

Background

The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges approved changes entitled “Associate Degree Requirements,” ([Title 5, Section 55060, 55061 and 55062](#)) It became effective November 16, 2023. Community college districts have 180 days to conform their policies and procedures to the requirements.

Summary of changes pertinent to Curriculum Compliance:

1. Title 5, Section 55061 requires that each California Community College maintain a General Education (GE) pattern that aligns with Cal-GETC;
2. Minimum number of General Education units in the range of 28 to 31.5 quarter units.
3. Regulates a General Education (GE) pattern that consists of more defined areas:

Area 1 English Communication

1A: English Composition (4 quarter units)

1B: Communication and Critical Thinking (4 quarter units)

Area 2: Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning (4 quarter units)

Area 3: Arts and Humanities (4 quarter units)

Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences (4 quarter units)

Area 5: Natural Sciences (4 quarter units)

Area 6: Ethnic Studies (4 quarter units)

Comparison Chart of Current DA Local GE and new Title 5 Pattern (section 55061)

Current DA Local GE	New Title 5 Pattern
Area A (10 to 15) A1 English Composition	Area 1 1A English Composition (4; 5@ DA) 1B Oral Communication and Critical Thinking (4; 5@ DA)
A2 Oral Communication	
A3 Critical Thinking	
Area B (4 to 6) Natural Sciences	Area 5 Natural Sciences (4; 4 to 6@ DA)
Area C (8 to 9) Arts and Humanities	Area 3 Arts and Humanities (4; 8 to 9@ DA)
Area D (8) Social and Behavioral Sciences	Area 4 Social and Behavioral Sciences (4; 8@ DA)
Area E (2 to 5) Physical/Mental Wellness and Personal Development	Not a GE Requirement
Proficiency in Math	Area 2 Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning (4; 4-5@ DA)
Not a Local GE Requirement	Area 6 Ethnic Studies (4; 4 @ DA)
ICS Requirement	Not a GE Requirement (no additional units)
Environmental Sustainability and Global Citizenship	Not a GE Requirement (no additional units)
32 to 43 units	40 to 47 units including Area E

Not required by Title 5

Required additions:

1. Proficiency in math replaced by Area 2: Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning
2. ICS Requirement replaced by Area 6: Ethnic Studies

Proposals (items 1 to 6 to update local GE to be compliant effective Fall 24):

1. Update Areas represented in alpha to numeric to better align with the revised Title 5 GE pattern.
2. Combine A2 and A3 to Area 1B.
3. Add Area 2: Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning. What we have as Area 2 in the IGETC.
4. Migrate ICS requirement to Area 6: Ethnic Studies including the 4 independent disciplines: African American Studies, Native American Studies, Chicano/a/x; Latino/a/x Studies and Asian American Studies (AFAM, CHLX, NAIS, ASAM, CETH)

5. Keep Area E and the ESGC graduation requirement in the interest of students' well-being and their environmental awareness. But migrate Area E to a graduation requirement to better align with the revised Title 5 GE pattern.
6. Change minimum required units for areas 3 and 4 to 4 units.
7. Form a GE and Graduation Requirement Subcommittee to facilitate the implementation of the new local GE pattern by 1) making recommendations to the full Curriculum Committee to determine suitable courses for new and adjusted GE areas as more guidance from the State becomes available, 2) collaborating with the SLO Committee to make necessary additions and adjustments to GE definitions and mapping, and 3) discussing and researching the following additional items.

https://www.deanza.edu/articulation/documents/ge-aa-as-dac_2324.pdf

Other Areas that need further research and discussion:

1. Types of courses appropriate to the Associate Degree and to new GE pattern (to support academic and career goals) (S55061a)
2. Philosophy and criteria for Associate Degree and GE (Competency statements versus areas of disciplines) (S55061 (b)(1)(2))
3. District Policy on granting degree: Residency (College district versus degree granting college) (S55062 (a)(1))
4. Calculating GPA, exclude excess units if cumulative GPA falls below 2.0 S55062(a)(4)
5. Procedures for students to petition for CPL. S55062(d)
6. Procedures for students to petition for acceptance of noncredit courses. S55062(f)