



EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

Associate Degrees

The Associate Degree is a certification of the student's satisfactory completion of a program of study with a specific major or area of specialization. The Associate Degree is normally completed in two years, compared with the Baccalaureate Degree, which is normally completed in four years. Associate Degrees are commonly conferred by community colleges and are referenced as "local degrees." They are usually of two types, the Associate of Arts and the Associate of Science. The distinction between the Associate of Arts and the Associate of Science degrees lies in the majors. If the major is in the fields of engineering, physical or biology science, or occupational curricula, the degree conferred is usually the Associate of Science. Otherwise the Associate of Arts degree is conferred.

Ordinarily Associate Degrees have one of two major purposes. Either the program of study prepares the individual for transfer to a four-year college or university or the program of study is intended to prepare the student for immediate employment.

Information on academic honors at graduation is listed on page 14.

Information on associate degree requirements is listed on pages 42-44.

Associate Degrees for Transfer

The Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act (Senate Bill 1440, now codified in California Education Code sections 66746-66749) guarantees admission to a California State University (CSU) campus for any community college student who completes an "associate degree for transfer," an established variation of the associate degrees traditionally offered at a California community college. The Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) or the Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) is intended for students who plan to complete a bachelor's degree in a similar major at a CSU campus. Students completing these degrees (AA-T or AS-T) are guaranteed admission to the CSU system, but not to a particular campus or major. In order to earn one of these degrees, students must complete a minimum of 60 required semester units of CSU-transferable coursework with a minimum GPA of 2.0. Students transferring to a CSU campus that does accept the AA-T or AS-T will be required to complete no more than 60 units after transfer to earn a bachelor's degree (unless the major is a designated "high-unit" major). This degree may not be the best option for students intending to transfer to a particular CSU campus or to a university or college that is not part of the CSU system. Students should consult with a counselor when planning to complete the degree for

more information on university admission and transfer requirements. Information on associate degree for transfer requirements is listed on page 49.

Certificate of Achievement Programs

A Certificate of Achievement (18 or more units or state approved under 18 units) is a verification of achievement in a particular academic or occupational area, and it will be included on the official transcript. Certificate of Achievement programs normally include only those courses which have a direct bearing upon specialized occupational competency since the certificate has the sole objective of immediate employment in a specialized area. For this reason there is no general education requirement in a certificate program. Santiago Canyon College's certificate programs are described in the catalog section on SCC Academic Programs (pages 59-163). To qualify for a Certificate of Achievement, a candidate must meet the following requirements:

1. **Courses:** Courses are designated for the specific certificate.
2. **Grades:** At least a C grade in each course required for the certificate, unless otherwise specified. Credit by Examination may also be used to gain credit for required courses.
3. **Pass/No Pass:** A Pass/No Pass course is acceptable toward the certificate if it is required for the certificate and (a) courses for which Pass/No Pass is the only grading option or (b) units earned through Credit by Examination (CBE) or assessment. See Pass/No Pass section on page 20.
4. **Residency:** Twelve units completed at Santiago Canyon College. (Six of the twelve units required for the certificate must be earned at Santiago Canyon College.)
5. **Petition:** A petition for Certificate of Achievement must be filed by the student by deadline (see Instructional Calendar page 2) with the Admissions and Records Office at Santiago Canyon College.

Certificate of Proficiency Programs

A Certificate of Proficiency is under 18 units and/or is not a State-approved program. This type of certificate is verification of completion in a particular subject matter. A Certificate of Proficiency will NOT be included on the official or unofficial transcript. Certificate programs include only those courses which focus on vocational skills. The sole objective is employment in a specialized area and for this reason there are no general education requirements for a Certificate of Proficiency.

