

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 coursework.
- Met the requirements outlined in GRCC's 8.31 Minimum Institutional Credit Policy.
- Completed the academic program requirements for the conferred degree as outlined in the GRCC College Catalog, including general education requirements.
- Earned a cumulative grade point average at GRCC of at least 2.0.
- Fulfilled the Michigan Transfer Agreement-aligned *English Composition and Communications* required coursework.
- Developmental courses below 100-level will not be used toward graduation requirements, including the minimum number of credits that need to be completed.

To be awarded a certificate at Grand Rapids Community College, students must have:

- Met the requirements outlined in GRCC's 8.31 Minimum Institutional Credit Policy.
- Completed the academic program requirements for the awarded certificate as defined in the GRCC College Catalog.
- Earned a cumulative grade point average at GRCC of at least 2.0.
- Developmental courses below 100-level will not be used toward graduation requirements, including the minimum number of credits that need to be completed.

IV. Reason for the Policy

To ensure accreditation expectations are met and ensure that GRCC graduation requirements meet the needs of all students.

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](#)

7.10 Grading Policy

7.18 Curriculum Policy

8.5 Catalog Policy

8.24 Generated Graduation Policy

8.31 Minimum Institutional Credit Policy

VIII. Contacts

Policy Owner: Academic Governing Council (AGC)

Associate Provost of Instructional Support & Institutional Planning

Registrar

Academic Advising & Transfer Center

IX. Definitions

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 associate 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.

Graduation – Graduation is the conferring of a student's degree based on the successful completion of all degree requirements. Graduation is reflected on a student's academic transcript with the credential awarded

and date conferred.

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 degree or in addition to any other degree offered at GRCC.

X. Procedures

1. Students should use the Academic Progress tool in their online student center application to check their progress toward completion of their credential or meet with their academic advisor.
2. Students should apply to graduate by the deadline of the semester in which they are completing their requirements.
3. Students may receive notification of college-generated graduation and should respond to that notification as needed.
4. Official record of graduation is indicated on a student's academic transcript.

XI. Forms

Graduation Application:

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

XII. Effective Date

Start of Fall Semester 2017; Revisions effective as of dates noted below.

XIII. Policy History

Original policy 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.

Second revision approved at AGC on March 15, 2022, with updated policy statement language including referring to policy 8.31; clarifying the statements about academic program requirements, GPA, and MTA English Composition and Communications coursework, and developmental courses; and adding certificate requirements. Second

revision effective on August 25, 2022.

XIV. Next Review/Revision Date

2024-25