

Academic Affairs

BP 4020 PROGRAM, CURRICULUM, AND COURSE DEVELOPMENT

References_

- Education Code Sections 70901(b), 70902(b), and 78016;
- Title 5 Sections 51000, 51022, 55002, 55002.5, 55100, 55130, 55450 and 55256.5;
- U.S. Department of Education regulations on the Integrity of Federal Student Financial Aid Programs under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.
- 34 Code of Federal Regulations Sections 600.2, 602.24, 603.24, and 668.8

The programs and curriculum of the District shall be of high quality, relevant to community and student needs, and evaluated regularly to ensure quality and currency. To that end, the Chancellor shall establish procedures for the development and review of all curricular offerings, including their establishment, modification, or discontinuance.

Furthermore, these procedures shall include:

- appropriate involvement of the faculty and Academic Senate in all processes;
- regular review and justification of programs and course descriptions;
- opportunities for training for persons involved in aspects of curriculum development.
- consideration of job market and other related information for career and technical education.

All new programs and program deletions shall be approved by the Board.

All new programs shall be submitted to the California Community College Chancellor's Office for approval as required.

Individual degree-applicable credit courses offered as part of a permitted educational program shall be approved by the Board. Non-degree-applicable credit and degree-applicable courses that are not part of an existing approved program must satisfy the conditions authorized by Title 5 regulations and shall be approved by the Board.

Credit Hour

State regulations provide minimum hour to unit ratios and minimum unit increments at California Community Colleges. Specific hour to unit ratios and unit increments are defined locally. At Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, 54 total student learning hours is equivalent to 1 unit of credit and the minimum unit increment is 0.5.

State regulations also provide specific hour to unit ratios for Cooperative Work Experience. The ratios are 75 hours of paid work experience for 1 unit of credit and 60 hours of non-paid work experience for 1 unit of credit.

Consistent with federal regulations applicable to federal financial aid eligibility, the District shall assess and designate each of its programs as either a "credit hour" program or a "clock hour" program.

Federal regulations define clock hour programs (34 CFR 668). Clock hour programs are required to use the formula for calculating units of credit that is contained within the code.

The Chancellor will establish procedures which prescribe the definition of "credit hour" consistent with federal regulations as they apply to community college districts.

The Chancellor shall rely primarily on the Academic Senates to establish procedures to assure that curriculum at the District complies with the definition of "credit hour" or "clock hour," where applicable. The Chancellor shall also establish procedure for using a clock-to-credit hour conversion formula to determine whether a credit hour program is eligible for federal financial aid. The conversion formula is used to determine whether such a credit hour program has an appropriate minimum number of clock hours of instruction for each credit hour it claims.

See Administrative Procedures 4020 and 4021

Date Adopted: February 18, 2014

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