

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to outline the requirements for an Associate Degree or Technical Certificate

### **Definitions**

N/A

### **Policy/Guideline**

- I. All associate degrees awarded by Nashville State Community College shall require 60 semester credit hours with an overall grade point average of 2.0. At least 25% of these must be earned in residence at Nashville State. Credit hours earned in Learning Support (remedial or developmental courses) are for institutional credit only and are not applicable to credit hours required for the degree.
- II. The minimum associate of science, associate of arts, associate of fine arts, and associate of science in teaching degree requirements shall be distributed as indicated below:
  - a. General Education Requirements – 41 credit hours
    - i. Communications
      - English Composition – 6 credit hours
      - English Oral Presentation Communication– 3 credit hours
    - ii. Humanities and/or Fine Arts
      - Literature – 3 credit hours
      - Courses selected from fine arts/humanities – 6 credit hours
    - iii. Social/Behavioral Sciences – 6 credit hours
    - iv. History – 6 credit hours
      - History sequence selected in accordance with requirements of the college or university to which the student plans to transfer.
    - v. Natural Sciences lab course– 8 credit hours
    - vi. Mathematics – 3 credit hours
    - vii. Foreign language courses are an additional requirement for the A.A. degrees
- III. The Associate of Applied Science degree requirements include the following coursework and other requirements as indicated below:
  - a. General Education courses – 15-17 credit hours
    - i. English Composition – 3 credit hours

- ii. Humanities and/or Fine Arts course – 3 credit hours
    - iii. Social/Behavioral Sciences – 3 credit hours
    - iv. Natural Science/Mathematics – 3-4 credit hours
    - v. One additional course from the categories of communication, humanities and/or fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, or natural sciences/mathematics – 3-4 credit hours
  - b. Technical courses – 45 credit hours
- IV. A college success course is required for all degree-seeking students enrolled at Nashville State Fall 2018 or later. Exemptions are granted to students who have completed a similar course or transferred 12 or more credit hours from another institution.
- V. Requirements for the Technical Certificate varies in required credit hours in technical specialty courses. Requirements for the Technical Certificate include:
  - a. Grade point average of at least 2.0 in courses required for the certificate.
  - b. At least 25% of the hours earned toward this certificate must be earned in residence at Nashville State.
- VI. Guidelines for Degrees and Certificates
  - a. The College will not award the A.A. or A.S. degree to persons who already hold an A.A., A.S., A.S.T., or A.F.A. degree. Individuals holding a Baccalaureate degree or higher without an A.A., A.S., A.S.T or A.F.A. degree may be awarded an Associate degree designed for transfer if the degree sought has a different concentration from the major of the advanced degree(s).
  - b. Students may be awarded the A.S.T. if they have been awarded an A.A. or A.S. degree previously; however, students previously awarded the A.S.T. degree are not eligible for the A.A., A.S. or A.F.A. degree.
  - c. Students holding advanced degrees or a transfer Associate's degree may be awarded the A.A.S. degree or Technical Certificate provided they meet the stated requirements.
  - d. Students who have been awarded an A.A.S. degree who complete a different major which includes 15 semester hours over and above those required for the first A.A.S. degree will earn a second A.A.S. degree.
  - e. Students completing an A.A.S., A.A., A.F.A., A.S., or a technical certificate must earn a cumulative GPA of 2.0 to graduate. Students completing an A.S.T. degree must earn a cumulative GPA of 2.75 to graduate.
  - f. Students completing an A.A., A.F.A., A.S., or A.S.T. degree must take a general education exam prior to graduation. Students completion an A.A.S. degree or technical certificate must complete a departmental exit exam prior to graduation. Students who fail to do so will not graduate.

- g. Students may earn multiple Technical Certificates as long as 25% of the required hours were not required for previously earned certificates.
- h. All financial and other obligations to Nashville State must be met for diplomas and/or transcripts to be released.
- i. Any exception to requirements listed in section IV of this policy must be approved by the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

**Sources**

TBR Policy 2.01.00.00

**Related Policies**

N/A

Approved by Cabinet 6/27/22