Reedley College

DEPARTMENTAL POLICY FOR EQUIVALENCY

1. When considering the establishment of discipline equivalency standards, please consider that California Education Code §87359(b) requires that “each individual faculty member…possess qualifications that are ***at least equivalent to the applicable minimum standards***.” Fill out the application that is included with this set of instructions. Please use the current *Minimum Qualifications for Faculty and Administrators in California Community Colleges.*

1. Fill out the top half of the front side of the application. For the name of the discipline, please use the name given in the current disciplines list. If your department uses a different name for the discipline, you may include that in parenthesis as well. For item I, a majority of faculty from the discipline or related disciplines is required to sign in support.
2. For item II, please copy word for word the statement in the current disciplines list.
3. For item III, please list the requirements your department wants as “the equivalent.” Please do **not** use any of the wording from item II.
4. For item III, please provide an explanation that justifies this policy.
5. For item IV, departmental policies seeking to demonstrate equivalency for petitioners who lack the specified bachelors or associates degree must also complete the GE Education Equivalency Documentation.

2. Have the department vote, on the proposed policy. Next have the department chair or division representative sign the application after it is approved. Then have the division dean review it and sign it as well.

1. The division dean will send the application to the RC Equivalency Committee.
2. The application will go to the RC Equivalency Committee Chair. If it is technically correct, it will go before the Equivalency Committee for consideration at the next available meeting. If it is **not** technically correct, it will be sent back to the department for changes. Please make the changes and go back to step 2.

5. If the Equivalency Committee does not approve the policy, it will recommend changes. You can either make the changes or appeal the Equivalency Committee’s decision.

6. As the *Minimum Qualifications* handbook is updated annually, departments should review their department policy, revise as necessary, and resubmit revisions to the Equivalency Committee for review. Departments are also encouraged to take their proposed policies to the State Academic Senate’s Standards and Practices Committee to try to enact change in the Disciplines List Revision Handbook.

APPLICATION FOR ACCEPTANCE OF A

DEPARTMENTAL POLICY FOR EQUIVALENCY

From (Chair):       Date:

Department:       Extension:

Discipline(s):

I. **TENURED FACULTY SIGNATURE(S)**

Signature of the Tenured Faculty Who Determined that the Proposed Policy Should Satisfy the Equivalency Requirements:

Printed Name:

Signature: Date:

*(If tenured faculty member in the discipline is not available, a tenured faculty member from a “related discipline”, as defined in the Minimum Qualifications for Faculty and Administrators in California Community Colleges handbook, may sign after consulting with the non-tenured faculty.)*

A majority of faculty from the discipline or related disciplines is required to sign in support below.

Printed Name:

Signature: Date:

Support: Oppose:

Printed Name:

Signature: Date:

Support: Oppose:

Printed Name:

Signature: Date:

Support: Oppose:

Printed Name:

Signature: Date:

Support: Oppose:

**DEPARTMENT CHAIR SIGNATURE**

**Do any of the colleges in the district offer a comparable program? \_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_No**

**If so, which colleges:**

**If applicable, have RC Faculty reviewed this departmental policy with the appropriate faculty at the other colleges offering a comparable program? \_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_No**

**If so, which instructors:**

Printed Name:

Signature: Date:

(Faculty from other colleges may include a statement of support or non-support).

**DEAN OF INSTRUCTION/STUDENT SERVICES SIGNATURE**

Printed Name:

Signature: Date:

I. Statement of minimum qualifications as defined in the *Minimum Qualifications for Faculty and Administrators in California Community Colleges* handbook:

II. Recommended Departmental Policy for an *Equivalency*:

III. Please provide an explanation that justifies this policy if different than state minimum qualifications:

**IV. General Education Equivalency Documentation**

Departmental policies seeking to demonstrate equivalency for petitioners who lack the specified bachelors or associates degree must also complete the GE Education Equivalency Documentation.

In a traditional Associate or Arts or Associate of Science degree, a student must complete a minimum of 60 semester (90 quarter) units. Of the total units required for a degree, at least 18 semester (27 quarter) units of general education coursework is required in addition to meeting competency requirements in written expression and mathematics and at least 18 semester (27 quarter) units of major preparation (Title 5 §55063). The major prep units are not generally in question for equivalency requests in CTE disciplines, but the need to meet all GE areas may be when coursework has not been completed.

The eighteen units of general education is expected in the follow areas (Title 5 §55063 (b)(1)):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Evidence/Documentation** |
| **A. Natural Sciences**  Courses in the natural sciences are those which examine the physical universe, its life forms, and its natural phenomena. To satisfy the general education requirement in natural sciences, a course shall be designed to help the student develop an appreciation and understanding of the scientific method, and encourage an understanding of the relationships between science and other human activities (Title 5 §55063 (b)(1)(A)). This category would include introductory or integrative courses in astronomy, biology, chemistry, general physical science, geology, meteorology, oceanography, physical geography, physical anthropology, physics and other scientific disciplines. |  |
| **B. Social and Behavioral Sciences**  Courses in the social and behavioral sciences are those which focus on people as members of society. To satisfy the general education requirement in social and behavioral sciences, a course shall be designed to develop an awareness of the method of inquiry used by the social and behavioral sciences. It shall be designed to stimulate critical thinking about the ways people act and have acted in response to their societies and should promote appreciation of how societies and social subgroups operate (Title 5 §55063 (b)(1)(B)). This category would include introductory or integrative survey courses in cultural anthropology, cultural geography, economics, history, political science, psychology, sociology and related disciplines. |  |
| **C. Humanities**  Courses in the humanities are those which study the cultural activities and artistic expressions of human beings. To satisfy the general education requirement in the humanities, a course shall be designed to help the student develop an awareness of the ways in which people throughout the ages and in different cultures have responded to themselves and the world around them in artistic and cultural creation and help the student develop aesthetic understanding and an ability to make value judgments (Title 5 §55063 (b)(1)(C)). Such courses could include introductory or integrative courses in the arts, foreign languages, literature, philosophy, and religion. |  |
| **D.1. Language and Rationality: English Composition**  Courses in language and rationality are those which develop for the student the principles and applications of language toward logical thought, clear and precise expression and critical evaluation of communication in whatever symbol system the student uses (Title 5 §55063 (b)(1)(D)). Such courses shall include both expository and argumentative writing. |  |
| **D.2. Language and Rationality: Communication and Analytical Thinking**  Courses in language and rationality are those which develop for the student the principles and applications of language toward logical thought, clear and precise expression and critical evaluation of communication in whatever symbol system the student uses (Title 5 §55063 (b)(1)(D)). Such courses shall include Intermediate Algebra or another mathematics course at the same level, with the same rigor and with Elementary Algebra as a prerequisite. |  |

**ACTION OF THE REEDLEY COLLEGE ACADEMIC SENATE COMMITTEE ON EQUIVALENCY**

The Department Policy is: approved: denied:

Signature of Equivalency Committee Chair *(or designee)*:

Date:

Comments: