The District grants the degrees of Associate in Arts and Associate in Science to those students who have completed the subject requirements for graduation and who have maintained a 2.0 average in subjects attempted. Students must also complete the general education residency and competency requirements set forth in Title 5 regulations. Students may be awarded a Certificate of Achievement upon successful completion of courses of study or curriculum for which the District offers a certificate. The District has certificate programs that upgrade and develop occupational and vocational proficiency.

The Chancellor, in consultation with the Academic Senates, shall establish procedures to determine degree and certificate requirements and to assure that graduation requirements are published in the district's catalog(s) and included in other resources that are convenient for students.

See Administrative Procedure 4100.
Graduation Requirements for Degrees and Certificates of the District Colleges must address the following:

- Standards of Scholarship:
  - Students must achieve a cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.0 in all degree-applicable college and university coursework attempted.
  - Courses used for Areas of Emphasis, Majors, Certificates of Achievement, or Proficiency Awards must be completed with a grade of C or better or “P” in each course.

As authorized by the California Code of Regulations, Title 5 (Education) section 55063, the Ventura County Community College District (VCCCD) Governing Board confers the Associate in Arts degree, the Associate in Science degree, Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T), the Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) and Certificates of Achievement on students who provide the required transcripts, meet the respective requirements listed in this AP and the college catalog, and who file with the appropriate college office an application for a degree and/or certificates. In accordance with Title 5 section 55070, the VCCCD also confers locally approved Proficiency Awards.

Only those courses which have been designated as appropriate to the associate degree in accordance with Title 5, Section 55063 and that meet the standards and criteria described in Title 5, Section 55002 and have been properly approved pursuant to this section, shall be applied to any degree or certificate awarded by the district. Courses completed at institutions other than a California community college, are expected to meet the same standards. District policies and procedures regarding general education and degree requirements must be published in the college catalog and must be filed with the State Chancellor’s Office.

Graduation Requirements for Degrees and Certificates, and Proficiency Awards of the District Colleges must address the following:

AP 4100 SDavis 12.12.12 Legislative Format
Associate Degrees and Associate Degrees for Transfer

For the Associate in Arts (AA) or Associate in Science (AS) degree, a student must: demonstrate competency in reading, in written expression, and in mathematics.

- Demonstrate competency in reading, in written expression, and in mathematics as defined in Title 5 section 55063 for the appropriate catalog year.
- The student must satisfactorily complete at least 60 semester units of degree-applicable college work.
- Achieve a cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.0 in all degree-applicable college and university coursework attempted.

- A definition of “college work” provides that courses acceptable toward the associate degree include those that have been properly approved pursuant to Title 5, Section 55002(a), or, if completed at other than a California community college, would reasonably be expected to meet the standards of that section. The work must include:
  - at least 18 semester units in general education as noted in AP 4025.
  - at least 18 semester units in a major listed in the Community Colleges “Taxonomy of Programs” or 18 semester units in an area of emphasis approved by the CCCCO.

- Complete the major and/or are of emphasis coursework, a minimum of 18 semester units, prescribed in a State Chancellor’s Office approved AA or AS with no less than a “C” or “P” in each course.
- Complete the required specified subjects and units in general education as defined in AP 4025.
- Complete a minimum of at least 12 semester units in residence at the college granting the degree.
- Exceptions to the residence requirement can be made by the Board when an injustice or undue hardship would result.
- The general education requirements must include a minimum amount of work in the natural sciences, the social and behavioral sciences, humanities, and language and rationality.
- Ethnic studies must be offered.

For the Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) or the Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) degrees a student must:

- Complete 60 CSU transferable semester units.
- Achieve a CSU transferable GPA of no less than 2.0.
- Complete the major coursework, a minimum of 18 semester units, prescribed in a State Chancellor’s Office approved AA-T or AS-T with no less than a “C” or “P” in each course.
- Complete the CSU GE-Breadth pattern or IGETC pattern for CSU.
- Complete 12 semester units in residence at the college granting the degree.
Certificates of Achievement
For a Certificate of Achievement, a student must successfully complete a course of study that has been approved by the CCCCO and that consists of 18 or more semester units of degree-applicable credit coursework. Additionally, a student must earn a cumulative grade point average of not less than 2.0 in all degree-applicable college and university coursework attempted and must complete at least 12 semester units in residence at the college granting the certificate. Certificate programs may also be approved for fewer units (a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 17.5 semester units of degree-applicable credit coursework), in this case, the same scholarship and residency standards would apply. The Certificate of Achievement shall be designed to demonstrate that the student has completed coursework and developed capabilities relating to career or general education. Certificate programs may also be approved for fewer units (a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 17.5 semester units of degree-applicable credit coursework), in this case, the same scholarship and residency standards would apply.

For a Certificate of Achievement, a student must:
• Complete the major coursework, a minimum of 18 semester units (or between 12 and 17.5 units in a low-unit certificate), prescribed in a State Chancellor’s Office approved Certificate of Achievement.
• Complete all applicable coursework in a state approved Certificate of Achievement with no less than a “C” or “P” in each course.
• Achieve a cumulative GPA of no less than 2.0 in all degree-applicable college work.
• Complete 12 semester units in residence at the college granting the degree.

Proficiency Awards
Shorter credit programs that lead to a Proficiency Award may be established by the District. Content and assessment standards for Proficiency Awards shall ensure that these programs are consistent with the District Colleges’ mission, meet a demonstrated need, are feasible, and adhere to guidelines on academic achievement. A student must complete all applicable coursework used for proficiency Award with a grade of C or better or “P” in each course. Proficiency Awards cannot be memorialized on a student transcript.

For a Proficiency Award, a student must:
• Complete all applicable coursework in a VCCCD Board approved Proficiency Award with no less than a “C” or “P” in each course.

Graduation Application Procedure
• Students must file a petition for a degree and/or certificate through the Counseling Office.
• District Colleges offer three graduation dates: Summer term, Fall semester, Spring semester.
• Graduation ceremonies are conducted at the end of the Spring semester.
• Graduation petition deadline dates are locally announced at each District College.

