

Associate Degree Graduation Requirements

Associate in Arts (AA) or the Associate in Science (AS) Degrees

The awarding of an associate degree at Imperial Valley College represents more than an accumulation of units. The General Education program is a series of courses designed to lead students through patterns of learning experiences that will allow them to develop a breadth of knowledge to gain a command of subject areas and methods of inquiry that characterize the liberally educated person.

Through general education, students are encouraged to increase their skill level and expand their understanding of the physical world and the complex inter-relationships of individuals and groups within their social environments; understand the various modes of inquiry of the major and certificate disciplines; deepen appreciation of artistic and cultural heritages, and become aware of other cultures and times; strengthen their ability to communicate, reason, and critically evaluate information both orally and in writing; acquire a positive attitude toward learning, and develop self-understanding. As a result, they are better able to recognize, understand, and act upon the complex personal, social, scientific, and political issues that confront them daily.

After successfully completing the general education curriculum at Imperial Valley College, students will have a broad understanding of mathematics, science, social science, humanities, and the arts. In addition, students will demonstrate ability to:

- Communicate effectively and analytically in writing, listening and speaking.
- Develop critical and constructive thinking for problem solving and value discrimination.
- Understand social interaction by learning of other cultures and times and the complex interrelationships of individuals and groups within their social environments.
- Develop the ability to adapt to new environments and technologies.
- Develop responsibility for individual actions and respect for diverse people and cultures.

Requirements for the Associate in Arts (AA-T) or Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T)

California Community Colleges are now offering associate degrees for transfer to the CSU. These may include Associate in Arts (AA-T) or Associate in Science (AS-T) degrees. These degrees are designed to provide a clear pathway to a CSU major and baccalaureate degree. California Community College students who are awarded an AA-T or AS-T degree are guaranteed admission with junior standing somewhere in the CSU system and given priority admission consideration to their local CSU campus or to a program that is deemed similar to their community college major. This priority does not guarantee admission to specific majors or campuses.

Students who have been awarded an AA-T or AS-T are able to complete their remaining requirements for the 120-unit baccalaureate degree within 60 semester or 90 quarter units.

To view the most current list of Imperial Valley College Associate Degrees for Transfer and to find out which CSU campuses accept each degree, please go to <http://www.sb1440.org/Home.aspx>. Current and prospective community college students are encouraged to meet with a counselor to review their options for transfer and to develop an educational plan that best meets their goals and needs.

Graduation from Imperial Valley College with one of the Associate degrees is based upon the completion of 60 units of lower division college work, including the requirements listed below. Effective for all students admitted to a community college for fall 2009 or thereafter, each course counted toward the unit requirement for the major or area of emphasis must be completed with a grade of "C" or better.

Certificates of Achievement

Certificates of Achievement are awarded to convey evidence that well-defined levels of proficiency have been attained in designated occupational fields. Certificate programs are available in some of the occupational areas for which the college offers the Associate Degree. To qualify for a certificate, a student must:

1. Complete all courses listed for a particular certificate;
2. Achieve a "C" grade or better in all courses used to complete the certificate;
3. Responsibility for filing a petition to receive a certificate rests with the student. This petition is to be filed with the Admissions and Records Office (see petition form for deadlines).