CHAPTER 24:10:43

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE

Section

24:10:43:01 Minimum standards for program approval.

24:10:43:02 Associate of applied science degree requirements.

24:10:42:03 Application requirements for program approval.

24:10:43:01. Minimum standards for program approval. The following are the minimum standards for approval of programs leading to an associate of applied science degree granted by a postsecondary technical institute:

(1) The curriculum must be not less than 60 semester credit hours;

(2) The curriculum must provide not less than ~~20 percent of the credit hours~~ 15 semester credits in general education and not less than 50 percent of the credit hours in technical education;

(3) Associate of applied science degree courses with like competencies must be transferable among the state postsecondary technical institutes;

(4) Articulation must be addressed at secondary, postsecondary, and higher education levels. Articulation is the coordination of adult, vocational, and technical education programs so that students can progress without duplication of time, effort, or expense.

Source: 15 SDR 64, effective November 2, 1988; transferred from § 24:10:38:01, 20 SDR 223, effective July 7, 1994; repealed, SL 1995, ch 86, § 6, effective July 1, 1995; readopted, 22 SDR 13, effective August 9, 1995.

General Authority: SDCL 13-39-37.

Law Implemented: SDCL 13-39-72.

Part 3. Programs and Instruction

The specific items in these Minimum Expectations are not additional requirements. Rather, they state fundamental understandings and should be used as needed in evaluating the institution against the Criteria for Accreditation.	**Related Criteria and Core Components**
The institution follows established academic policies and procedures that reflect commonly accepted practice in higher education: — Faculty have primary authority for the assignment of grades. — The institution has clear published policies on student academic load. — Syllabi are provided for all courses offered. — Residency requirements for each program are stated. — The institution has formal, written agreements for managing internships and clinical placements.	Criterion: 3 Core Components: 3b, 3c
The institution maintains a practice of regular academic program reviews that include attention to currency and relevance of courses and programs.	Criteria: 2, 3, 4 Core Components: 2c, 3c, 4c
Assessment provides evidence of student learning: — Programs, majors, degrees and general education have stated learning outcomes. — Processes for assessment of student learning are in effect.	Criterion: 3 Core Component: 3a
The institution follows appropriate policies for academic level and program requirements: — The institution clearly differentiates its learning goals for undergraduate, graduate, and post-baccalaureate programs by identifying the expected learning outcomes for each. — No graduate program is composed primarily of courses that are available for both graduate and undergraduate credit. — Credits earned in remedial courses do not receive degree credit. — The institution conforms to commonly accepted minimum program length: 60 semester credits for associate's degrees, 120 semester credits for bachelor's degrees, 30 semester credits beyond the bachelor's for master's degrees, 30 semester credits beyond the master's degree for doctorates. Any exception to these minima must be explained and justified. — The institution maintains a minimum requirement for general education for all of its undergraduate programs whether through the traditional distributed curricula (15 semester credits for technical associate's degrees, 24 for transfer associate's degrees, and 30 for bachelor's degrees) or through integrated, embedded, inter-disciplinary, or other accepted models that demonstrate a minimum requirement equivalent to the distributed model. Any exceptions are explained and justified. — The institution assigns credit values to courses based on commonly accepted ascriptions for traditional classroom learning, distance learning, hybrid programs, and compressed schedules. *(Note: This item will incorporate whatever definition of a credit hour results from the federal regulatory process in progress during 2010.)*	Criteria: 3, 4 Core Components: 3a, 3b, 4b