Course Substitution for Major and/or General Education Requirements

Occasionally a student may have difficulty in completing exact major and/or general education requirements as specified in the college catalog due to circumstances of class schedule conflicts, class cancellation, related but nonequivalent coursework taken outside of this college district, or circumstances beyond the control of the student. Under such circumstances, a student may file a Petition for Course Substitution for Major and/or General Education Requirements to seek approval from the appropriate college officials to substitute one or more courses in a designated major, an area of emphasis, and/or in general education. The petition forms are available in the Counseling Center.

• Reciprocity for Local General Education Requirements

Colleges shall apply courses taken at other regionally accredited colleges or universities toward general education requirements in the areas where the student would have received credit at the institution where they were originally taken or in the area where the college granting the degree places or would place a comparable course, whichever best facilitates the student’s degree completion. (ASCCC Resolution 09.02 Spring 2010)

• Reciprocity for CSU GE-Breadth or IGETC Requirements

Students who are required to complete CSU GE-Breadth or IGETC for their particular degree, such as General Studies pattern III or Associate Degrees for Transfer, or Certificates of Achievement in CSU GE-Breadth or IGETC, shall have their courses evaluated for reciprocity according to the rules set forth by either CSU GE-Breadth in Executive Order (EO) 1065 or in the most current version of the IGETC Standards.

• Course Substitution within approved Associate Degrees for Transfer (AA-T/AS-T)

While the C-ID system establishes course-to-course reciprocity, where C-ID descriptors are not in place or where the substitution does not involve deeming two courses comparable, substitution decisions must be informed by the judgment of counseling or discipline faculty. When an AA-T or AS-T is being conferred, any substitutions made must result in the awarding of a degree that is consistent with the parameters defined by the TMC (Transfer Model Curriculum). The colleges are encouraged to apply courses successfully completed as part of a TMC-aligned degree at one college for requirements within their own degrees to the greatest extent deemed possible and reasonable, but substitutions should only be made in instances where the TMC allows flexibility, as the local AA-T or AS-T degree awarded must remain consistent with parameters of the TMC for the specific discipline. (ASCCC Resolution 15.01 Spring 2011 and ASCCC statements on Reciprocity, Course Substitution and Credit by Exam - in light of AA-T and AS-T degrees August 2012)
Double Counting
While a course might satisfy more than one general education requirement, it may not be counted more than once for these purposes **within sections A-D of the district general education pattern. A course may not satisfy more than one requirement within a major and/or area of emphasis, even if it is an option in more than one section of a major and/or area of emphasis. However, a course may be used to satisfy both a general education requirement and a major or area of emphasis requirement. A course may also be used to satisfy requirements in 2 or more different majors, whether for an Associate degree, Associate degree for Transfer, Certificate of Achievement, or Proficiency Award. The units, however, may never be counted more than once toward the units required for the specific degree, certificate or proficiency award.**

Catalog Rights/Continuous Enrollment
A student remaining in continuous enrollment at one or more of the colleges of the Ventura County Community College District (VCCCD) or at any other regionally accredited college or university, may meet the VCCCD graduation requirements in effect at the time of his/her entering or at any time thereafter. This applies only to graduation requirements and not to policies, procedures, or other regulations. Catalog rights/continuous enrollment are defined as attendance in at least one term each calendar year. Any academic record symbol entered on a transcript (A-F, CR, CRE, NC, P, NP, I, IP, RD, W, MW) shall constitute enrollment or attendance.

A student who has not maintained continuous enrollment is considered to be under new requirements when returning unless the student is granted a petition/waiver for extenuating circumstances. This petition must be initiated by the student through a college counselor and approved by the appropriate dean or designee.

Students should be made aware that other governing agencies may impose more restrictive limitations concerning the definitions of continuous enrollment or continuous attendance. Some agencies define continuous enrollment as remaining in attendance both fall and spring semesters. Some will not accept selected academic record symbols (such as Ws). Those affected by more restrictive guidelines include students receiving financial aid and alien students.

**Academic Year**
The Fall semester is the first term of an academic year. A summer term, whether one or more sessions, constitutes the last term of an academic year.

**Guidelines for Additional Degrees**
Any college in the Ventura County Community College District will award additional associate degrees, certificates of achievement and proficiency awards to students with degrees earned either in the United States or at foreign institutions that meet the following criteria:
1.) U.S. Degrees: A student who has earned an associate degree at any regionally accredited institution in the United States may earn additional associate degrees. Institutions must be regionally accredited by one of the following accrediting bodies:
- Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Higher Education
- New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Intuitions of Higher Education
- New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Technical and Career Institutions
- North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, The Higher Learning Commission
- Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges
- Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior College
- Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities

2.) Foreign Degrees: A student who already holds an Associate degree or higher degree from any foreign institution accredited by one of the above accepted regionally U.S. accrediting bodies or evaluated as equivalent to a regionally accredited institution by one of the member agencies of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services or one approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing may also earn additional degrees at one of the colleges of the VCCCD.

Additional degrees can be in a specific major, General Studies with an area of emphasis, an Associate Degree for Transfer, or an additional option or emphasis within the major of the original degree.

Students with transcripts in either of the above categories must complete the following minimum Title 5 requirements for the catalog year covering the additional degree(s). These include:

- Residency requirements: Students must complete a minimum of 12 semester units at the community college granting the degree.
- Competency requirements in reading, written expression and mathematics as defined by Title 5 section 55063. Students pursuing an AA-T or AS-T will have met these competency requirements by completion of either CSU GE-Breadth or IGETC.
- General Education - Title 5 minimums include 18 units of General Education with
  - 3 semester units of Natural Sciences
  - 3 semester units of Social and Behavioral Sciences
  - 3 semester units of Arts and Humanities
  - 3 semester units in English Composition
  - 3 semester units in Communication and Analytical Thinking
  - 3 additional semester units in one of the five areas above.
• **Major Requirements:** Students must complete all required courses listed in the college catalog for the appropriate year for the specific major, Associate Degree for Transfer, area of emphasis or area of option for the additional degree(s).

