WTCS Credential Credit Range Rules

Associate of Arts (AA) and Associate of Science (AS) Degree Credential Credit Ranges: Minimum General Education Core Requirements

Credential aid code 20. Allowable course aid codes 10, 20, 30, 31 and 32. Courses using aid codes 10 (AAA/AAS) and 20 (AA/AS) are allowed in the AA/AS degrees as outlined in ESM Chapter 2 Program Requirements.

WTCS General Education Categories	Credit Minimums
Communication	6
Humanities & Fine Arts	6
Social & Behavioral Sciences	3
[1] Natural Sciences	4
Quantitative Reasoning	3
Civics & Perspectives	3
[2]Flexible Credits	5
Minimum Core Credits	30

Remaining AA/AS Degree Credit Requirements	Credits
[3]Additional Local Occupational or Gen Ed Credits	30
Total Degree Credit Requirements	60

[1]Natural Science course must include a lab.

[2]Flexible Credits: These credits are locally determined by each college in a configuration best aligned with transfer, preferably at junior status, to a four-year university or college. A college may allocate these credits to additional requirements beyond the WTCS required minimum in any of the General Education categories.

[3]Colleges may allocate the additional local occupational or gen ed credits to:

- Additional requirements beyond the minimum WTCS GE CORE within any General Education category; and/or
- Occupational courses that have recognized transfer equivalency and are included in a student's designated transfer plan.

Note: Additional AA/AS considerations are continued on following page.

Associate of Arts (AA) and Associate of Science (AS) Degree Additional Considerations

Local General Education Degree Requirements

College may keep or establish additional local requirements for AA/AS degrees based on local decisions to support occupational area and transfer partner requirements. These may include but are not limited to:

- Global Studies & Languages
- Diversity / Ethnic Studies

Traditional Degree Structures

All allocations should align with established transfer agreements and intended bachelor's degree pathways to promote efficient credit applicability.

- AA degrees have a higher concentration of Humanities & Fine Arts and/or Social & Behavioral Sciences courses than Natural Sciences and/or Quantitative Reasoning courses.
- AS degrees have a higher concentration of Natural Sciences, Quantitative Reasoning and/or Social & Behavioral Sciences than Humanities & Fine Arts courses.

Associate of Applied Arts (AAA) and Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree Credit Credential Ranges

Credential aid code: 10. Allowable course aid codes: 10, 20, 30, 31 and 32. Aid code 20 (AA/AS) courses may only be used as alternates to existing aid code 10 (AAA/AAS) courses and may not be used as primary courses in an applied degree curriculum. Aid code 30, 31 and 32 (technical diploma) courses included in AAS/AAA programs should be part of a previously approved technical diploma. See ESM Chapter 2 Program Requirements for further information.

AAA/AAS Degree Aid Code 10	Credential Description	Minimum Credits	Maximum Credits
	Program Total Credits	**60 credits**	**70 credits**
	General Education Studies	**15 credits**	**30 credits**
	Communication (801)	*6 credits*	
	Behavioral Sciences (809)	*3 credits*	
	Social Sciences (809)	*3 credits*	
	Quantitative Reasoning (804) ***AND/OR*** *Natural Sciences (806)*	*3 credits*	
	Electives Not required; optional as needed	**0 credits**	**6 credits**
	Technical Studies As needed to reach minimum of 60 total credits with maximum of 70 total credits	**39 credits** *Minimum when configured as 15 General Studies 6 Electives 39 Technical Studies*	**55 credits** *Maximum when configured as 15 General Studies 0 Electives 55 Technical Studies*

Advanced Technical Certificate (ATC) Credit Credential Ranges

Credential aid code 11. Allowable course aid codes: 10, 20, 30, 31 and 32. Aid code 20 (AA/AS) courses may only be used as alternates to existing aid code 10 (AAA/AAS) courses and may not be used as primary courses in an advanced technical certificate curriculum. See ESM Chapter 15 Advanced Technical Certificates for further information.

ATC Credential Aid Code 11	Credential Description	Minimum	Maximum
	Program Total Credits	**9 credits**	**25 credits**
	Advanced Technical	70%	100%
	Occupational Specific (non-advanced technical)	0%	30%
	Occupational Supportive	0%	30%
	Electives	None	None

Technical Diplomas (Short Term, One-Year and Two-Year) Credential Credit Ranges

Credential aid codes 30, 31 and 32. Allowable course aid codes 10, 30, 31 and 32.

NOTE: Technical diploma programs may exist as standalone or embedded. Any technical diploma programs that are not embedded in an applied associate degree must go through the U.S. Department of Education – Higher Education Act amended financial aid clock-to-credit hour conversion. **Thus, using Aid Code 10 courses in standalone (non-embedded) technical diplomas is not recommended**. If using aid code 10 courses in a standalone technical diploma is necessary to meet student needs, financial aid implications must be clearly understood by the college and such information communicated to students. See ESM Chapter 2 Program Requirements for further information.

Less Than One Year (Short Term) Technical Diploma Aid Code 30	Credential Description	Minimum Credits	Maximum Credits
	Total Credits	**2 credits**	**25 credits**
	Occupational Specific	70%	100%
	Occupational Supportive	0%	30%
	Electives	None	None

One-Year Technical Diploma Aid Code 31	Credential Description	Minimum Credits	Maximum Credits
	Total Credits	**26 credits**	**53 credits**
	Occupational Specific	70%	100%
	Occupational Supportive	0%	30%
	Electives	None	None

Two-Year Technical Diploma Aid Code 32	Credential Description	Minimum Credits	Maximum Credits
	Total Credits	**54 credits**	**70 credits**
	Occupational Specific	70%	100%
	Occupational Supportive	0%	30%
	Electives	None	None

WTCS Pathway Certificate Credential Credit Ranges

Credential aid code 61. Allowable course aid codes 10, 30, 31 and 32. WTCS pathway certificate programs (PWC) exist only as embedded programs within an existing-approved standalone program (a "parent program"). PWC must incorporate only primary courses from their assigned parent program, and such primary courses must be selected from the first two terms of the assigned parent program. No alternate courses are permitted within PWCs. See ESM Chapter 4 Creating Embedded Technical Diplomas and WTCS Pathway Certificates from Existing Approved Programs for further information.

Pathway Certificate Aid Code 61	Credential Description	Minimum Credits	Maximum Credits
	Total Credits	**2 credits**	**18 credits**
	Occupational Specific	66%	100%
	Occupational Supportive	0%	34%
	Electives	None	None

Apprenticeship Credential Credit Ranges

Credential aid code 50. Allowable course aid codes 10, 20, 30, 31, 32, 47 and 50.

Apprenticeship Aid Code 50	Credential Description
	Total credits are determined by DWD contractual hours requirements. Courses may be comprised of Occupational Specific, Occupational Supportive, Required Special Provisions (RSP) (50-999-XXX) and/or Recommended RSP.