

CAREER PROGRAMS

- **ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREES**
- **ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE DEGREES**
- **APPLIED TECHNOLOGY DIPLOMA**
- **CERTIFICATES**
- **A.S. DEGREES TRANSITION TO BACHELOR DEGREE PROGRAMS**

Associate in Applied Science and Associate in Science Degree Programs

You may be interested in earning an Associate in Applied Science Degree or an Associate in Science Degree at Valencia Community College. Valencia offers numerous programs for students who are interested in preparing for a career that requires study beyond the high school level but does not require a bachelor's degree. These programs range from business administration programs to health sciences programs such as dental hygiene and registered nursing.

When you decide to follow an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Degree or an Associate in Science (A.S.) Degree program, you are not necessarily preparing yourself for transfer to a state university. Earning one of these degrees should prepare you for a successful and rewarding career. If later you decide to attend a university, you may be required to do additional work at the freshman or sophomore level.

In the A.A.S. Degree or A.S. Degree program you choose, you will take courses in two basic areas. One area will be specialized courses. For instance, if you are going to study digital media technology, you will be taking specialized courses in digital media, film, and theatre.

The second major area of courses you will take will be general education. General education courses are designed to help you become a well-rounded individual capable of thinking, valuing, communicating, and acting as a mature, educated and enlightened citizen. It is the College's belief that courses in general education, such as English composition and humanities, will enhance your overall employment potential since they will broaden your knowledge.

The A.A.S. Degree and A.S. Degree programs are described on the following pages. You can obtain additional information about these programs in Career Development Services and by contacting the Career Program Advisors, Program Directors and Academic Deans who are assigned to the program.

Due to the availability of staff, specialized equipment and labs, and program costs, some A.A.S. Degree and A.S. Degree programs are restricted to one campus. When this is the case, a note is made on the program description page. For some programs, some of the specialized courses may be offered at more than one campus and the general education courses in the programs may be taken on any campus. The Associate in Applied Science Degree and the Associate in Science Degree require a minimum of 60 college credits. Each Associate in Applied Science and Associate in Science Degree program consists of a core group of courses known as the area of specialization. To earn an Associate in Applied Science or an Associate in Science Degree, you

must complete a minimum of 30 college-level credits in your area of specialization and 15-18 college-level credits in general education. In addition to the information on each A.A.S. and A.S. Degree program in this catalog, detailed information regarding each program is provided on program information sheets available in career program advisors' offices, academic departments, Career Development Services, Student Services and online at valenciacc.edu.

Applied Technology Diploma Program

The Applied Technology Diploma (A.T.D.) program prepares students for immediate entry into a career in the workforce. A.T.D. programs require prescribed technical courses and a minimum of 11 college credits. For students who meet degree-seeking requirements, college credits earned in an Applied Technology Diploma program are applicable toward a related Associate in Applied Science Degree or Associate in Science Degree. The EMT Applied Technology Diploma is the only A.T.D. offered at Valencia and the courses can be applied toward the Emergency Medical Services Technology Associate in Science Degree. Applied Technology Diploma students will receive a diploma upon completion of the diploma program.

Technical Certificate Programs

The Technical Certificate programs prepare students for immediate entry into a career in the workforce. Technical Certificate programs require prescribed technical courses, and may require general education courses, for a minimum of 12 college credits. For students who meet degree-seeking requirements, college credits earned in a Technical Certificate program are applicable towards a related Associate in Applied Science or an Associate in Science degree; for example, the courses in the Human Resources Management Technical Certificate can be applied towards the Business Administration Associate in Applied Science degree. Students who complete the course work prescribed for a Technical Certificate automatically will receive the certificate. Also, students may request a Technical Certificate from the academic department.

Career Certificate Programs

The Career Certificate programs prepare students for careers directly in the workforce. The programs require prescribed technical credit courses and basic skills proficiency achieved through college-preparatory courses. Students will receive a certificate upon completion of the Career Certificate program. The only Career Certificate programs offered at Valencia are those offered through the Criminal Justice Institute.