• **Scholarship:** Students must meet the standards of scholarship in effect for the catalog year covering the additional degree(s) including the following:
  - Courses for Associate degree majors must have a grade of “C” or “P” or better beginning Fall 2009.
  - Courses for Certificates of Achievement must have a grade of “C” or “P” or better beginning Fall 2012.
  - Courses for Proficiency Awards must have a grade of “C” or “P” or better beginning Fall 2012.

Coursework taken for previously earned degrees may be used to fulfill the above requirements if deemed comparable by a counselor and/or discipline faculty.

No additional general education or local graduation requirements may be required.

Additional degrees can be in a specific major, a general studies area of emphasis or an additional option within the field of the original degree.

Students must meet all minimum Title 5 requirements for the catalog year covering the additional degree(s). These include, but are not limited to residency requirements, a minimum of 12 additional units for each degree (i.e., a minimum total of 72 units for a second degree and 84 units for a third degree, etc.) and competency requirements in written expression and mathematics.

Students must complete all required major/emphasis courses listed in the appropriate year’s catalog for the specific major, area of emphasis or area of option for the additional degree(s). A student who already holds an Associate degree or higher degree from any regionally accredited institution or one evaluated as equivalent to a regionally accredited institution only needs to complete minimum Title 5 requirements and the major/emphasis requirements to earn an additional degree. No further general education or local additions will be required.

**Exceptions to Graduation Requirements**

Appeals to the above policy may be submitted to the Executive Vice President, or designee. Waivers may be granted under extenuating circumstances or when there has not been sufficient opportunity to enroll in required courses.
As authorized by the California Code of Regulations, Title 5 (Education) section 55063, the Ventura County Community College District (VCCCD) Governing Board confers the Associate in Arts degree, the Associate in Science degree, Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T), the Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) and Certificates of Achievement on students who provide the required transcripts, meet the respective requirements listed in this AP and the college catalog, and who file with the appropriate college office an application for a degree and/or certificates. In accordance with Title 5 section 55070, the VCCCD also confers locally approved Proficiency Awards.

Only those courses which have been designated as appropriate to the associate degree in accordance with Title 5, Section 55063 and that meet the standards and criteria described in Title 5, Section 55002 and have been properly approved pursuant to this section, shall be applied to any degree or certificate awarded by the district. Courses completed at institutions other than a California community college, are expected to meet the same standards. District policies and procedures regarding general education and program requirements must be published in the college catalog and must be filed with the State Chancellor’s Office.

Graduation Requirements for Degrees, Certificates, and Proficiency Awards of the District Colleges must address the following:

**Associate Degrees and Associate Degrees for Transfer**

For the Associate in Arts (AA) or Associate in Science (AS) degree, a student must:
- Demonstrate competency in reading, in written expression, and in mathematics as defined in Title 5 section 55063 for the appropriate catalog year.
- Satisfactorily complete at least 60 semester units of degree-applicable college work.
- Achieve a cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.0 in all degree-applicable college and university coursework attempted.

Original version: Sdavis 12/12/12
DTRW-I edits and review 2.14.13
DCAA review 2.28.13
• Complete the major and/or are of emphasis coursework, a minimum of 18 semester units, prescribed in a State Chancellor’s Office approved AA or AS with no less than a “C” or “P” in each course
• Complete the required specified subjects and units in general education as defined in AP 4025.
• Complete a minimum of 12 semester units in residency at the college granting the degree. Exceptions to the residency requirement can be made by the Board when an injustice or undue hardship would result.

For the Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) or the Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) degrees a student must:
• Complete 60 CSU transferable semester units.
• Achieve a CSU transferable GPA of no less than 2.0.
• Complete the major coursework, a minimum of 18 semester units, prescribed in a State Chancellor’s Office approved AA-T or AS-T with no less than a “C” or “P” in each course.
• Complete the CSU GE-Breadth pattern or IGETC pattern for CSU.
• Complete 12 semester units in residence at the college granting the degree.

Certificates of Achievement
The Certificate of Achievement shall be designed to demonstrate that the student has completed coursework and developed capabilities relating to career or general education. Certificate programs may also be approved for fewer units (a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 17.5 semester units of degree-applicable credit coursework), in this case, the same scholarship and residency standards would apply.

For a Certificate of Achievement, a student must:
• Complete the major coursework, a minimum of 18 semester units (or between 12 and 17.5 units in a low-unit certificate), prescribed in a State Chancellor’s Office approved Certificate of Achievement.
• Complete all applicable coursework in a state approved Certificate of Achievement with no less than a “C” or “P” in each course.
• Achieve a cumulative GPA of no less than 2.0 in all degree-applicable college work.
• Complete 12 semester units in residence at the college granting the degree.

Proficiency Awards
Shorter credit programs that lead to a Proficiency Award may be established by the District. Content and assessment standards for Proficiency Awards shall ensure that these programs are consistent with the District Colleges’ mission, meet a demonstrated need, are feasible, and adhere to guidelines on academic achievement. Proficiency Awards cannot be memorialized on a student transcript.

For a Proficiency Award, a student must:
• Complete all applicable coursework in a VCCCD Board approved Proficiency Award with no less than a “C” or “P” in each course.
Graduation Application Procedure

- Students must file a petition for a degree, certificate, and/or proficiency award through the Counseling Office.
- District Colleges offer three graduation dates: Summer term, Fall semester, and Spring semester.
- Graduation ceremonies are conducted at the end of the Spring semester.
- Graduation petition deadline dates are locally announced at each District College.

Course Substitution for Major and/or General Education Requirements

Occasionally a student may have difficulty in completing exact major and/or general education requirements as specified in the college catalog due to circumstances of class schedule conflicts, class cancellation, related but nonequivalent coursework taken outside of this college district, or circumstances beyond the control of the student. Under such circumstances, a student may file a Petition for Course Substitution for Major and/or General Education Requirements to seek approval from the appropriate college officials to substitute one or more courses in a designated major, an area of emphasis, and/or in general education. The petition forms are available in the Counseling Center Office.