Santiago Canyon College Certificate of Proficiency programs are described in the catalog section on SCC Academic Programs (pages 59-163). To qualify for a Certificate of Proficiency, a candidate must meet the following requirements:

1. **Courses:** Courses are designated for the specific certificate.
2. **Grades:** At least a C grade in each course required for the certificate, unless otherwise specified. Credit by Examination may also be used to gain credit for required courses.
3. **Pass/No Pass:** A Pass/No Pass course is acceptable toward the certificate if it is required for the certificate and (a) courses for which Pass/No Pass is the only grading option or (b) units earned through Credit by Examination (CBE) or assessment. See Pass/No Pass section on page 20.
4. **Residency:** At least 20% of the total units required for the certificate must be earned at Santiago Canyon College.
5. **Petition:** A petition for Certificate of Proficiency must be filed by the student by the deadline (see Instructional Calendar page 2) with the Admissions and Records Office at Santiago Canyon College.

Multiple Associate Degrees and Certificates

A student may earn multiple Associate Degrees and Certificates from Santiago Canyon College.

- For additional degrees and certificates, any course used to meet the prescribed graduation requirements may count toward more than one degree and certificate.
- Courses used to meet the proficiency requirements and general education requirements for the first degree may be used to fulfill these requirements for additional degrees,
- Courses used for one major may be used to meet requirements for additional majors.
- If a break in enrollment occurs, a student must comply with the proficiency, general education, and major requirements in effect at the time the student resumes attendance or those in effect in subsequent years of the student's enrollment.
- Each additional degree and Certificate of Achievement will be posted to the student's academic record and the student will receive diplomas for each degree and Certificate of Achievement earned.



ASSOCIATE DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS AT SANTIAGO CANYON COLLEGE (SCC)

AA = Associate of Arts Degree AS = Associate of Science Degree CA = Certificate of Achievement
 AA-T = Associate in Arts for Transfer Degree AS-T = Associate in Science Degree for Transfer CP = Certificate of Proficiency

Degrees and certificates of achievement have State-approved program control numbers and appear on student transcripts.
 Certificates of proficiency are not State-approved and do not appear on student transcripts.

PROGRAM	AWARDS		PROGRAM	AWARDS	
* Accounting	AS	CA/CP	English	AA/AA-T	
American College English		CA	* Gemology	AS	CA
* American Sign Language		CA	General Education (CSU)		CA
Anthropology	AA/AA-T		General Education (IGETC)		CA
* Apprenticeship-Carpentry	AS	CA	Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies	AA	
* Apprenticeship-Cosmetology		CA	Geography	AA-T	
* Apprenticeship-Electricity	AS	CA	Geology	AS-T	
* Apprenticeship-Maintenance Mechanic	AS	CA	History	AA-T	
* Apprenticeship-Operating Engineers	AS	CA	Kinesiology	AA-T	
* Apprenticeship-Power Lineman	AS	CA	Liberal Arts	AA/AS	
* Apprenticeship-Surveying	AS	CA	* Management	AS	CP
* Art	AA/AS/AA-T	CA	* Marketing	AS	CP
Astronomy	AS		Mathematics	AS-T	
* Biology	AS/AS-T	CA/CP	Modern (Foreign) Languages	AA	
* Business	AS/AS-T	CA/CP	Nutrition and Dietetics	AS-T	
Chemistry	AS		Philosophy	AA-T	
* Child Development	AA-T/AS-T	CP	Physics	AS-T	
Communication	AA/AA-T		Political Science	AA-T	
* Computer Information Systems	AS	CA	Psychology	AA-T	
* Computer Science	AS/AS-T	CA/CP	* Public Works	AS	CA/CP
* Cosmetology	AS	CA	* Real Estate	AS	CA/CP
Counseling	AA-T		Sociology	AA/AA-T	
Earth Sciences	AS		Spanish	AA-T	
Economics	AA/AA-T		* Survey/Mapping Sciences	AS	CA
* Education	AA/AA-T	CA	* Water Utility Science	AS	CA/CP
* Electrician	AS	CA			

* Career Education (CTE) training opportunities

For information regarding Gainful Employment and our programs, please visit our website at www.sccollege.edu/gainfulemployment

All Associate Degrees and Certificates of Achievement will have a unique identification code in parentheses next to them in the College Credit Instructional Programs Section. Any certificates that do not have a unique identification code will not appear on your transcript.



ASSOCIATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS • 2020–2021

Associate Degrees

To earn an associate degree, a student must fulfill the requirements listed under I, II and III below.

I. Unit and Residency Requirements

60 UNITS of degree applicable coursework are required, with at least a 2.0 grade point average. At least 12 of the units must be earned at Santiago Canyon College. At least 6 of those units must be in courses required for the major, unless students are earning an Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT).

II. General Education Requirements

The general education requirements can be met through the completion of one of the following general education plans.

Plan A: Santiago Canyon College General Education Requirements page 44

Plan B: California State University General Education Breadth page 50

Plan C: Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) page 51

The general education requirements for Plan A may be satisfied by submitting an official transcript showing completion of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution. Alternatively, the general education requirements for Plan A may also be satisfied by submitting an official transcript showing completion of an associate of arts or associate of science degree from a regionally accredited California institution within a ten-year period. All major requirements must be completed at Santiago Canyon College within ten years of the semester and year the degree was conferred at the regionally accredited California institution.

For coursework completed outside the United States, see International Transcripts Evaluation Practices section on pages 12-13.

NOTE: Official transcripts from all colleges attended must be on file.

III. Major Requirements

Each degree specifies courses required for the major (a minimum of 18 units). Students must complete these courses with a grade of C or better. For programs of study leading to an associate degree, see SCC Academic Programs on pages 63-163.

A course may be used to satisfy a major requirement and meet a general education category requirement. Non-degree applicable courses (courses numbered N01-N99) may not be used for graduation requirements.

Courses in the student's major field may not be taken under the Pass/No Pass policy except for (a) major courses for an Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT), (b) courses for which Pass/No Pass is the only grading option, and (c) units earned through Credit by Examination (CBE) or assessment. See Pass/No Pass section on page 20.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The list of courses will be subject to change year by year, but students are assured that courses taken to meet General Education requirements will be honored if they are approved for the academic year in which they are taken. Courses on this list are approved per academic year beginning Fall 2020 and are valid through Summer 2021.

IV. Proficiency Requirements

The proficiencies and requirements listed on page 44 may also be used to meet General Education Requirements in areas A-F where appropriate. Courses taken to meet proficiencies must be completed with a grade of C or better.

Petition For Graduation and Catalog Rights:

Students must submit a Petition to Graduate to earn an associate degree, certificate, CSU Certification and/or IGETC Certification. Petitions for graduation should be filed in the Admissions and Records Office at Santiago Canyon College when a student has completed at least 30 units or one semester prior to the expected semester to graduate. Students who maintain continuous enrollment have

the option to meet the associate degree or certificate requirements as listed in the catalog in effect at the time of first enrollment or any subsequent year. In some instances, Santiago Canyon College may automatically award certificates and general education certification without a student submitting a Petition to Graduate.

Continuous enrollment is defined by earning a notation on a transcript (letter grade, P/NP, withdrawal, or incomplete) for at least one course during any semester, or session, within that academic year. For the purposes of the catalog, an academic year begins with the fall semester and concludes with the summer session. So long as the student remains in attendance in any one semester (fall/spring) or session (summer/intersession) per academic year, the student has the ability to elect to meet the graduation requirements in effect at the time beginning his/her continuous enrollment or in more recent catalog years.

If a student does not earn a note on their transcript during any of the semesters, or sessions, during an academic year, then the student is no longer protected by previous associate degree and/or certificate requirements and will be held to the additional requirements. The student must then reset their catalog rights clock to use the catalog at the time of readmission or term for which the petition was submitted.

In the event of a loss of catalog rights due to extenuating circumstances, if a student wishes to waive or substitute a requirement for an associate degree and/or certificate, the student could complete the appropriate form and submit to the Exceptions for Academic Regulations (EAR) Committee for final determination.

Commencement

Commencement is held once a year at the end of the spring semester for those students who have completed or petitioned for a degree during the current academic year (Fall 2020, Spring 2021, or Summer 2021). A Petition to Graduate must be submitted to the Admissions and Records Office at Santiago Canyon College to participate in commencement. Exceptions may be made to accommodate students petitioning for 2021.