

Requirements for Graduation: Associate Degrees

MiraCosta College shall offer the associate in arts and associate in science degrees. To obtain an associate degree, students must accomplish the following:

- A. Complete a minimum of 60 semester units of approved coursework, including a minimum of 18 semester units of focused study in a major or interdisciplinary area of emphasis and 21 units of general education.
 1. A minimum of 12 semester units must be completed in residence within the MiraCosta Community College District.
 2. The general education requirement can be satisfied through completion of the MiraCosta College general education pattern (Plan A) or the CSU-GE (Plan B) or IGETC (Plan C) transferable general education pattern. (See Administrative Procedure 4025). Students who have been awarded a bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency shall be deemed to have fulfilled the general education course requirement for the associate degree.
 3. Courses may meet multiple associate degree graduation requirements, including general education and a major or area of emphasis, when courses are approved to meet multiple requirements. However, one course may not be counted in more than one general education area, even if the course is approved in multiple general education areas.
 4. Students may petition to have completion of a noncredit course counted toward satisfaction of the requirements for an associate degree.
 5. Students may receive credit for knowledge or skills acquired through the district's procedures for awarding credit for prior learning (see Administrative Procedure 4235).

6. Courses completed at other institutions accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency will be evaluated for counting toward associate degree requirements based on C-ID number or course description, comparable or equivalent content, and appropriate prerequisites to ensure they meet or exceed the standards of the California Community Colleges. Students may be required to provide a course outline and/or a syllabus to determine course comparability and a transcript to verify prerequisite completion.
 7. International courses will be evaluated for counting toward associate degree requirements only when course descriptions are submitted in English, along with a transcript evaluated by an approved foreign transcript evaluation service. Course descriptions may also be required for prerequisite review.
- B. Complete the requirements for the associate degree with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 in the degree-applicable courses and a minimum grade of "C" or "P" in each course counted toward the major or area of emphasis. Courses completed with a C- at institutions accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency may be used to satisfy this requirement, except in programs such as Registered Nursing and Licensed Vocational Nursing, which are overseen by external accrediting agencies, that do not allow a C-.

If units accumulated beyond those required for the associate degree lower a student's cumulative grade point average below 2.0, then the student may request to have their grade point average computed solely on those courses used to satisfy the degree requirements, provided that the coursework used to compute the grade point average fulfill all major/area of emphasis and general education requirements.

Requirements for Graduation: Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT)

MiraCosta College shall offer an associate in arts for transfer and an associate in science for transfer degree. To obtain an ADT, students must accomplish the following:

- A. Complete a minimum of 60 CSU-transferable semester units. Courses completed at other institutions accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting will be reviewed for placement on the associate degrees for transfer based on existing C-ID numbers and/or course comparability to the transfer model curriculum template developed by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.
- B. Complete a minimum of 18 units in an approved ADT major.
- C. Complete all courses in the major with a "C" or "P" or better. Courses completed with a C- at other institutions accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency may be used to complete this requirement.
- D. Complete the CSU GE (Plan B) or IGETC (Plan C) general education pattern.
- E. Obtain a minimum CSU-transferable grade point average of 2.0.

- F. Complete a minimum of 12 semester units in residence within the district.

Multiple Degrees

Students who are in progress to complete or who have previously been awarded a MiraCosta College associate degree may be qualified for an additional associate degree(s) under the following circumstances:

- A. The additional degree(s) represents a new major.
- B. Each degree has at least 12 mutually exclusive major units.
- C. All degree requirements have been met, including residency, with at least 12 semester units completed in the new major at MiraCosta College.

Requirements for Graduation: College Certificates

Students may obtain certificates of achievement and certificates of proficiency through MiraCosta College.

A. Certificates of Achievement

Certificates of achievement are state-approved and thus are printed on a recipient student's transcript. To obtain a certificate of achievement, students must accomplish the following:

1. Complete a state-approved program of study consisting of 16 or more semester units. (A sequence of courses consisting of 8 or more semester units may be approved by the Chancellor's Office as a program of study leading to a certificate of achievement if the program satisfies title 5 requirements.)
2. Obtain a "C" or "P" or better in each course counted toward the certificate with the exception that CSU-GE certificates will be awarded according to CSU policies. Courses completed with a C- at other institutions accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency may be used to complete this requirement, except in programs such as Registered Nursing and Licensed Vocational Nursing, which are overseen by external accrediting agencies, that do not allow a C-.

B. Certificates of Proficiency

Certificates of proficiency are approved locally and are not printed on student transcripts. To obtain a certificate of proficiency students must accomplish the following:

1. Complete a district-approved program of study consisting of fewer than 16 semester units.

2. Obtain a "C" or "P" or better in each course counted toward the certificate. Courses completed with a C- at other institutions accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency may be used to complete this requirement, except in programs such as Registered Nursing and Licensed Vocational Nursing, which are overseen by external accrediting agencies, that do not allow a C-.
3. Complete at least six units, or the maximum number of units required for the certificate, whichever is less, in residence at MiraCosta College.