



**NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5, REGARDING
CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT**

45-Day Notice published March 7, 2025

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Chapter 2 of the California Community Colleges Board of Governors (Board) Procedures and Standing Orders, that the Board proposes to adopt the regulatory action described below after a public hearing, and consideration of all comments, objections, or recommendations received regarding the proposed regulatory action during the public comment period, which closes on April 21, 2025.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held during the next regularly scheduled Board of Governors meeting on March 25, 2025.

In-Person Participation

California Community Colleges, Chancellor's Office Building
Sixth Floor, Board of Governors Chambers
1102 Q Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

Parking options can be found on our website.

All Board of Governors (Board) meetings are held in locations that are open to the public and wheelchair accessible. Other disability-related accommodations, such as alternate media materials, sign language interpreters, or real-time transcription, may be provided to persons with disabilities upon request. Persons requesting such accommodations should notify the Board Liaison at ccastro@cccco.edu, (916) 323-5889, no less than five business days prior to the meeting.

Public Comments at the Board Meeting

Members of the public seeking to comment on the proposed regulatory action at the Board meeting should refer to the Board's agenda for information on how public comment on Board items will be received. The [Board's agendas](https://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Board-of-Governors/Meeting-schedule-minutes-and-agendas) are available here: <https://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Board-of-Governors/Meeting-schedule-minutes-and-agendas>.

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

Any interested person may submit written comments relevant to the proposed regulatory action. To help ensure comments are understood as they are intended, we suggest that they clearly identify the proposed regulatory action that each comment addresses, with reference to specific section and subparagraph numbers where appropriate. Please arrange comments in the same order as in the proposed regulatory action. Comments should be addressed to:

Regulations Coordinator
California Community Colleges
Chancellor's Office
1102 Q Street, Suite 4550
Sacramento, CA 95811-6549
regcomments@cccco.edu

Comments must be received by the Regulations Coordinator prior to 4:00 p.m. on April 21, 2025. All written comments received by Chancellor's Office staff during the public comment period are subject to disclosure under the Public Records Act.

CHANGES OR MODIFICATIONS TO PROPOSED TITLE 5 AMENDMENTS

Following the public hearing and considering all timely and relevant comments received, the Board of Governors may adopt the proposed regulatory action substantially as described in this Notice or may modify the proposed regulatory action if the modifications are sufficiently related to the original text. With the exception of technical or grammatical changes, the full text of any modified proposed regulatory action will be subject to a second 15-day notice period prior to its adoption at a subsequent Board meeting.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST

This proposed regulatory action regarding Credit Certificates of Achievement seeks to further align Title 5, California Code of Regulations with Assembly Bills AB 705 (Irwin 2017) and AB 1705 (Seymour-Campbell 2022). The proposed changes also facilitate California Community Colleges ability to develop and propose Credit Certificates of Achievement that satisfy transfer patterns established by the University of California, California State University, or other accredited public postsecondary institutions in adjacent states.

The proposed changes include:

Section 55070

- Adds the word “intersegmental” to general education in subdivision (a).
- Adds the phrase “local needs” in subdivision (a) to ensure certificates of achievement may be orientated to serving local needs.
- Removes the reference to English-as-a-second language (ESL) courses in subdivision (a).
- Removes the phrase “any sequence of courses” from subdivision (c) and adds the phrase “two or more courses”.
- Removes subdivision (d) as it is duplicative of other Title 5 Regulations.
- Technical cleanup of regulation language for clarity and readability.

ESTIMATED COST OR SAVINGS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

The estimated cost or savings attributable to the proposed regulatory action are anticipated to be as follows:

Mandate on local agencies or community college districts: *None*.

Cost or savings to state agencies: *None*.

Costs to local agencies or community college districts for which reimbursement would be required pursuant to part 7 (commencing with section 17500) of division 4 title 2 of the Government Code: *None*.

Other non-discretionary cost or savings imposed on community college districts: *None*.