- Reciprocity for Local General Education Requirements
  Colleges shall apply courses taken at other regionally accredited colleges or universities toward general education requirements in the areas where the student would have received credit at the institution where they were originally taken or in the area where the college granting the degree places or would place a comparable course, whichever best facilitates the student’s degree completion. (ASCCC Resolution 09.02 Spring 2010)

- Reciprocity for CSU GE-Breadth or IGETC Requirements
  Students who are required to complete CSU GE-Breadth or IGETC for their particular degree, such as General Studies pattern III or Associate Degrees for Transfer, or Certificates of Achievement in CSU GE-Breadth or IGETC, shall have their courses evaluated for reciprocity according to the rules set forth by either CSU GE-Breadth in Executive Order (EO) 1065 or in the most current version of the IGETC Standards.

- Course Substitution within approved Associate Degrees for Transfer (AA-T/AS-T)
  While the C-ID system establishes course-to-course reciprocity, where C-ID descriptors are not in place or where the substitution does not involve deeming two courses comparable, substitution decisions must be informed by the judgment of counseling or discipline faculty. When an AA-T or AS-T is being conferred, any substitutions made must result in the awarding of a degree that is consistent with the parameters defined by the TMC (Transfer Model Curriculum). The colleges are encouraged to apply courses successfully completed as part of a TMC-aligned degree at one college for requirements within their own degrees to the greatest extent deemed possible and reasonable, but substitutions should only be made in instances where the TMC allows flexibility, as the local AA-T or AS-T degree awarded must remain consistent with parameters of the TMC for the specific discipline. (ASCCC Resolution 15.01 Spring 2011 and ASCCC)
Double Counting
While a course might satisfy more than one general education requirement, it may not be counted more than once for these purposes within sections A-D of the district general education pattern. A course may not satisfy more than one requirement within a major and/or area of emphasis, even if it is an option in more than one section of a major and/or area of emphasis. However, a course may be used to satisfy both a general education requirement and a major or area of emphasis requirement. A course may also be used to satisfy requirements in 2 or more different majors, whether for an Associate degree, Associate degree for Transfer, Certificate of Achievement, or Proficiency Award. The units, however, may never be counted more than once toward the units required for the specific degree, certificate or proficiency award.

Catalog Rights/Continuous Enrollment
A student remaining in continuous enrollment at one or more of the colleges of the Ventura County Community College District (VCCCD) or at any other regionally accredited college or university, may meet the VCCCD graduation requirements in effect at the time of his/her entering or at any time thereafter. This applies only to graduation requirements and not to policies, procedures, or other regulations. Catalog rights/continuous enrollment are defined as attendance in at least one term each calendar year. Any academic record symbol entered on a transcript (A-F, CRE, P, NP, I, IP, RD, W, MW and prior to Fall 2009: CR and NC) shall constitute enrollment or attendance.

A student who has not maintained continuous enrollment is considered to be under new requirements when returning unless the student is granted a petition/waiver for extenuating circumstances. This petition must be initiated by the student through a college counselor and approved by the appropriate dean or designee.

Students should be made aware that other governing agencies may impose more restrictive limitations concerning the definitions of continuous enrollment or continuous attendance. Some agencies define continuous enrollment as remaining in attendance both fall and spring semesters. Some will not accept selected academic record symbols (such as Ws). Those affected by more restrictive guidelines include students receiving financial aid and alien students.

Academic Year
The Fall semester is the first term of an academic year. A summer term, whether one or more sessions, constitutes the last term of an academic year.

Guidelines for Additional Degrees, Certificates of Achievement, and Proficiency Awards
Any college in the Ventura County Community College District will award additional associate...
degrees, certificates of achievement and proficiency awards to students with degrees earned either in the United States or at foreign institutions that meet the following criteria:

1.) **U.S. Degrees:** A student who has earned an associate degree or higher at any regionally accredited institution in the United States may earn additional associate degrees. Institutions must be regionally accredited by one of the following accrediting bodies:

   - Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Higher Education
   - New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Intuitions of Higher Education
   - New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Technical and Career Institutions
   - North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, The Higher Learning Commission
   - Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities
   - Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges
   - Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior College
   - Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities

2.) **Foreign Degrees:** A student who already holds an Associate degree or higher degree from any foreign institution accredited by one of the above accepted regionally U.S. accrediting bodies or evaluated as equivalent to a regionally accredited institution by one of the member agencies of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services or one approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing may also earn additional degrees at one of the colleges of the VCCCD.

   Additional degrees can be in a specific major, General Studies with an area of emphasis, an Associate Degree for Transfer, or an additional option or emphasis within the major of the original degree.

   Students with transcripts in either of the above categories must complete the following minimum Title 5 requirements for the catalog year covering the additional degree(s). These include:

   - Residency requirements: Students must complete a minimum of 12 semester units at the community college granting the degree.
   - Competency requirements in reading, written expression and mathematics as defined by Title 5 section 55063. *Students pursuing an AA-T or AS-T will have met these competency requirements by completion of either CSU GE-Breadth or IGETC.*
   - General Education - Title 5 minimums include 18 units of General Education with
     - 3 semester units of Natural Sciences
     - 3 semester units of Social and Behavioral Sciences
     - 3 semester units of Arts and Humanities
     - 3 semester units in English Composition
Major Requirements: Students must complete all required courses listed in the college catalog for the appropriate year for the specific major, Associate Degree for Transfer, area of emphasis or area of option for the additional degree(s).

Scholarship: Students must meet the standards of scholarship in effect for the catalog year covering the additional degree(s) including the following:

- Courses for Associate degree majors must have a grade of “C” or “P” or better beginning Fall 2009.
- Courses for Certificates of Achievement must have a grade of “C” or “P” or better beginning Fall 2012.
- Courses for Proficiency Awards must have a grade of “C” or “P” or better beginning Fall 2012.

Coursework taken for previously earned degrees may be used to fulfill the above requirements if deemed comparable by a counselor and/or discipline faculty.

No additional general education or local graduation requirements may be required.

Exceptions to Graduation Requirements

Appeals to the above policy may be submitted to the Executive Vice President, or designee. Exceptions may be granted under extenuating circumstances or when there has not been sufficient opportunity to enroll in required courses.
The Chancellor, in consultation with the Academic Senates, shall establish procedures defining enrollment priorities, limitations, and processes for student challenge, which shall comply with Title 5 regulations.

