GENERAL INFORMATION

Degrees & Certificates

Clark College awards eight (8) degrees and three certificates:

- Associate in Arts (AA) degree, for completion of a program of study for transfer to a baccalaureate institution;
- Associate in Arts Direct Transfer Agreement (AA-DTA , DTA/MRP) degree, for completion of a program of study for transfer to a baccalaureate institution;
- Associate in Science (AS, AST1, AST2) degree, for completion of a program of study in the sciences in preparation for transfer to a baccalaureate institution;
- Associate in Fine Arts (AFA) degree, for completion of a program in fine arts in preparation for transfer to a baccalaureate institution;
- Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree, for completion of a program of study in an occupational program;
- Associate of Applied Technology (AAT) degree, for completion of a program of study in an occupational program;
- Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree, to increase the educational pathways for career-technical associate graduates;
- Bachelor of Science (BS) degree, to increase the educational pathways for career-technical or transfer associate graduates;
- Certificate of Proficiency (CP), for completion of specialized occupational training;
- Certificate of Achievement (CA), for completion of specialized occupational training;
- Certificate of Completion (CC), for completion of specialized occupational training.

Academic Residency Requirements and Restrictions

Refer to the following information for specific requirements and restrictions for each type of program. Note that transfer credit and test credit that was earned at another institution does not count toward the academic residency requirement.

- Bachelor Degree: A minimum of thirty (30) credits/units, pre-college or college-level, must be completed at Clark College at any time to meet Academic Residency.
- Associate Degree: A minimum of thirty (30) credits/units, pre-college or college-level, must be completed at Clark College at any time to meet Academic Residency.
- Certificate of Proficiency: A minimum of fifteen (15) credits/units, pre-college or college-level, must be completed at Clark College at any time to meet Academic Residency.
- Certificate of Achievement: A minimum of ten (10) credits/units, pre-college or college-level, must be completed at Clark College at any time to meet Academic Residency.
- Certificate of Completion: A minimum of ten (10) credits/units, pre-college or college-level, must be completed at Clark College at any time to meet Academic Residency.

Academic Residency Requirements for Veterans

Clark College, in compliance with the Department of Defense (DOD) Voluntary Education Partnership Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Executive Order 13607 of April 27, 2012, limits academic residency requirements for active-duty service members to no more than 25 percent of the total credits required for the program; recognizes all credit/unit course work offered by the institution as applicable in satisfying academic residency requirements; and allows service members to satisfy academic residency requirements with courses taken from Clark College at any time during their program of study.

Academic Subplans

Clark College offers three types of subplans. Subplans allow for specialization within a program. Some subplans are transcribed on student transcripts and some are not.

Academic Concentration

- Academic concentrations consist of 15 to 30 credits/units (on average) of coursework applicable to transfer degree requirements, and the concentration must be earned concurrently with a transfer degree. Students will not be able to earn a concentration separately from its associated degree.
- Academic concentrations are transcribed on student transcripts.
- Academic concentrations must have some tangible transfer benefit for students (e.g., MOU or articulation agreement with specific transfer institutions).
- Academic concentrations must include one or more concentration-specific learning outcomes that are regularly assessed.
- Students are limited to one academic concentration per program (plan code).

Academic Emphasis

- Academic emphases are designed to expose students to a subject matter/discipline and represent "suggested classes" or a "possible sequence" of classes.
- Academic emphases are not transcribed on student transcripts but can be informally used to reference a breadth of work in an area.
- Academic emphases are informed by Guided Pathways Maps and not driven by transferability, community partnerships or articulation agreements. They aim to support the student experience and provide exposure to a wider breadth of coursework in an "area".

Academic Option

- Academic options are available to career-technical programs only.
- Academic options represent a grouping of classes within a focus area and are transcribed on student transcripts.
- Programs that offer multiple academic options (focus areas) can require that students select a specific option and complete the grouping of classes outlined as part of a degree path.
- Students are limited to one academic option per program (plan code).

Online Learning Degrees

For information about Clark College eLearning programs and degrees, see Online Learning Degree Programs (http://www.clark.edu/academics/eLearning/programs/)

Academic Honors

To be eligible for academic honors, students must have a minimum GPA of 3.40. Academic honors are posted on student transcripts. Students participating in commencement ceremonies will receive recognition at the celebration based on their academic honors on record at the end of Winter term. If their honor status changes once final grades are posted, adjustments will be made to the student record. Following are the specific academic honors requirements by program type.

Transfer Degrees

Honors for the Associate in Arts (AA) degree, the Associate in Science – Transfer (AS) degree, the Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree, and the Bachelor of Science (BS) degree are based on the cumulative college-level GPA. Students in these degree programs will earn the designation of "with honors" for a cumulative college-level GPA of 3.40 to 3.89 and the designation of "with high honors" for a cumulative college-level GPA of 3.90 or higher.

Career-Technical Degrees

Honors for the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree and Associate of Applied Technology (AAT) degree are based on the cumulative GPA. Students in these programs will earn the designation of "with honors" for a cumulative GPA of 3.40 to 3.89 and the designation of "with high honors" for a cumulative GPA of 3.90 or higher.

Career-Technical Certificates

Honors for the Certificates of Proficiency (CP) programs are based on the cumulative GPA. Other types of certificates are not eligible for academic honors. Students in the CP programs will be granted the designation of "with merit" for a cumulative GPA of 3.40 or higher.

Distribution Coding

The following codes may be included in some course descriptions and indicate the applicability of the course toward the general education requirements of Clark College degrees and certificates. Be sure to verify which courses have been approved to meet general education requirements for your particular degree or certificate program as Distribution Coding is not universally applied.

Code	General Education Requirement
CA	Written Communication Skills (AAS and CP only)
CP	Computational Skills
CT	Written Communication Skills (AAT only)
GE	General Elective
HA	Humanities Academic (A list)
HB	Humanities Performance (B list)
HE	Health
HPE	Health & Physical Education
HR	Human Relations
NS	Natural Sciences
NS-Lab	Natural Science with Lab
OC	Oral Communications
PE	Physical Education Activity
PPI	Power, Privilege and Inequity
Q	Quantitative/Symbolic Reasoning
SE	Specified Elective
SS	Social Sciences
WC	Written Communication Skills (Transfer only)

Title IV Student Complaint Process

The Higher Education Act (HEA) prohibits an institution of higher education from engaging in a "substantial misrepresentation of the nature of its educational program, its financial charges, or the employability of its graduates." 20 U.S.C. §1094(c)(3)(A). Further, each State must have "a process to review and appropriately act on complaints concerning the institution including enforcing applicable State laws." 34 C.F.R. § 600.9. The Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) maintains a process to investigate complaints of this nature brought by community and technical college students in the State of Washington. For more information, contact the SBCTC Student Services Office at 360-704-4315.