

Degree, Certificate of Achievement and Certificate of Completion Requirements

I. Degree, Certificate of Achievement and Certificate of Completion

AWARD	CREDIT HOUR REQUIREMENT	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS	COMMENTS
Associate of Arts Degree (AA)	60 – 74	35 credit hours to include each of the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication (9 credit hours) • Math (3 credit hours) • Laboratory Science (8 credit hours) • Social/Behavioral Science (6 – 9 credit hours) • Humanities/Fine Arts (6 – 9 credit hours) • Must assess CNM’s general education and program level outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Instructional School will consider exceptions to the upper credit hour limit. • Requires Deans Council review and VPAA, CCC, Governing Board and NM HED approval.
Associate of Science Degree (AS)	60 – 74	35 credit hours to include each of the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication (9 credit hours) • Math (6 credit hours) • Laboratory Science (8 credit hours) • Social/Behavioral Science (6 credit hours) • Humanities/Fine Arts (6 credit hours) • Must assess CNM’s general education and program level outcomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Instructional School will consider exceptions to the upper credit hour limit. • Requires Deans Council review and VPAA, CCC, Governing Board and NM HED approval.

Approved by ALT – April 2005
 Updated (name changes) – October 2007
 Updated (name changes) – May 2008
 Updated (Certificates) – Oct 2008
 Updated remove Explanations-April 12, 2010

Updated (modify AS and AAS; restore and revise Explanations) – October 13, 2010

Associate of Applied Science Degree (AAS)	60 – 74	<p>15 credit hours to include one course from each of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication • Math or Science • Social/Behavioral Science, Humanities/Fine Arts • Must assess CNM’s core and program technical exit competencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires Deans Council review and VPAA, CCC, Governing Board and NM HED approval.
Certificate of Achievement	1 - 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Certificate of Achievement must provide employment related and/or career enhancing skills necessary to succeed in a job or a chosen field of study. The courses will often be a subset of those required for a corresponding Certificate of Completion or Associate’s Degree. • Must identify and annually assess technical exit competencies if courses are <u>not</u> wholly assessed within an existing Certificate of Completion or Associate’s Degree. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires Deans Council review and VPAA, CCC, and Governing Board approval. • PBIR tracks and reports this data to NM HED.

Certificate of Completion	16 - 59	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Certificate of Completion may be awarded for a specified course of study within 16-59 credit hours. • Certificates having 45 or more credit hours must contain 6 general education credit hours. • The Certificate of Completion must provide employment related and/or career enhancing skills necessary to succeed in a job or a chosen field of study. The courses will often be a subset of those required for a corresponding Associate's Degree. • Must identify and annually assess technical exit competencies if course content is <u>not</u> wholly contained within an existing Associate Degree. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires Deans Council review and VPAA, CCC, and Governing Board approval. • PBIR tracks and reports this data to NM HED.
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EXPLANATIONS

1. "Communication" is used as a general category of coursework, not as a discipline, Disciplines within the category "communication" include COMM, ENG, JOUR.
2. Math and Science includes MATH, ASTR, BIO, CHEM, GEOG 1101/1192, GEOL, IT 1010, NS, NUTR, PHYS
3. Social and Behavioral Science include ANTH, ECON, GNHN, GEOG (except 1101/1192), PSCI, PSY, SOC
4. Humanities includes CST, HIST, GNHN, HUM, PHIL, RLG, ENG (Literature); Fine Arts includes
5. Fine Arts includes ART, SPAN, MUS, THEA
6. State of NM General Education Common Core Curriculum taken from NM Higher Education Department website: <http://hed.state.nm.us/Matrix/CoreCurriculum.aspx>

The Lower-Division General Education Common Core Curriculum (Associate of Arts)

Area I: Communications select 9 credit hours

(a) College-Level English Composition 3-4 hrs

(b) College-Level Writing (a second course
building on the above) 3 hrs

(c) Oral Communication 3 hrs

Area II: Mathematics select 3 credit hours

(a) College Algebra or higher (except Math
for Teachers courses) 3 hrs

Area III: Laboratory Science (at least two
disciplines) select 8 credit hours

Area IV: Social/Behavioral Sciences (at least
two disciplines) select 6-9 credit hours

Area V: Humanities and Fine Arts (at least
two disciplines) select 6-9 credit hours

Areas IV and V must total 15 credit hours

Total to be selected

35 credit hours

7. The Lower - Division General Education Common Core Curriculum (Associate of Science)

Area I: Communications	select 9 credit hours
(a) College-Level English Composition	3-4 hrs
(b) College-Level Writing (a second course building on the above)	3 hrs
(c) Technical Writing or Oral Communication	3 hrs
Area II: Mathematics	select 6 credit hours
(a) College Algebra or higher (except Math for Teachers courses)	6 hrs
Area III: Laboratory Science (at least two disciplines)	select 8 credit hours
Area IV: Social/Behavioral Sciences (at least two disciplines)	select 6 credit hours
Area V: Humanities and Fine Arts (at least two disciplines)	select 6 credit hours
Total to be selected	35 credit hours

5. CNM has identified six **Core Competencies** that all CNM graduates will demonstrate upon completion of the program of study. These competencies represent the most deeply held values of the college. They help ensure that our graduates will be informed and committed citizens, valued employees and fully prepared transfer students. The core competencies include Life Skills, Technology, Interpersonal Skills/Teamwork, Critical Thinking, Numeracy, and Communication.
6. The following examples may be considered as exceptions to the upper credit hour limit for associate degrees:
 - a. National benchmarks for the same program of study
 - b. Federal requirements
 - c. National accreditation requirements
 - d. Programs that will transfer students as “rising” juniors
 - e. Clock hour requirements for state licensure

COMMENT: The instructional school is expected to evaluate and determine the appropriate level of preparation required and/or valued (level of compensation) for entry-level employees. Additional skills may be offered through continuing education.