AP 4100 – Graduation Requirements for Degrees and Certificates

Approved by Leadership: June 2014

Reference: Title 5 Sections 55230 et seq.

For the Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degree, a student must demonstrate competence in reading, in written expression, and in mathematics. The student must satisfactorily complete at least 60 semester units or 90 quarter units of college level work.

A definition of “college work” that provides that courses acceptable toward the associate degree include those that have been properly approved pursuant to Title 5 Section 55002(a); or, if completed at other than a California community college, would reasonably be expected to meet the standards of that section. The work must include at least 18 semester units or 27 quarter units in general education and at least 18 semester units or 27 quarter units in a major listed in the Community Colleges “Taxonomy of Programs.”

The work must include at least 12 semester units or 18 quarter units of study in residence; exceptions to the residence requirement can be made by the Academic Council when an injustice or undue hardship would result.

General education requirements must include a minimum of work in natural sciences, social and behavioral sciences, humanities, and language and rationality. Multicultural studies must be offered.

Students may petition to have non-credit courses counted toward the satisfaction of requirements for an associate degree. Subject matter can be met with non-credit courses however units cannot be awarded so limitations exist as to how non-credit courses can be used toward an associate degree.

District policies and procedures regarding general education and degree requirements must be published in the college catalog and must be filed with the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office.

For a certificate of achievement, a student must successfully complete a course of study or curriculum that consists of 12 or more semester units or 27 or more quarter units of degree-applicable credit coursework. The certificate of achievement shall be designed to demonstrate that the student has completed coursework and developed capabilities relating to career or general education.

Shorter credit programs that lead to a certificate may be established by the District.

Content and assessment standards for certificates shall ensure that certificate programs are consistent with the mission of Butte College, meet a demonstrated need, are feasible, and adhere to guidelines on academic achievement.
Certificates for which California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office approval is not sought may be given any name or designation deemed appropriate except for certificate of achievement, certificate of completion, or certificate of competency.