

## MULTIPLE ASSOCIATE DEGREES

### I. Policy Section

8.0 Students

### II. Policy Subsection

8.26 Multiple Associate Degrees

### III. Policy Statement

The College recognizes that there are instances where students may require additional degrees for employment or for personal growth and satisfaction. This policy applies to any Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC) student who has received a degree from GRCC or any other accredited institution of higher education in a similar program. Students may be awarded a second associate degree subject to the following stipulations:

- A. Students may earn only one transfer degree (Associate of Arts and only one Associate of Science).
- B. The Associate of General Studies degree may not be earned as an additional degree.
- C. Subsequent associate degree(s) must each include a minimum of an additional 15 unique semester credit hours earned at GRCC.
- D. Degree and program requirements for the additional degree will be based on the catalog that is in effect when the student officially elects the new degree and/or program.
- E. No additional degree will be granted in the same program or curriculum in which the first degree was earned.

### IV. Reason for the Policy

- A. GRCC needs to ensure that all of its Associate Degrees provide a meaningful credential to students for transferability and employability.
- B. The College must supply proof of additional learning.
- C. Implement clarification of existing practice.
- D. GRCC must ensure students are able to maximize their financial aid facilitate transfer.

### V. Entities Affected by this Policy

Students, Faculty and Staff

### VI. Who Should Read this Policy

Student, Faculty and Staff

VII. Related Documents

GRCC Catalog  
GRCC website

VIII. Contacts

Student Records/Registrars' Office  
Counseling and Career Center  
Deans  
Provost

IX. Definitions

- A. An associate degree at GRCC consists of at least 62 credits hours and meets our college graduation requirements.
- B. An accredited institution is an institution listed on the U.S. Department of Education web site at [www.ope.ed.gov/accreditation](http://www.ope.ed.gov/accreditation) of approved accredited institutions.

X. Procedures

Student applies to graduate, completes an audit form and submits it to the Student Records/Registrar's Office. The audit is performed. The student is notified if complete. The award is granted and diplomas are mailed. If the student's audit is not complete, the student is notified of their missing classes by the Student Records/Registrar's Office.

XI. Forms

Degree Audit Form

XII. Effective Date

Fall Semester 2013 for all incoming new students. Full implementation for all students Fall 2015.

XIII. Policy History

New policy August 2013

XIV. Next Review/Revision Date

Reviewed in 2017-2018