

Certification of Compliance with Eligibility Requirements

1. Authority

The College is authorized to operate as an educational institution and award degrees under the auspices of Victor Valley Community College District. Such authority is granted under the California Education Code. The College is regulated by a Board of Trustees and is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and other specialized accrediting agencies. The College has been officially recognized by the California Community College Chancellor's Office since 1961.

2. Mission

The current College mission was developed through a campus-wide collegial process and was adopted by the Board of Trustees in 2007. The statement as adopted clearly defines our institutional commitment to the achievement of student learning.

3. Governing Board

The Board of Trustees of Victor Valley Community College District is comprised of five elected members in addition to one student trustee. The Board is responsible for maintaining the quality, integrity, and financial stability of the College through its policy-setting function. Trustees are evaluated, and comply annually with the state's Conflict of Interest Code to demonstrate that they have no personal financial interest in the institution.

4. Chief Executive Officer

The College Superintendent/President is appointed by the Board of Trustee and serves as the Chief Executive Officer responsible for oversight of College programs and for the administration and operation of the College.

5. Administrative Capacity

The College has sufficient number of administrators to supervise the programs and services established in accordance with the College's mission statement. All administrators are selected using District guidelines and are qualified by education and experience to perform their assigned duties.

6. Operational Status

The College enrolls approximately 18,000 full and part-time students in a variety of courses leading to two-year degrees, certificates, and transfer to four-year colleges and universities.

7. Degrees

The College offers 23 degree programs. Students may also earn certificates of achievement and/or proficiency. Certificate and degree opportunities and transfer courses are clearly identified in the College catalog.

8. Educational Programs

The College degree and certificate programs are consistent with the College mission and based on recognized fields of study in American higher education. They are sufficient in content and length, and maintain appropriate levels of rigor and quality pursuant to a board-adopted policy on program, curriculum, and course development. Basic skills programs in reading, writing and math assist students in developing the skills necessary to advance to College-level curricula or to qualify for entry-level employment. Those with limited English proficiency may enroll in ESL courses. The College has 35 programs that lead to the following degrees and certificates: 21 Associate of Science degrees; 2 Associate of Arts degrees; 87 Certificates of Proficiency, 49 Certificates of Achievement. Associate degrees generally require at least 60 semester units including 18 units of general education course work. Certificates of Achievement must be approved by the State and are posted on the student transcript. Certificates of Proficiency require fewer than 18 units of course work, and cannot be posted on the transcript because they are not State-approved. Between 2005-2009, the College annually awarded an average of 430 Associate of Arts degrees, 550 Associate of Science degrees, and 580 Certificates.

9. Academic Credit

The College awards academic credits based on Carnegie units, a standard generally accepted practice in degree-granting institutions of higher education. Board-adopted policies on transfer and award of credit are described in the College catalog.

10. Student Learning and Achievement

The College defines and publishes regularly updated program educational objectives in the College catalog, in occupational brochures, and in instructional and departmental planning documents. In addition, student learning outcomes for general education, for some programs, and for all courses have been developed, and course learning outcomes are included in each Course Outline of Record.

11. General Education

General education courses have the required breadth to promote intellectual inquiry. These courses include demonstrated competence in writing and computational skills and serve as an introduction to major areas of knowledge pursuant to Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, §55806. The quality and rigor of these courses are consistent with academic standards appropriate to higher education. The general education component of programs conforms to Title 5 §55063 requirements for the Associate Degree and meets the California State University General Education breadth requirements and the University of California Intersegmental General Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) requirements. Degree credit for general education programs is consistent with levels of quality and rigor appropriate to higher education.

12. Academic Freedom

The College has a Board-adopted policy on academic freedom that empowers faculty to exercise their responsibility for academic and professional matters, and to freely examine and test all knowledge appropriate to their subject matter as deemed appropriate by the academic community in general. The College maintains a collegial climate in which intellectual freedom and independence exist in the service of student learning.

13. Faculty

The College has a core of qualified and experienced full- and part-time faculty to support all of its educational programs. A statement of faculty professional responsibility for curriculum review and learning assessment is included in a board-adopted policy and accompanying administrative procedures on educational excellence.

14. Student Services

The College provides appropriate student services and programs that address the needs of a diverse student population. These services include Counseling, Orientation, Assessment, Financial Aid, Transfer Services, Matriculation, Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS), programs and services for students with disabilities (DSPandS), Transfer and Career Centers, Cal-WORKS, course articulation, child care services, outreach, student activities, and services for veterans.

15. Admissions

Admissions requirements are published in the College catalog and on the website, and the qualifications for admission to the College are clearly stated.

16. Information and Learning Resources

The College provides access to information and learning resources as well as instruction programs and services to support its educational mission. The library provides a wide range of print material, books, periodicals, newspapers, and access to a comprehensive array of electronic databases. Other learning resources include the Advanced Technology Center and various labs and skill centers across campus that support instruction in writing, mathematics, ESL, foreign languages, and other specific programs.

17. Financial Resources

The College is funded by local property taxes and State apportionment. The College develops a Board-approved budget on an annual basis following its program review process. Grants from a variety of sources enhance the ability to provide programs and services for students, faculty and staff.

18. Financial Accountability

The College undergoes regular external audits by a firm of certified public accountants, the findings of which are reviewed annually by the Board of Trustees.

19. Institutional Planning and Development

The College's Educational Master Plan guides overall institutional planning and development. Other critical planning documents include annual program review and budget planning reports, Matriculation Plan, Student Equity Plan, Disaster Preparedness Plan, Technology Plan, and Facilities Plan.

20. Public Information

The mission statement of the College is published in the College catalog and the Website. Both the catalog and College website also include critical information for students regarding degrees and curricular offerings, student fees, financial aid, refund policies, student grievance procedures, non-discrimination policy, admissions policies, information about transfer requirements, and academic credentials of faculty, staff and administration. Additional information about the organization and leadership of the College, including the names of the members of the Board of Trustees, is published on the District website.

21. Relations with the Accrediting Commission

The Board of Trustees provides assurance in its policies and actions, and in its validation of this self study, that the College adheres to the eligibility requirements and accreditation standards and policies of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACCJC-WASC).