

Comprehensive Standard 3.5.3

The institution defines and publishes requirements for its undergraduate programs including its general education components. These requirements conform to commonly accepted standards and practices for degree programs.

Impact Statement

Both Baton Rouge Community College (BRCC) and the former Capital Area Technical College (CATC) are members of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS), and each held college-level accreditation. Each followed the appropriate policies of the LCTCS and Louisiana Board of Regents (BoR) in relation to educational standards and practices for their respective degree programs. Following the merger, these standards and practices have been maintained through the college's Curriculum and General Education Committees.

Rationale

BRCC defines and publishes major program and general education requirements for all its programs in the BRCC Catalog ([Figure 2.4.3](#)). When determining these requirements, BRCC uses the Louisiana Board of Regents Academic Affairs Policies 2.15: Definitions of Undergraduate Degrees and Undergraduate/Graduate Certificates" ([Figure 3.5.3.1](#)), and 2.16: Statewide General Education Requirements ([Figure 3.5.3.2](#)).

BRCC offers, as authorized by the BoR, 37 associate degree programs, based on a minimum of 60 credit hours, and 29 diploma/certificate programs. The table below shows the programs offered at BRCC and the total credit hours required for program completion.

Program Title	Credential	Total Credit Hours
Accounting	CTS	24
African American Studies, Liberal Arts	AA	60
Air Conditioning and Refrigeration	TD	45
Automotive Technology	TD	60
Barber-Styling	TD	53
Biological Engineering	AS	63
Biomedical Science	AS	66-67
Care and Development of Young Children	TD	45
Care and Development of Young Children	AAS	60
Carpentry	TD	57
Chemical Engineering	AS	62

Program Title	Credential	Total Credit Hours
Civil Engineering	AS	63
Collision Repair Technology	TD	60
Construction Management	AAS	60
Cosmetology	TD	51
Criminal Justice	AS	60
Culinary Arts and Occupations	TD	45
Customer Service	CTS	15
Diagnostic Medical Sonography	AAS	62
Drafting and Design Technology	TD	45
Drafting and Design Technology	AAS	60
Electrical and Computer Engineering	AS	61
Emergency Management	CTS	30
Entrepreneurship	AAS	60-63
Entertainment Technology	AAS	60
Environmental Engineering	AS	61
Fine Arts, Louisiana Transfer	AA	60-61
Global Studies, Liberal Arts	AA	60
Graphics	TD	45
Horticulture/Landscaping	TD	60
Humanities, Louisiana Transfer	AA	60-61
Industrial Maintenance Technology	TD	45
Industrial Engineering	AS	62
Information Technology	TD	45
Liberal Arts	AA	60
Machine Tool Technology	TD	45
Management	AAS	60-63

Program Title	Credential	Total Credit Hours
Mechanical Engineering	AS	63
Medical Assistant	CTS	30
Music, Liberal Arts	AA	60
Nurse Assistant	TCA	5
Office Administration Technology	TD	45
Paralegal Studies	AAS	60
Paramedic	AAS	60
Paramedic	CTS	42
Patient Care Technician	CTS	24
Petroleum Engineering	AS	63
Pharmacy Technician	CTS	30
Practical Nursing	TD	58
Printmaking	TCA	12
Process Technology	AAS	66
Science Technology, Engineering Technology	AAS	64
Science Technology, Environmental Technology	AAS	63
Social Sciences, Louisiana Transfer	AA	60-61
Studio Arts, Liberal Arts	AA	60
Surveying Technology	CTS	30
Teaching	AS	60
Transportation Security Administration (TSA)	TCA	9
Upholstery Technology	TD	53
Veterinary Technology	AAS	66
Welding	TD	45

(TCA = Technical Competency Area, CTS = Certificate of Technical Studies, TD = Technical Diploma)

Each of the associate degree programs offered by BRCC includes a coherent course of study appropriate to higher education and compatible with the program's purpose. Associate of Applied Science degree programs are designed primarily to prepare students to enter the workforce

upon completion of the degree, while Associate of Science and Associate of Arts degrees are typically designed as transfer programs.