Cost or savings in federal funding to state agencies: *None*.

CONTACT PERSON

Inquiries concerning the content of these regulations may be directed to the Regulations Coordinator, at regcomments@cccco.edu.

TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS AND CORRESPONDING DOCUMENTS

Copies of the language of the proposed regulatory action, and all of the information upon which the proposal is based, may be obtained online at:

[Office of General Counsel - Pending Regulatory Action](#)

Those who receive the Board of Governors Agenda package for the March 25, 2025, meeting can find a further description of the proposal and the full text of the regulatory action. You may also request a copy of the proposal from the Regulations Coordinator using the contact information provided above.

Proposed Revisions to Title 5, California Code of Regulations relating to Credit Certificates of Achievement

This document contains underlined and stricken text, which may require adjustments to screen reader settings. Underlined text denotes additions to existing regulations; ~~stricken~~ text denotes deletions from existing regulations.

SECTION 55070 OF ARTICLE 7 OF SUBCHAPTER 1 OF CHAPTER 6 OF DIVISION 6 OF TITLE 5 OF THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS IS AMENDED TO READ:

§ 55070. Credit Certificates.

- (a) Any sequence of courses consisting of 16 or more semester units or 24 or more quarter units of degree-applicable credit coursework shall constitute an educational program subject to approval by the Chancellor pursuant to section 55130. The college-awarded document confirming that a student has completed such a program shall be known as a certificate of achievement and may not be given any other designation. The award of a certificate of achievement is intended to represent more than an accumulation of units. Listing of the certificate of achievement on a student transcript symbolizes successful completion of patterns of learning experiences designed to develop ~~certain specific~~ capabilities that may be oriented to career, intersegmental ~~or~~ general education, or local needs; provided, however, that no sequence or grouping of courses may be approved as a certificate of achievement pursuant to this section if it consists solely of basic skills ~~and/or ESL courses~~. For ~~purposes of this subdivision, the term~~ “intersegmental general education” includes coursework taken to satisfy transfer patterns established by the University of California and; the California State University; or accredited public postsecondary institutions in adjacent states ~~which~~ that award the baccalaureate degree.
- (b) Shorter credit programs leading to a certificate may be established without review and approval by the Chancellor after approval by the college curriculum committee and the district governing board. Such a certificate may be given any name or designation deemed appropriate by the district governing board, except that such a certificate may not be referred to as a certificate of achievement, a certificate of completion, or a certificate of competency, unless approved by the Chancellor pursuant to subdivision (c). Such a certificate may not be listed on a student’s transcript, unless approved by the Chancellor pursuant to subdivision (c).
- (c) A district may submit ~~any sequence of courses consisting of 8 or more semester units or 12 or more quarter units of degree-applicable credit coursework to the Chancellor to~~ the Chancellor two or more courses totaling 8 or more semester units or 12 or more quarter units of degree-applicable credit coursework and request that it be approved as a program leading to a certificate of achievement. The Chancellor may approve such a program if ~~he or she determines the~~ Chancellor determines that a district ~~it~~ satisfies the requirements of subdivision (a) despite requiring fewer than 16 semester or 24 quarter units of degree-applicable credit coursework.

~~(d) Content and assessment standards for certificates shall be defined by the local curriculum committee and comply with the requirements of this chapter. Such standards should also ensure that certificate programs will be consistent with the mission of the college, meet a demonstrated need, be feasible, and adhere to guidelines on academic integrity which may be developed by the Chancellor, the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges or other appropriate statewide bodies.~~

~~(d)~~(e) A description of each approved program shall be included in the college catalog.

~~(e)~~(f) The Chancellor shall develop forms and procedures for ~~submission of~~ submitting applications for approval of a program leading to a certificate of achievement.

~~(g) Provisions of this section regarding the naming or designation of certificates shall become effective for the Fall 2008 term.~~

Authority cited: Sections 66700 and 70901, Education Code. Reference: Sections 70901 and 70902, Education Code.