

County Community College
Michael J. Grant Campus

Academic Assembly

## **Resolution 2018-02 [15]**

**Approving the Proposal to Change the**

**30 Credit Minimum for Certificate Programs**

**WHEREAS**, periodic assessment of academic programs and policies is essential to maintaining academic standards, and

**WHEREAS**, the current catalog states, “candidates for the one-year certificate must complete at least 30 credits as specified for their curriculum”, and

**WHEREAS**, a certificate is a credential issued by an institution in recognition of a curriculum that usually represents a more focused domain of knowledge than established degrees, and

**WHEREAS**, certificate programs typically contain fewer credits than a degree program, and all credits must be applicable to a degree program at the issuing institution, and

**WHEREAS**, credit bearing certificates must be approved by SUNY and registered with the State Education Department, and there are no SUNY or State Education requirements that impose minimum or maximum credit limits for certificate programs, and

**WHEREAS**, certificate programs of fewer than 30 credits are common among SUNY community colleges, and

**WHEREAS**, the College has initiated and approved programs with fewer than 30 credits through our current curriculum and governance practices, and

**WHEREAS**, maintaining a 30 credit minimum restricts freedom in the development of academic programs that would benefit students’ myriad academic plans, and

**WHEREAS**, contemporary curriculum design has evolved to include certificate programs of varying credit length which contribute positively to degree completion agendas,

**WHEREAS**, the College-wide Academic Standards Committee approved this proposal on April 5, 2018, be it therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that catalog language (p. 69) referencing certificate programs be changed to read:

“Candidates for the certificate must complete all curriculum requirements, in which at least half of the coursework is resident credit hours offered by SCCC, with a cumulative grade point average of not less than 2.0, both cumulatively and in their major field of study.”

Passed unanimously on May 8, 2018