See Administrative Procedure 5055.

Last Modified by Laurie Nusser on March 14, 2012
Pursuant to Title 5 Section 58106; Education Code Section 66025.8 et. seq. within the Ventura County Community College District, registration appointments are given in the following order:

1. EOPS students, DSPS students, CalWORKS students, military veterans, and former foster youth as defined by statute
2. Continuing students with 45-75 units* (waivers for majors exceeding 75 units may be requested through the Counseling Department)
3. Continuing students with 30-44 units*
4. Continuing students with 15-29 units*
5. Continuing students with 1-14 units*
6. Newly matriculated students and returning students with less than 76 units
7. New students who have not gone through matriculation
8. Open registration for all students (except “9.” below), including students with 76+ units (unless granted a waiver under item 2 above)
9. Special admission high school students

*Completed and in progress VCCCD units. Basic skills and non-degree applicable units shall not be counted.

**Continuing Student:** a student who has been enrolled in one or more of the two previous primary semesters.

**Returning Student:** a student who has been previously enrolled, but not enrolled for either of the previous two primary semesters.

**Primary Semesters:** fall and spring

Last Modified by Laurie Nusser on March 14, 2012
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The Chancellor will establish student news media procedures that recognize the exercise of free expression by students upon the premises of each community college maintained by the District. Such procedures shall not prohibit the right of students to exercise free expression, except that expression which is obscene, libelous, or slanderous according to current legal standards, incites students as to create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on community college premises, violates lawful community college regulations, or causes substantial disruption of community college operations.

See Administrative Procedure AP 4500.
Student news media are any news/feature publications issued under the Colleges, funded by the District, and produced by students as an integral part of instruction in journalism. They may include, but are not limited to, student news productions online, in print, and broadcast journalism when produced under the advisement of a campus-appointed student news media advisor, or under the advisement of a campus-appointed student news media advisor and the auspices of a student editorial board. The term "editorial" refers to all content other than advertising.

Student news media, as laboratory publications of the journalism curriculum, shall provide vehicles to train students for careers in the media and mass communications. Student news media shall also serve the Colleges in the Ventura County Community College District by reporting the news, including college events and activities, providing a forum for comment and criticism, and encouraging free expression as guaranteed in the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Student news media are valuable aids in establishing and maintaining an atmosphere of free and responsible discussion on college campuses. Student news media shall exercise editorial freedom in order to maintain their integrity as vehicles for free inquiry and free expression in the VCCCD community. At the same time, the editorial freedom of the college news media shall entail corollary responsibilities.

Each student news medium is published as a learning experience. The editorial and advertising materials published in each news medium, including any opinions expressed, are the responsibility of the student staff. An editorial board will be formed, and written editorial policies developed to guide the student news media organization. Under appropriate state and federal court decisions, these materials are free from prior restraint by virtue of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. These procedures are adopted so as to encourage a responsible exercise of such freedom.
BP 5013 Students in the Military

Reference:
*Education Code Sections 68074, 68075, 68075.5; Title 5, Section 55758, 54041, 54042, 54050, 58620*

The colleges of the Ventura County Community College District shall provide services for students in the Military for the purpose of furthering equality of educational opportunity and academic success. The purpose is to bring the student and the district into agreement regarding the student’s educational goal through the district’s established programs, policies, procedures and requirements.

The VCCCD Board of Trustees Chancellor shall establish procedures defining enrollment priorities, limitations, and processes for students in the Military in compliance with federal and state law.
AP 5013 STUDENTS IN THE MILITARY

References:
Education Code Sections 68074, 68075, and 68075.5;
Title 5 Sections 55023, 55024, 54041, 54042, 54050, and 58620;
Military and Veterans Code Section 824

Residence Determinations for Military Personnel and Dependents
A student who is a member of the armed forces of the United States stationed in California on active
duty, except a member of the armed forces assigned for educational purposes to a state‐supported
institution of higher education, is entitled to resident classification only for the purpose of determining
tuition and fees. Such student shall retain resident classification in the event that the member of the
armed forces is thereafter transferred on military orders to a place outside of California or thereafter
retires from active duty, so long as the student remains continuously enrolled in the colleges of the
District.

An undergraduate student who is a natural or adopted child, stepchild, or spouse who is a dependent of
a member of the armed forces of the United States stationed in this state on active duty shall be entitled
to resident classification only for the purpose of determining tuition and fees. Such student shall retain
resident classification if he/she is thereafter transferred on military orders to a place outside of
California, so long as the student remains continuously enrolled in the District.

A student who was a member of the armed forces of the United States stationed in California on active
duty for more than one year immediately prior to being discharged from the armed forces is entitled to
resident classification only for the purpose of determining tuition and fees, for the length of time he or
she lives in California after being discharged up to the minimum time necessary to become a resident.

A parent who is a federal civil service employee and his/her natural or adopted dependent children are
entitled to resident classification only for the purpose of determining tuition and fees if the parent has
moved to this state as a result of a military mission realignment action that involves the relocation of at
least 100 employees. This classification shall continue until the student is entitled to be classified as a
resident, so long as the student continuously attends an institution of public higher education.

A student claiming the residence classifications provided for in this procedure must provide a statement
from the student’s commanding officer or personnel officer providing evidence of active duty
assignment to California and the date of the assignment to California, and that the assignment to active
duty in California is not for educational purposes. A student claiming the residence classifications
provided for here for the dependent of military personnel shall provide a statement from the military
person’s commanding officer or personnel officer that the military person’s active duty station
assignment is in California on active duty as of the residence determination date, or has been
transferred outside of California on active duty after the residence determination date, or that the
military person has retired from active duty after the residence determination date. (Title 5 Sections
54041; 54042)

Withdrawal Policies for Members of the Military
Military Withdrawal Based on Orders
Military withdrawal occurs when students who are members of an active or reserve United States
military service receive orders compelling withdrawal from classes. Upon verification of orders, the
appropriate withdrawal symbol may be assigned at any time after the period established by the governing board during which no notation is made on the permanent academic record for withdrawals.

