

Rancho Santiago Community College District
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION
Chapter 4
Academic Affairs

AR 4025B Philosophy and Criteria for Baccalaureate Degree and General Education

Reference(s):

Education Code 78040-78042
Title 5 Section 55009 and 55061

The philosophy and criteria for the Baccalaureate degree and general education should address the considerations contained in the references listed above.

The programs of the District are consistent with the institutional mission, purposes, demographics and economics of its community.

The baccalaureate degree is awarded to students who have successfully demonstrated they have developed intellectual skills, information technology facility, affective and creative capabilities, social attitudes, and an appreciation for cultural diversity. In addition to these accomplishments, students graduating with a baccalaureate degree shall possess sufficient depth in the major to contribute to preparation for career positions within the region and beyond. The depth will be provided with completion of the required 120 units including both lower-division-major units and upper-division-major units. The college catalog will clearly differentiate upper-division and lower-division course work.

Rancho Santiago Community College District shall offer baccalaureate degrees. To obtain a baccalaureate degree, students must:

- A. Complete a combination of lower-division and upper-division coursework totaling a minimum of 120 semester units to include the following:
 - 1) A minimum of twenty-four (24) semester units of lower-division-major courses, with no grade less than a "C" or "P" 2.0 average.
 - a) Lower-division courses acceptable toward the baccalaureate degree are designated as CSU or UC transferable or determined to be at the baccalaureate level.
 - b) Lower-division courses from other U.S. regionally accredited institutions will be evaluated by a CTE counselor or graduation specialist to determine baccalaureate credit based on course description, comparable content, appropriate prerequisites, or C-ID number.
 - c) All lower-division requirements must be met before the baccalaureate degree is granted.

- d) International courses will be evaluated for baccalaureate major requirements only when course descriptions are submitted in English, along with a transcript evaluated by an approved foreign transcript service.
 - 2) Forty (40 semester units of upper-division-major courses, with no grade less than a “C” or “P” 2.0 average.
 - a) Rancho Santiago Community College District courses designated as upper-division are applicable only to the baccalaureate degree and may not be used to satisfy associate degree requirements.
 - b) Upper-division courses from other U.S. regionally accredited institutions will NOT be accepted for major, general education, or elective baccalaureate degree credit.
 - 3) Complete the California State University (CSU) GE Breadth (Plan B) or the University of California (UC) intersegmental general education transfer curriculum IGETC (Plan C) lower-division general education patterns (37-41 units).
 - a) Previously completed lower division general education courses will be evaluated according to the CSU-GE or IGETC certification guidelines.
 - b) Students enrolled in the baccalaureate program who have not completed the CSU-GE or IGETC pattern must complete the remaining CSU-GE or IGETC Areas.
 - 4) A minimum of six (6) semester units of upper-division general education courses.
- B. Satisfy competency in reading, writing, and mathematics through the completion of the CSU-GE or IGETC general education patterns.
- C. Complete a minimum of twelve (12) units in residence.
- D. Maintain an overall 2.0 grade-point average (GPA); courses completed with a “P” may be used toward meeting the baccalaureate degree requirements.

Adopted: September 17, 2018