

2.22 CREDENTIAL DEFINITIONS

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Policy

Associate Degree

(A.A., A.A.S., A.F.A., A.S.): a two-year degree that generally prepares students for further study or entry into the workplace. The associate degree is generally 60 – 72 Credits; with 60 – 64 considered optimal.

The College will maintain and publish a list of degrees which may not be earned as additional degrees.

- Students must earn a minimum of 60 credit hours, exclusive of basic, developmental, and continuing education courses.
- As a part of those 60 credit hours, students must complete the General Education courses appropriate to the degree.
- A minimum of 24 credit hours must be earned at Delaware County Community College.
- The student must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.

Certificates

The College will maintain and publish a list of certificates which may not be earned as additional certificates.

Category of Certificate

Competency - The College will award a certificate of competency to students who complete an approved credit-bearing certificate program that requires fewer than 30 credits.

- General education courses may not be required for programs that have less than thirty (30) credits.
- The student must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.
- Six (6) credits or 50% of the total credits required, whichever is greater, must be completed at Delaware County Community College.

Proficiency - The College will award a certificate of proficiency to students who complete a minimum of 30 credits of an approved certificate program.

- Program credits will not normally include developmental, basic and/or continuing education courses.
- Program credits will usually consist of twenty-four (24) credits in the career specialty and six (6) credits in general education. Exceptions may be made upon recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee.
- At least fifteen (15) credits must be earned at Delaware County Community College.
- The student must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.

Badges

(micro-credentials) – curricular and/or co-curricular experiences focused on the acquisition of a sub-set of skills or knowledge. When embedded within course(s), may be stackable to a certificate or associate degree.

- Badge Competencies (BCs) will describe what the student will know, value or be able to do by earning a badge.
- A badge shall consist of 3 to 5 distinct components.

• **Components** may include:

- DCCC Course – to be eligible for a badge the student must be registered for the course, receive minimum required grade, and meet a minimum standard for an embedded assessment aligned to the skill or knowledge acquisition.
- Co- or Extra-curricular workshop – participation may be measured in a required participation time, submission of independent project, or evaluation aligned to the skill or knowledge acquisition.
- External exam or certification – student may be awarded credit towards a badge by completing and/or passing external award aligned to skill or knowledge acquisition.