Students requesting military withdrawal must present a petition for withdrawal and a copy of the military orders, or other acceptable documentation, which verify the dates and location of military assignment that compelled or compels withdrawal from classes. Other types of verifying documentation may be considered only if orders are unavailable providing they verify the dates and location of military assignment that compelled or compels withdrawal from classes. Military withdrawal may be requested at any time upon the student’s return to college.

A grade of MW shall be recorded on the permanent academic record upon approval of petition for military withdrawal that occurs after the third week of full-semester length classes or 16% of total meetings of short-term classes. MW grades shall not be counted as one of the three enrollment attempts allowed to achieve a standard (passing) grade of C/P or better (course repetition), or in the calculation of a student’s academic progress for the determination of academic standing.

The student will be eligible to receive a full refund for all fees paid in the term for which the military withdrawal was granted. The cost of books and supplies may be eligible for refund pursuant to the policies and procedures of the campus bookstore.

**Credit for Military Educational Training**

The colleges of the Ventura County Community College District will recognize and grant credit to service personnel for formal educational training completed in the United States armed forces provided such credit is not a duplication of work taken previously.

Service personnel may be allowed credit for formal service school courses offered by the United States military service recommended in the Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the armed services of the American Council on Education. The credit allowed will be based upon the recommendations specified in the Guide.

Students must submit an official transcript of military education to the Registrar’s Office for evaluation of military credit. The maximum amount of credit which may be allowed toward satisfaction of college requirements shall be 12 units. All military credit will be posted to the student’s transcript as units earned.
DCAA
February 28, 2013

BP/AP 5015
Residence Determination
Students shall be classified at the time of each application for admission or registration as a resident or nonresident student.

A resident is any person who has been a bona fide resident of California for at least one year on the residence determination date. The residence determination date shall be the day immediately preceding the first day of a semester or summer session for which the student applies to attend.

Residence classification shall be made for each student at the time applications for admission are accepted or registration occurs and whenever a student has not been in attendance for more than one semester. A student previously classified as a nonresident may be reclassified as of any residence determination date.

The Chancellor shall enact procedures to assure that residence determinations are made in accordance with Education Code and Title 5 regulations.

See Administrative Procedure 5015.
AP 5015 Residence Determination

References:
Education Code Sections 68000 et seq. and 68130.5;
Title 5 Sections 54000 et seq.

Note: This procedure is legally required except as noted. Districts may insert their local practices here. The following is provided as an illustrative example.

Residence Classification – Residency classifications shall be determined for each student at the time of each registration application for admission and whenever a student has not been in attendance for more than one semester. Residence classifications are to be made in accordance with the following provisions:

• A residence determination date is that day immediately preceding the opening day of instruction for any session during which the student proposes to attend.
• Residence classification is the responsibility of the Registrar’s Office.

Students must shall be notified of residence determination within 14 calendar days of submission of application.

Rules Determining Residence

• A student who has resided in the state for more than one year immediately preceding the residence determination date is a resident.

• A student who has not resided in the state for more than one year immediately preceding the residence determination date is a nonresident.

The residence of each student enrolled in or applying for enrollment in any class or classes maintained by this District shall be determined in accordance with the Education Code which states that every person has, in law, a residence. In determining the place of residence, the following rules are to be observed:

• Every person who is married or eighteen years of age, or older, and under no legal disability to do so, may establish residence.

• A person may have only one residence.

• A residence is the place where one remains when not called elsewhere for labor or other special or temporary purpose and to which one returns in seasons of repose.

• A residence cannot be lost until another is gained.

• The residence can be changed only by the union of act and intent.
• A man or a woman may establish his or her residence. A woman's residence shall not be derivative from that of her husband.

• The residence of the parent with whom an unmarried minor child maintains his/her place of abode is the residence of the unmarried minor child. When the minor lives with neither parent, the minor's residence is that of the parent with whom the last place of abode was maintained, provided the minor may establish his/her residence when both parents are deceased and a legal guardian has not been appointed.

• The residence of an unmarried minor who has a parent living cannot be changed by the minor's own act, by the appointment of a legal guardian, or by relinquishment of a parent's right of control.

Determination of Resident Status

A resident is a student who has been a bona fide resident of the state for one year prior to the residence determination date. A bona fide resident is a person whose residence is in California as determined above except:

• A student who is a minor and remains in this state after the parent, who was previously domiciled in California and has established residence elsewhere, shall be entitled to retain resident classification until attaining the age of majority and has resided in the state the minimum time necessary to become a resident, so long as continuous attendance is maintained at an institution.

• A student who is a minor and who provides evidence of being entirely self-supporting and actually present in California for more than one year immediately preceding the residence determination date with the intention of acquiring a residence therein, shall be entitled resident classification until he/she has resided in the state the minimum time necessary to become a resident.

• A student who has not been an adult for one year immediately preceding the residence determination date for the semester for which the student proposes to attend an institution shall have the immediate prematurity-derived California residence, if any, added to the post-majority residence to obtain the one year of California residence.

• A student holding a valid credential authorizing service in the public schools of this state, who is employed by a school district in a full-time position requiring certification qualifications for the college year in which the student enrolls in an institution, shall be entitled to resident classification if each student meets any of the following requirements:
He/she holds a provisional credential and is enrolled in courses necessary to obtain another type of credential authorizing service in the public schools.

He/she holds a credential issued pursuant to Education Code Section 44250 and is enrolled in courses necessary to fulfill credential requirements.

He/she is enrolled in courses necessary to fulfill the requirements for a fifth year of education prescribed by subdivision (b) of Education Code Section 44259.

A student holding a valid emergency permit authorizing service in the public schools of this state, who is employed by a school district in a full-time position requiring certification qualifications for the academic year in which the student enrolls at an institution in courses necessary to fulfill teacher credential requirements, is entitled to resident classification only for the purpose of determining the amount of tuition and fees for no more than one year. Thereafter, the student’s residency status will be determined under the other provisions of this procedure.

- A student who is a full-time employee of the California State University, the University of California or a community college, or of any state agency or a student who is a child or spouse of a full-time employee of the California State University, the University of California or a community college, or of any state agency may be entitled to resident classification, until the student has resided in the state the minimum time necessary to become a resident.

