

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

### I. Policy Section

7.0 Instruction

### II. Policy Subsection

7.20 Graduation Requirements

### III. Policy Statement

To be awarded an associate's degree at Grand Rapids Community College, students must have:

- Completed at least 60 credit hours of course work.
- Completed at least 15 credit hours of course work at GRCC.
- Completed the coursework outlined in the GRCC catalog for the program in which they are enrolled.
- Earned a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 in all course work completed at GRCC.
- Earned at least 6 credits of English composition or at least 3 credits of English composition and 3 credits in a Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) aligned communication course for all Associate degrees for the degree they are seeking.
- Earned credit for the appropriate general education Group Distribution Requirements for the degree they are seeking.
- No courses below 100 level will be used toward graduation requirements, including the minimum number of credits that need to be completed.

### IV. Reason for the Policy

To better align GRCC graduation requirements with the new MTA requirements and the GRCC Curriculum Policy; ensure that the requirements are clear and meet the needs of all students; and evaluate the necessity and purpose of individual graduation elements.

### V. Entities Affected by this Policy

All GRCC Faculty, Staff, and Students

### VI. Who Should Read this Policy

All GRCC Faculty, Staff, and Students

VII. Related Documents

[GRCC Academic Catalog](#)

7.18 Curriculum Policy

8.5 Catalog Policy

8.31 Minimum Institutional Credit Policy

VIII. Contacts

Policy Owner: Academic Governing Council (AGC)

Dean of Instructional Support

Registrar

Academic Advising & Transfer Center

IX. Definitions

Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) -- The MTA provides transferability of up to 30 semester credits to meet many of the General Education Requirements at participating Michigan four-year colleges and universities. Students may complete the requirements as part of the Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degrees at GRCC or as a stand-alone package.

Once the MTA requirements are met, the courses will transfer and be applied toward meeting the general education requirements at the four year college or university.

General Education Courses -- General Education at Grand Rapids Community College is comprised of two goals. The first is to expand and deepen our students' understanding of the intellectual traditions that constitute the liberal arts and sciences. To that end, General Education courses at GRCC combine content knowledge with broadly-applicable academic skills such as critical thinking and communication. The second is to provide students with a set of courses that help meet their educational and career goals. In keeping with this goal, GRCC recognizes the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) and includes General Education coursework in its transfer and workforce Associates degree programs. General Education at GRCC builds knowledge, skills, and attitudes that every college-educated person should possess.

The GRCC General Education Program is comprised of English Composition and Communications, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences and Mathematics. The courses that fall within the distribution groups are in the GRCC Academic Catalog.

X. Procedures

Graduation requirements are incorporated into every academic program and are used to verify graduation.

XI. Forms

Graduation Application--

<http://www.grcc.edu/studentrecords/graduation/graduationapplicationintroduction>

XII. Effective Date

Start of Fall Semester 2017

XIII. Policy History

Approved at AGC on November 10, 2015

Revision approved at AGC on December 11, 2018, removing Wellness credits cap; revision effective on March 1, 2019

XIV. Next Review/Revision Date

2020-2021