Curriculum Structure

The degree programs include General Education courses, major or other required courses, and, in some cases, elective courses that can be used to expand or enhance the major. General Education requirements reflect the college's belief that in order to succeed, students need to acquire a knowledge base, to think critically, and to communicate well, and that students who complete General Education requirements will be able to meet the General Education learning outcomes.

The courses in each major vary by degree program; however, the overall structure for each program is dictated by and adheres to Louisiana Board of Regents Academic Affairs Policy 2.16: Statewide General Education Requirements ([Figure 3.5.3.2](#)). Faculty also use input from advisory boards in some specific areas/professional fields to determine whether course and program changes are needed. The table below shows the various components and credit hours for each degree.

Degree Title	General Education	Major	Other required	Elective	Total
Associate of Arts, Liberal Arts, African American Studies	39	21	0	0	60
Associate of Science, Biological Engineering	53	10	0	0	63
Associate of Science, General Science, Biomedical Science	41	24	0	0	65
Associate of Applied Science, Care and Development of Young Children	15	45	0	0	60
Associate of Science, Chemical Engineering	50	12	0	0	62
Associate of Science, Civil Engineering	53	10	0	0	63
Associate of Applied Science, Business, Construction Management	15	33	12	0	60
Associate of Science, Criminal Justice	27	27	6	0	60
Associate of Applied Science, Diagnostic Medical Sonography	16	33	13	0	62
Associate of Applied Science, Drafting and Design Technology	15	45	0	0	60
Associate of Science, Electrical and Computer Engineering	50	11	0	0	61

Degree Title	General Education	Major	Other required	Elective	Total
Associate of Applied Science, Entertainment Technology	15	45	0	0	60
Associate of Science, Environmental Engineering	50	11	0	0	61
Associate of Arts, Louisiana Transfer, Fine Arts	39-40	21	0	0	60-61
Associate of Arts, Liberal Arts, Global Studies	39	21	0	0	60
Associate of Arts, Louisiana Transfer, Humanities	39-40	21	0	0	60-61
Associate of Science, Industrial Engineering	50	12	0	0	62
Associate of Arts, Liberal Arts	39	21	0	0	60
Associate of Applied Science, Business, Management	18	15	27-30	0	60-63
Associate of Science, Mechanical Engineering	27	26	0	12	63
Associate of Arts, Liberal Arts, Music	39	21	0	0	60
Associate of Applied Science, Paralegal Studies	18	33	9	0	60
Associate of Applied Science, Paramedic	9	45	0	6	60
Associate of Science, Petroleum Engineering	20	31	0	12	63
Associate of Applied Science, Process Technology	35	28	0	3	66
Associate of Applied Science, Science Technology, Engineering Technology	26	35	0	3	64
Associate of Applied Science, Science Technology, Environmental Technology	28	32	0	3	63
Associate of Arts, Louisiana Transfer, Social Sciences	30	27	0	4	61
Associate of Arts, Liberal Arts, Studio Arts	39	21	0	0	60
Associate of Science, Teaching	25	35	0	0	60
Associate of Applied Science, Veterinary Technology	16	51	5	0	72

A complete listing of the college's programs of study can be found on the BRCC website ([Figure 3.5.3.3](#)), which links to the catalog descriptions as well as standard advising checklists for each BRCC program. Additionally, detailed descriptions of each degree can be found in the BRCC Catalog ([Figure 2.4.3](#)).

Supporting Evidence

- [Figure 2.4.3](#) BRCC Catalog 2013-14
- [Figure 3.5.3.1](#) Louisiana Board of Regents Academic Affairs Policy 2.15
- [Figure 3.5.3.2](#) Louisiana Board of Regents Academic Affairs Policy 2.16
- [Figure 3.5.3.3](#) BRCC Website: Programs of Study