

## General Degree Requirements

### Associate In Arts Degree & Associate In Science Degree

The awarding of an Associate Degree is intended to represent more than an accumulation of units. It is to symbolize a successful attempt on the part of the College to lead students through patterns of learning experiences designed to develop individual capabilities and insights.

Among these are the ability to think and to communicate clearly and effectively both orally and in writing; to use mathematics; to understand the modes of inquiry of the major disciplines; be aware of other cultures and times; to achieve insights gained through experience in thinking about ethical problems; and to develop the capacity for self-understanding. In addition to these accomplishments, the student shall possess sufficient depth in some field of knowledge to contribute to lifetime interest.

Central to an Associate Degree, General Education is designed to introduce students to the variety of means through which people comprehend the modern world. It reflects the conviction of colleges that those who receive their degrees must possess in common certain basic principles, concepts and methodologies both unique to and shared by the various disciplines. College educated persons must be able to use this knowledge when evaluating and appreciating the physical environment, the culture and the society in which they live. Most importantly, General Education should lead to better self-understanding.

Graduation from Skyline College with the Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degree requires the completion of at least 60 units, including requirements A through F as outlined on the following pages. Substitutions and waivers for degree requirements may be authorized by petition to the appropriate Division Dean. An application for the degree must be filed in the Office of Admissions and Records within the last two semesters of attendance (refer to calendar for the college year for deadline dates).

### Philosophy Of General Education

The General Education Program at Skyline College provides a scope and depth of learning that empowers students to meet the work, life, and global citizenship challenges of the 21st century. The Program fosters and develops the essential knowledge, skills, and values students need to succeed in an interdependent world of daunting complexity and relentless change. It is the foundation of life-long learning. Students gain broad knowledge of science, cultures and society; a wide range of high-level intellectual and practical skills; a strong sense of ethical and social responsibility; and the ability to integrate and apply the

knowledge, skills, and values acquired in general education to new settings and complex problems and challenges. The General Education Program values and prioritizes broad, diverse perspectives, cross-disciplinary learning, intellectual curiosity, critical and creative inquiry, and the importance of engaging big questions, both contemporary and enduring.

### Graduation Requirements Student Catalog Rights

Graduation requirements are listed in the Catalog. Each Catalog covers an academic year that reflects enrollment beginning with the fall term and includes subsequent spring and summer terms. Having "catalog rights" means students are held to the graduation requirements listed in the catalog at the time enrollment begins. Students may choose to use catalog rights for any subsequent year of continuous enrollment. For Cañada College, College of San Mateo and Skyline College, catalog rights apply to enrollment in any of the San Mateo County Community College District colleges.

For the purpose of this policy, "continuous enrollment" means attending at least one term (fall, spring, summer) each academic year. Attendance is required through the fourth week of instruction for semester length classes or thirty percent (30%) of summer classes and semester classes that are shorter than the full semester.

Catalog rights gained at a college outside of the San Mateo County Community College District are not applicable at Cañada College, College of San Mateo or Skyline College.

Catalog rights cannot supersede any State or Federal regulation or requirement in effect at the time of graduation.

### Requirements For The Associate In Arts For Transfer (AA-T) Or Associates In Science For Transfer AS-T

California Community Colleges are now offering associate degrees for transfer to the CSU. These may include Associate in Arts (AA-T) or Associate in Science (AS-T) degrees. These degrees are designed to provide a clear pathway to a CSU major and baccalaureate degree. California Community College students who are awarded an AA-T or AS-T degree are guaranteed admission with junior standing somewhere in the CSU system and given priority admission consideration to their local CSU campus or to a program that is deemed similar to their community college major. This priority does not guarantee admission to specific majors or campuses.

Students who have been awarded an AA-T or AS-T are able to complete their remaining requirements for the 120- unit baccalaureate degree within 60 semester or 90 quarter units. To view the most current list of Skyline College Associate Degrees for Transfer and to find out which CSU campuses accept each degree, please visit the [Transfer Center website](#). Current and prospective community college students are encouraged to meet with a counselor to review their options for transfer and to develop an educational plan that best meets their goals and needs.

### Requirements for the Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) or Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T)

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", a newly 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.

#### The following is required for all AA-T or AS-T degrees:

1. Minimum of 60 CSU-transferable semester units.
2. Minimum grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 in all CSU-transferable coursework. While a minimum of 2.0 is required for admission, some majors may require a higher GPA. Please consult with a counselor for more information.
3. Completion of a minimum of 18 semester units in an "AA-T" or "AS-T" major as detailed in the Degrees/ Certificates section of the catalog. All courses in the major must be completed with a grade of C or better. A "P" (Pass) grade is not an acceptable grade for courses in the major.
4. Certified completion of the California State University General Education-Breadth pattern (CSU GE Breadth) OR the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) pattern.

**Note:** Per state legislation, students pursuing AA/AS-Ts are only required to meet the major, CSU GE or IGETC/CSU, and a minimum of 60 CSU transferable requirements. No additional requirements are needed.

Students transferring to a CSU campus that accepts 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 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.

## Bachelor's in Science in Respiratory Care

The bachelor's degree program includes a focused area of study in Respiratory Care and a general education pattern designed to provide the knowledge, skills, experiences, and perspectives that will enable graduates to contribute meaningfully in their personal and professional communities applying greater levels of critical thinking and analytical skills. The curriculum provides advanced scope of practice education with emphasis in advanced cardiopulmonary pathophysiology, advanced respiratory case management, advanced respiratory neonatal/ pediatrics, health education in respiratory care, research methodology, quantitative principles, respiratory care sleep medicine, and respiratory care leadership and management.

To qualify a student must have completed respiratory care lower division coursework from a CoARC accredited program. Graduation from Skyline College with a Bachelor's in Science in Respiratory Care requires a minimum of 120 units. This includes 41.5 units of upper division coursework, 48.5 units of lower division major coursework, and 37 UC (IGETC) or 39 CSU and Title 5 general education units. The bachelor's degree need not align with other UC or CSU local area graduation requirements.

A minimum of 50 percent of the upper division units required for the major, including 9 units of the upper division general education, must be completed at Skyline College for a bachelor's degree.

See the Bachelor's in Science in Respiratory Care degree for further requirements.

## Transfer Of Credit And Graduation And/ Or Certificate Program Requirements

**For students who transfer among the district's colleges or other colleges or universities outside the district.**

For more information, please visit the Transfer Center website at <http://skylinecollege.edu/transfercenter/index.php>.

The San Mateo County Community College District Board of Trustees has adopted Board Policy 6.26, which provides for reciprocity of course credit among the District's three colleges for purposes of meeting graduation requirements.

1. Students may transfer from one College within the District to another without penalty, although