General Graduation Requirements

Certificates and Degrees

Students have many different goals in mind when they enroll at Bakersfield College. You may plan to earn a certificate to enhance your job skills or earn an associate degree and/or transfer to a four-year university. Bakersfield College offers several certificate and degree options. See these options under Educational Options.

Graduation with an Associate Degree

The awarding of an associate degree is intended to represent more than an accumulation of units. It symbolizes a successful attempt on the part of the college to lead students through patterns of learning experiences designed to develop certain capabilities and insights:

- the ability to think and communicate clearly and effectively both orally and in writing
- the ability to solve problems and use mathematics
- understanding of the modes of inquiry of the major disciplines
- awareness of other cultures and times
- achieve insights gained through experience in thinking about ethical problems
- develop the capability for self-understanding

In addition to these accomplishments, the student shall possess sufficient depth in some field of knowledge to contribute to lifetime interest. (Title 5)

The associate degree shall be conferred by the Board of Trustees of the Kern Community College District upon a Bakersfield College student who has satisfactorily completed the requirements. These requirements are consistent with those prescribed by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges and the Board of Trustees of the Kern Community College District.

General Requirements

1. Educational Planning: Completion of a designated course and a student education plan within the first 15 units at Bakersfield College. Choose from the following:

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- Agriculture: AGRI B1
- Allied Health: NURS B99
- Applied Science and Technology: INDT B10
- FACE: FDSV B50
- Physical Education: PHED B1A
- Physical Science: ARCH B1; ENGR B47
- Student Development: STDV B1, B2, B3, B6
- 2. Completion of 60 degree applicable units, with a 'C' (2.0) grade point average or better.
- 3. Completion of at least 12 of the 60 units at Bakersfield College.
- 4. Completion of an A.A. or A.S. Program of Study offered at Bakersfield College. Required courses of the program must be completed with a grade of 'C' or better.
- 5. Competency Requirements:
 - Composition: Successful completion of ENGL B1A or ENGL B1AL with a grade of 'C' or better.
 - Mathematics: Successful completion of MATH B1A, B1AL, B1B, B2, B4A, B6A, B6B, B6C, B22, B22L, B23, B72, B75, PSYC B5, TECM B52 with a grade of 'C' or better.
 - Reading: Successful completion of ENGL B1A and ENGL B1AL with a grade of 'C' or better.
- 6. Complete one of the following General Education Patterns.
 - o Bakersfield College General Education, or
 - o California State University General Education Breadth, or
 - Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC). (See General Education)
- 7. Completion of at least one course that meets the Multicultural Requirement with a grade of 'C' or better.

Multicultural Requirement

Multicultural study promotes awareness of and sensitivity to diverse beliefs and practices in contemporary society. Bakersfield College requires students to take courses that are inclusive of multicultural perspectives found in American and global society. This requirement may be satisfied through studying the distinctive cultures of the United States or the world, including but not limited to ethnicity, gender, class, political systems, religions, or human geography.

American Cultural and Ethnic Groups

This requirement includes courses that lead to an understanding of ethnic groups and cultures in American society. Courses will focus on themes that address the theoretical or analytical issues relevant to understanding race, culture, and ethnicity. This exploration can be accomplished through the study of, but not limited to: African Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans, Chicanx/Latinx Americans, and European Americans from integrative and comparative viewpoints as they relate to the larger context of American history, society, and culture.

World Cultures

Students may develop a multicultural perspective through a study of world cultures and their relationship to America in a global society. The study of the history, society, or culture of a foreign country and its relationship to America can demonstrate the interdependence of all nations in a global political, economic and social infrastructure. Courses meeting this requirement should not be based solely on Western Civilization.

Graduation Completing Degrees, Certificates and Transfer at BC

Graduation from Bakersfield College is not automatic. You must fill out a Graduation Petition and a degree analysis with a counselor or advisor. Petition to graduate even if you are only completing transfer coursework. Some transfer students may be eligible to receive a Liberal Arts Associate degree. Submit your petition to graduate prior to your last semester at Bakersfield College according to these dates:

Graduation Petitioning Periods

Semester	Graduation Application Deadline
Fall	April 1 to end of fall semester
Spring	August 1 to end of spring semester

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Semester	Graduation Application Deadline
Summer	November 1 to end of summer semester

The College recommends you apply early in the academic year as a response will be sent from the Office of Admissions and Records to your address on file which will detail the progress and any courses that may still be needed to complete degree requirements. You are encouraged to meet with your counselor if you have questions about academic program requirements.

Transcripts from Other Colleges

All official college transcripts or other appropriate verifying documents must be on file with Bakersfield College in order for the Office of Admissions and Records to review applications and determine eligibility. For more information, see Credits Allowed from Other Institutions.

Qualified students will receive diplomas in the mail approximately sixteen weeks after grades are posted on your transcript. Please note you may be awarded your degree before you receive your diploma in the mail. You may order official transcripts to verify your degree conferment for employment, transfer, or other purpose.

Multiple Degrees

An associate of arts or associate of science degree will be awarded to those already possessing an associate or higher degree if:

- 1. All requirements in a different major from that of previous associate or higher degree are satisfied; and
- 2. All general education requirements in effect when beginning the new degree program are satisfied; and
- 3. The student is enrolled at Bakersfield College during the semester in which the degree requirements are completed.