- A student who is a natural or adopted child, stepchild, or spouse who is a dependent of a member of the armed forces of the United States stationed in this state on active duty shall be entitled to resident classification. If the member of the armed forces of the United States later transferred on military orders to a place outside this state, or retires as an active member of the armed forces of the United States, the student dependent shall not lose his or her resident classification until he/she has resided in the state the minimum time necessary to become a resident.

- A student who is a member of the armed forces of the United States stationed in this state on active duty, except a member of the Armed Forces assigned for educational purposes to a state-supported institution of higher education, is entitled to resident classification only for the purpose of determining the amount of tuition and fees.

- A student who was a member of the armed forces of the United States stationed in this state on active duty for more than one year immediately prior to being discharged from the armed forces is entitled to resident classification for the
length of time he/she lives in this state after being discharged up to the minimum time necessary to become a resident.

- A student who is a minor and resides with his or her parent in a district or territory not in a district shall be entitled to resident classification, provided that the parent has been domiciled in California for more than one year prior to the residence determination date for the semester, quarter or term for which the student proposes to attend.

- A student who is a native American is entitled to resident classification for attendance at a community college if the student is also attending a school administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs located within the community college district.

- A student who is a federal civil service employee and his or her natural or adopted dependent children are entitled to resident classification if the parent has moved to this state as a result of a military mission realignment action that involves the relocation of at least 100 employees. This classification shall continue until the student is entitled to be classified as a resident, so long as the student continues to attend an institution of public higher education.

- A student who resides in California and is 19 years of age or under at the time of enrollment, who is currently a dependent or ward of the state through California's child welfare system, or was served by California's child welfare system and is no longer being served either due to emancipation or aging out of the system, may be entitled to resident classification until he/she has resided in the state the minimum time necessary to become a resident.

- A student who lives with a parent who earns a livelihood primarily by performing agricultural labor for hire in California and other states, and the parent has performed such labor in this state for at least two months per year in each of the two preceding years, and the parent resides in this District and the parent of the student has claimed the student as a dependent on his state or federal personal income tax return if he/she has sufficient income to have personal income tax liability shall be entitled to resident classification.

Reclassification – A student previously classified as a non-resident may be reclassified as of any residence determination date upon submission of a Request for Residency Reclassification and adequate documentation to support that California residency has been established. A residence determination date is that day immediately preceding the opening day of instruction for any session during which the student proposes to attend.

Petitions Requests for Residency Reclassification are to be submitted to the appropriate office as identified above. Written documentation may will be required of the student in support of the reclassification request.
Petitions Reclassification requests must be submitted prior to the semester for which reclassification is to be effective. Extenuating circumstances may be considered in cases where a student failed to petition for reclassification prior to the residency determination date. In no case, however, may a student receive a non-resident tuition refund after the date of the first census.

A questionnaire to determine financial independence must be submitted with the petition is included in the request for reclassification. Determination of financial independence is not required for students who were classified as non-residents by the University of California, the California State University, or another community college District (Education Code Section 68044).

A student shall be considered financially independent for purposes of residence reclassification if the applicant meets all of the following requirements:

- Has not and will not be claimed as an exemption a deduction for state and federal tax purposes by his/her parent in the calendar year prior to the year the reclassification application is made;
- Has not lived and will not live for more than six weeks in the home of his/her parent during the calendar year the reclassification application is made.

A student who has established financial independence may be reclassified as a resident if the student has met the requirements of Title 5 Sections 54020, 54022, and 54024.

Failure to satisfy all of the financial independence criteria listed above does not necessarily result in denial of residence status if the one year requirement is met and demonstration of intent is sufficiently strong.

Financial dependence in the current or preceding calendar year shall weigh more heavily against finding California residence than financial dependence in the preceding second and third calendar years. Financial dependence in the current or preceding calendar year shall be overcome only if (1) the parent on whom the student is dependent is a California resident, or (2) there is no evidence of the student's continuing residence in another state.

The Registrar’s Office will make a determination, based on the evidence and notify the student not later than 14 days of receipt of the petition for reclassification.

Students have the right to appeal according to the procedures above below.

Non-Citizens – The District will may admit any non-citizen who is 18 years of age or a high school graduate.
If non-citizens are present in the United States illegally or with any type of temporary visa, they will be classified as non-residents and charged non-resident tuition unless they meet the exceptions contained below.

If, for at least one year and one day prior to the start of the semester in question, a non-citizen has possessed any immigration status that allows him/her to live permanently in the United States and she or he meets the California residency requirements, the student can be classified as a resident.

A student who is without lawful immigration status may be exempted from payment of non-resident tuition pursuant to AB540 provided they submit verifiable documentation to certify that classified as a resident if he or she meets the following requirements:

- high school attendance in California for three or more years;
- graduation from a California high school or attainment of the equivalent thereof;
- registration for classes not earlier than the fall semester or quarter of 2001-2002;
- the filing of an affidavit that the student has filed an application to legalize his/her immigration status, or will file an application as soon as he or she is eligible to do so.
- Verifiable documentation shall include the self-certifying affidavit required by the California Community Colleges’ Chancellor’s Office, and may include high school transcripts or other acceptable documents verifying attendance and graduation.

The initial residency classification will be made at the time the student applies for admission. Students may file residency questionnaire forms through the third week of the semester to request a review of their residency status. Final residency determination is made by the Registrar’s Office. Students may appeal the decision.

**Right To Appeal** – Students who have been classified as non-residents have the right to a review of their classification (Title 5 Section 54010 (a)). Any student, following a final decision of residence classification by the Registrar’s Office may make written appeal to the Dean of Student Services within 30 calendar days of notification of final decision by the college regarding classification.

**Appeal Procedure** – The appeal is to be submitted to Dean of Student Services, which must forward it to the [designate, such as Chief Student Services Officer] within five working days of receipt. Copies of the original application for admission, the residency questionnaire, and evidence or documentation provided by the student, with a cover statement indicating upon what basis the residence classification decision was made, must be forwarded with the appeal. The appeal must include a cover letter indicating
the student’s rationale, and the documented, verifiable evidence as to why his or her residency classification is incorrect.

