



# San Diego Community College District

City College · Mesa College · Miramar College · College of Continuing Education

## San Diego Community College District Proposed Baccalaureate Degree General Education Requirements

### Introduction

The California Community Colleges Board of Governors approved Title 5 revisions on November 18, 2024, establishing general education requirements for baccalaureate degrees offered at California community colleges. These requirements align with statewide standards while ensuring academic rigor and breadth of knowledge for students pursuing a four-year degree within the California Community College system.

### General Education Requirements for the Baccalaureate Degree

To be eligible for a California Community College baccalaureate degree, students must complete a minimum of 36 semester units of general education, divided as follows:

- Lower-Division General Education: 27 semester units
- Upper-Division General Education: 9 semester units

### SDCCD Proposed Lower Division General Education Pattern

Students must complete at least 27 semester units of lower-division general education coursework in accordance with Title 5 Section 55061 and Title 5 Section 55062 across the following disciplines:

1. English Composition, Oral Communication, and Critical Thinking (minimum of 6 units)

English Composition (3 units): Courses fulfilling this requirement must be baccalaureate-level and emphasize expository and argumentative writing.

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Oral Communication and Critical Thinking (3 units): Courses fulfilling this requirement must be baccalaureate-level and may include oral communication and critical thinking courses.

**2. Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning (minimum of 3 units)**

- Courses fulfilling this requirement must be at least college-level and may include mathematics or quantitative reasoning courses such as logic, statistics, computer languages, and related disciplines.

**3. Arts and Humanities (minimum of 6 units)**

Courses in this category study the cultural activities and artistic expressions of human beings. These courses develop students' awareness of historical and contemporary artistic and cultural creations and promote aesthetic understanding. Approved courses may include introductory or integrative baccalaureate-level courses in visual and performing arts, art history, foreign languages, literature, philosophy, religion, and related disciplines.

**4. Social and Behavioral Sciences (minimum of 6 units)**

Courses in this category focus on individuals as members of society, fostering an understanding of social structures and behavioral patterns. These courses develop awareness of methods of inquiry in the social and behavioral sciences, critical thinking about societal responses, and appreciation of social institutions. Courses fulfilling this requirement may include history, anthropology, political science, sociology, psychology, and related disciplines.

**5. Natural Sciences (minimum of 3 units)**

Courses in this category explore fundamental principles of physical and biological sciences and their applications. These courses include at least one laboratory-based or practical learning experience. Disciplines may include biology, chemistry, physics, environmental science, and earth sciences.

**6. Ethnic Studies (minimum of 3 units)**

Courses fulfilling this requirement may include baccalaureate-level courses in the four autonomous disciplines within Ethnic Studies: Black Studies; African American Studies; Africana Studies; Native American Studies; Chicano/a/x; Latino/a/x Studies/La Raza Studies; and Asian American Studies.

## Upper Division General Education Requirements

Students must complete at least 9 semester units of upper-division general education coursework in accordance with Title 5 Section 55091. These courses are designed to provide advanced analytical skills, interdisciplinary perspectives, and critical inquiry appropriate for upper-division students. The specific distribution of upper-division general education coursework will align with programmatic learning outcomes and workforce preparation.

## Lower-Division General Education Pathways for SDCCD CCC Baccalaureate Degree-Seeking Students

Students interested in pursuing a baccalaureate degree within the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) are encouraged to complete an approved lower-division general education pattern before admission into an SDCCD baccalaureate program. Recommended pathways include:

1. SDCCD Lower Division Baccalaureate Degree General Education

Students earning an associate degree that leads to an SDCCD approved baccalaureate degree may use the San Diego Community College District General Education Requirement (Option 1 or 4).

### Key Considerations

1. Students following this pathway will complete their associate degree under SDCCD GE Option 1 or 4. Upon entering the baccalaureate program, their general education pattern will transition to the SDCCD Baccalaureate Degree Lower Division General Education pattern, which requires an additional 6 units ( 6 additional units, two courses, selected from two separate areas selected from Area 1B-6)
  2. The SDCCD lower division Baccalaureate Degree pattern is exclusively available to students officially enrolled in an SDCCD Baccalaureate Degree Program
  3. Associate degrees leading to an SDCCD Baccalaureate Degree Program will be added to the SDCCD General Education Option 4 list.
2. Students earning an Associate Degree for Transfer must use Cal-GETC or, if applicable, CSU GE or IGETC
    1. ....
  3. CalGETC (California General Education Transfer Curriculum) or completion of the requirements for an approved intersegmental lower-division general education pattern used for transfer to the University of California or the California

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State University. Students who follow this pattern are not required to take additional lower-division general education courses for the SDCCD baccalaureate degree.

4. Baccalaureate Degree from an Institutionally Accredited Institution – Students who submit an official transcript showing they have earned a baccalaureate degree from an institutionally accredited institution will have satisfied the SDCCD lower division baccalaureate degree general education. Students who follow this pattern are not required to take additional lower-division general education courses for the SDCCD baccalaureate degree. (Option 5)

### Timeline

March 27, 2025      CIC approval for 2025-2026 Catalog

### Rationale for the General Education Pathway Selection

The selection of SDCCD General Education Option 4 as an optional pathway for associate degree students pursuing an SDCCD baccalaureate degree is based on the following key considerations:

- **Alignment with Degree Requirements**
  - Students must complete an associate degree before being admitted to an SDCCD baccalaureate program. Since students are not guaranteed admission to an SDCCD baccalaureate degree program, the proposed SDCCD lower-division baccalaureate degree pattern would not be applied to the associate degree.
  - By following **SDCCD GE Option 4**, students fulfill the majority of the **lower-division general education requirements** necessary for the baccalaureate degree.
- **Designed for Baccalaureate Pathways:** SDCCD GE Option 4 is specifically structured to support students intending to continue into a baccalaureate program.
- **Compliance with Title 5 Regulations:** With the addition of **6 units**, SDCCD GE Option 4 meets the California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 55061 requirements for general education.
- **Flexibility for Career Technical Education (CTE) Students:** The enhanced SDCCD GE Option 4 (with an additional 6 units) aligns with Cal-GETC while providing greater flexibility in fulfilling the Area 2 Mathematical Concepts and

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Quantitative Reasoning requirement, benefiting Career Technical Education students.

- **SDCCD Baccalaureate Degrees Beginning Fall 2025 or later:** Students pursuing a baccalaureate degree beginning in fall 2025 or later must follow the new catalog requirements, meaning they cannot use IGETC or CSU GE as their general education pattern.