 - Oral Communication [OCM]
 - Quantitative Reasoning [QNR]
 - Arts and Humanities [AHM]
 - Social and Behavioral Sciences [SCB]
 - Institutions in the Americas [IAM]
 - Natural Sciences [NSI]
- **Note that the AGEC aligns with** associate degrees: AA, AAEE, AAFA, ABUS-GR, ABUS-SR, and AS.
- **A single course can simultaneously count between** the AGEC and the Plan Course Prerequisites, Plan Course Requirements, MCCCDC Requirements, and Plan Course Electives, but its credits are only counted once toward the total for the degree.
- **While multiple requirements can be met** with a single course, the credits are only counted one time toward the required minimum for the degree.
- **The AGEC require 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); however, the AGEC credit count within the total credits for a degree may be under these minimums if courses are also applied toward Plan Course Requirements or Plan Course Electives and the credits are counted in those areas.
- **Credit minimums may be lower if** students have transfer credit from ASU, NAU or UA for a single course that meets Written Communication [WCM] in full. See notes on individual degree policies.
- 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 MCCCDC with a certified AGEC** from another public Arizona community or tribal college or have already received an AGEC from within MCCCDC will need to meet all courses specified within the AGEC for their emphasis pathway.
- **All MCCCDC courses applied to the AGEC** must be completed with a grade of “C” or better. All MCCCDC 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 Course Equivalency Guide for the academic year in which the course was taken. Courses applied exclusively to the Bachelor of Applied Science are ineligible for inclusion in the AGEC.

Coursework beyond General Education

- **For some degree types, the additional coursework required** to complete the degree is specified while others offer the student more latitude. See degree checksheets for more complete description. Consultation with an academic advisor about course selection is always recommended.
- **Within the Plan Course Electives**, course recommendations are made for specific transfer institutions. Students should select a transfer plan (group of courses) based on their intended transfer institution.

- **However, not all transfer institutions** are reflected in these recommendations. Therefore, students may instead meet the minimum number of Plan Course Electives credits using a combination of courses from the transfer plans listed. Plan Course Electives should be selected in consultation with an academic, faculty, or program advisor.
- **Note that some majors require** up to a 4th semester proficiency (202-course level) in a non-English language. Students should consult with an academic advisor to discuss options to complete these requirements.
- **General Electives may need to be selected** to meet the minimum total credits required for the degree. Maricopa courses and external courses evaluated as Maricopa equivalents, departmental electives, (e.g., HISELC for a history elective), or general electives (GENELC) that are numbered 100 level or higher, and completed with a grade of "C" or higher, may be applied in the elective area, regardless of potential transferability to other institutions.
- **It is recommended, however, that students** planning to transfer to a baccalaureate-granting institution meet these general elective requirements with courses that are transferable and applicable to their intended university degree. Transfer advisement information is accessible on the following websites: [AZTransfer, Program \(Degree\) Search](#), as well as those of individual universities. For appropriate course selection, students should consult with an academic advisor.
- **Any course cross-referenced under another prefix(es)** (for example ENH291/EDU291-Children's Literature) covers identical content and its credits can only be counted once toward requirements.

Transfer Credit from Institutions Outside of MCCC

- **Credits transferred from outside of MCCC** must be at 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.

- **External courses evaluated** either as equivalent to an MCCC CD course or as elective credit may be applied toward the minimum credits for degree completion.
- **The AGE C (Arizona General Education Curriculum) designations of courses completed at other Arizona public colleges or universities** will be applied as listed on the AGE C matrix for the semester(s) in which the course(s) were completed. If a transcript evaluation determines there is no MCCC CD direct equivalency to a course from another Arizona public college or university, applicability to AGE C and/or associate degree requirements will be based on the source institution's AGE C 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 AGE C and/or associate degree requirements based on the courses' evaluated MCCC CD equivalence. If courses are not directly equivalent, the credit may be articulated as a departmental elective, and if deemed appropriate, may have a general education 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 AGE C category due to quarter-hour or other credit system application must be recovered by additional credits to a total of 35 AGE C 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 AGE C 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 AGE C before Fall 2026 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** is transferable to the other colleges in the district but is not necessarily transferable to other colleges and universities. No more than 20 such assessed semester credit hours may be applied toward AGEC, and no more than 45 credits (including up to 20 toward AGEC) may be applied toward a degree.

Completion and Transfer

- **Completion of the AGEC** with a minimum Grade Point Average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale for Arizona residents and 2.50 for non-residents meets Arizona public university general admission requirements. It does not ensure admission to specific university majors or programs with selective admission processes and/or limited enrollment.
- **While MCCC'D's associate degrees are designed to facilitate a seamless transfer** to other Arizona institutions, courses may be transferable and/or meet associate degree requirements, but may not necessarily meet the specific requirements of a particular degree, major, or area of emphasis at another institution.
- **Students planning to transfer to another college or university** 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 within their allowed transferable credit limit. For some majors, the statewide Common Course matrix and AZTransfer Major Guides at [AZTransfer](#) and/or university transfer guides can also provide some guidance. For appropriate course selection, students should consult with an academic advisor.