



**ADMINISTRATIVE
REGULATION AND
PROCEDURE**

Title: ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE 64-CREDIT LIMIT AND OCCUPATIONAL CLUSTERING	Code: DD1101
--	--------------

Policy Reference: N/A

MATC will grant an associate in applied science degree to students upon completion of 64 credits in an approved program. Occupational programs that require additional technical applications will have a continuing educational component to meet those requirements.

MATC will provide the opportunity for students to enroll in courses that form a "common core" across several programs (called a "cluster"), and to choose to specialize after one, two, or three semesters. The common core in each cluster may differ.

The composition of the 64-credit associate degree, as approved by the State Board, includes:

- 32 credits-- technical specialty (a minimum of 12 credits can be designed as the specialization variable in program clusters);
- 11 credits-- supportive (math, science, and other occupationally related courses);
- 15 credits-- General Education Academic & Career Pathway;
- 6 credits-- free electives (up to 9 recommended elective credits may be designed for each program that students may elect to take for their "free electives" in the program);

64 credits total (Programs cannot exceed requirements without exceptional needs identified and a program accrediting evaluation team requirement.)

Individual student needs for specialized job entry or occupational certification may be met by the nine elective credits and courses from other programs. Additional occupational specialist certificates may be granted beyond the associate degree as a continuing education service. We are asking that advisory committees recommend the best 64 credits for associate degree programs to provide job entry-level skills and to identify the additional skills and specialized certificate areas that could be offered on a continuing education basis.

NOTE: NEW TECHNICAL SPECIALTY PROGRAMS IN THE CLUSTER OR MODIFICATION OF PROGRAMS REQUIRE STATE APPROVAL.

Office of Responsibility: Executive Vice-President

Last Reviewed: April, 2022