

Noncredit Certificates

West Valley College offers two types of noncredit certificates, Certificate of Completion and Certificate of Competency, which prepare students for entry-level employment or further study. A Certificate of Completion is a sequence of courses designed to prepare students to progress in a career path or to undertake degree-applicable or non-degree applicable credit courses. A Certificate of Competency is a sequence of courses preparing students to demonstrate achievement in a set of competencies that prepares the student to progress in a career path or to undertake degree-applicable or non-degree applicable credit courses. Students must pass all letter-graded certificate-applicable courses with a C or better and all P/NP certificate-applicable courses with a P. Noncredit certificate programs do not have general education requirements.

Catalog Rights for Degree or Certificate Consideration

Students who maintain continuous enrollment, meaning they attended at least one semester or intersession (summer/winter) during the academic year, may choose to graduate under the catalog in effect at the time they first enrolled at West Valley College or any catalog up to the time of graduation. Students who are considered returning students, meaning those who did not attend for a year or more before returning to college, must follow the catalog requirements in effect at the time of re-enrollment. Documented military, not exceeding two years, will not be considered an interruption of continuous enrollment. For the purpose of catalog rights, the academic year begins each fall and ends with the subsequent summer session.

Associate Degree Reciprocity

The West Valley-Mission Community College District has entered into a mutual agreement with seven other community colleges to accept the General Education of these colleges as completed.

The participating colleges are West Valley College (Saratoga), Gavilan College (Gilroy), San Jose City College (San Jose), Evergreen Valley College (San Jose), De Anza College (Cupertino), Foothill College (Los Altos Hills), Chabot College (Hayward) and Las Positas College (Livermore), Ohlone College (Fremont).

Students who obtain a "certification of completion of Associate Degree General Education" or complete an Associate Degree at another institution