The Dean of Student Services shall review all the applicable records including the application for admission (may be a copy of the student’s online admission application), the residency reclassification request form and supporting documentation, and has the right to may request additional information from either the student or the Admissions Registrar’s Office.

Within 30 calendar days of receipt, the Dean of Student Services shall send a written determination to the student. The determination shall state specific facts on which the appeal decision was made.

Revised 2/02, 2/11
Nonresident students shall be charged nonresident tuition for all units enrolled.

No later than February 1 of each year, the Chancellor shall bring to the Board for approval an action to establish nonresident tuition for the following fiscal year. The fee shall be calculated in accordance with guidelines contained in applicable state regulations and/or the California Community College Attendance Accounting Manual.

The Chancellor shall establish procedures regarding collection, waiver, and refunds of nonresident tuition.

The Chancellor is authorized to implement a fee to be charged only to persons who are both citizens and residents of foreign countries pursuant to existing law to students who are not residents of California, including persons who are classified as international students. The Board finds and declares that this fee does not exceed the amount expended by the district for capital outlay in the preceding year divided by the total FTES in the preceding fiscal year.

**Students’ self-certification may serve as proof of high school attendance and graduation (or its equivalent).** Students’ self-certification may serve as proof of high school attendance and graduation (or its equivalent). No later than February 1 of each year, the Chancellor shall bring to the Board for approval an action to establish international student tuition for the following fiscal year. The fee shall be calculated in accordance with guidelines contained in applicable state regulations and/or the California Community College Attendance Accounting Manual.

Students who would otherwise be charged this fee shall be exempt if they demonstrate that they are a victim of persecution or discrimination in the county of which they are a citizen and resident, or if they demonstrate economic hardship. Students shall be deemed victims of persecution or discrimination if they present evidence that they are citizens and residents of a foreign country and that they have been admitted to the United States under federal regulations permitting such persons to remain in the United States. Students shall be deemed to have demonstrated economic hardship if they present evidence
that they are citizens and residents of a foreign country and that they are receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Supplemental Income/State Supplementary benefits, or general assistance.

See Administrative Procedures 5020.
1. Nonresident Tuition
The nonresident and capital outlay surcharge fees will be set by the VCCCD Board of Trustees no later than February 1 of each year. The calculation will reflect the expense of education in the preceding fiscal year according to the Budget and Accounting Manual.

Students who are not residents of California, including persons who are classified as international students, for one year prior to the first day of the term will be charged nonresident tuition and a capital outlay surcharge at the Board-approved rate per semester unit unless they are exempted by statute. All N nonresident students must pay nonresident tuition in addition to the California Community College enrollment mandatory fees.

2. Reclassification to California Resident
Any student who believes that he/she should be reclassified as a resident student has the responsibility to request a change of classification in the Admissions Office prior to registration and in accordance with AP 5015.

A student who believes that he or she should be reclassified as a resident student has the responsibility to request a change of classification in Residency Reclassification Request to the Admissions Office prior to registration and
A student may be considered for reclassification to California resident status if they have resided in California for no less than one year and one day immediately preceding the term for which residency is requested; and are able to present verifiable documentation to support the actions they have taken to establish California residency.

A student previously classified as a non-resident may be reclassified as of any residence determination date upon submission of a Request for Residency Reclassification and adequate documentation to support that California residency has been established in accordance with AP 5015.

3. Exemptions from Payment of Nonresident Tuition

Military Resident Exemption: Non-resident U.S.: 

Military personnel on active duty in California (except those assigned for educational purposes to state-supported institutions of higher education) are granted a waiver of nonresident tuition until they are discharged from their military services. Their Dependents of active duty military personnel are granted a waiver for a period of one year from the date they enter California. Upon expiration of the waiver, evidence must be provided as to the date the student surrendered his/her out-of-state residence to become a resident of California. The Any student who does not submit adequate evidence that California residency has been established will be classified as a
nonresident and charged nonresident tuition until one year has elapsed since the out-of-state residence was surrendered such time as California residency has been established.

California High School Graduate Attendance and Graduation Exemption (AB540):

Students without lawful immigration status and U.S. citizens who are not residents of California may be entitled to exemption from nonresident tuition if they meet all of the following criteria:

- who attended high school in California for three or more years
- graduated from a California high school or attained the equivalent
- filed an affidavit stating that they have filed or will file an application to legalize their immigration status as soon as possible

- are exempt from nonresident tuition. Students without lawful immigration status must file an affidavit stating that the student has filed an application to legalize their immigration status, or will do so as soon as possible. Students’ self-certification may serve as proof of high school attendance and graduation (or its equivalent). Verifiable documentation shall include the self-certifying affidavit required by the California Community Colleges’ Chancellor’s Office, and may include high school transcripts or other acceptable documents verifying attendance and graduation.

Nonimmigrant alien students (students who are present in the U.S. on a nonimmigrant visa) are not eligible for this exemption.

Eligibility for an AB540 exemption does not result in the student being classified as a California resident.

September 11, 2001 Exemption:

If an individual who was killed in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., or the crash of United Airlines Flight 93 was a resident of California on September 11, 2001, or if their dependent was a resident on that date and if they meet the financial need requirement for the Cal Grant A Program, the dependents of this individual may be exempt from nonresident tuition. If the dependent is a spouse, the exemption applies until January 1, 2013. If the dependent is a child, the exemption applies until the person reaches the age of 30.

Other Exemptions

Other limited exemptions from non-resident tuition may be authorized. Eligibility for exemption shall be approved by the campus Vice President of Business Services or his or her designee.

4. Payment
Fees must be paid in full at the time of registration, or payment arrangements must be made using the district-approved payment plan option.

5. Refunds
The same refund guidelines apply as those for other registration fees. Courses must be dropped by the refund deadlines for each semester/session to generate a fee credit or refund. Nonresident Tuition is refunded at a rate of 100% for classes that are dropped by the 10% withdrawal deadline, and at a rate of 50% for classes that are dropped by the 20% withdrawal deadline. No fee credits or refunds are issued for withdrawals that occur after the 20% withdrawal deadline.