

Proposed revision to Undergraduate Certificate policy that would allow students with an associate's degree to earn a certificate without completing a baccalaureate.

Catalog: <https://catalog.iastate.edu/academics/#degreeplanningtext>

Current Policy	Proposed Policy and Procedures
<p>Undergraduate Certificates An undergraduate certificate provides a way to give formal recognition of focused study in a specialized area that is less comprehensive than required for an undergraduate major.</p> <p>An undergraduate certificate has the following requirements and understandings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A minimum of 20 credits, with at least 12 credits taken at ISU which are applicable towards the undergraduate certificate requirements 2. At least 9 of the credits taken at Iowa State University must be in courses numbered 300 or above 3. At least 9 credits used for a certificate may not be used to meet any other department, college, or university requirement for the baccalaureate degree except to satisfy the total credit requirement for graduation and to meet credit requirements in courses numbered 300 or above 4. A student may not receive both an undergraduate major and a certificate of the same name 5. For students earning an ISU baccalaureate degree, a certificate is awarded concurrent with or after the ISU baccalaureate degree 6. A certificate is not awarded if the baccalaureate requirements are not finished 7. After receiving a baccalaureate degree from any accredited institution, a student may enroll at ISU to earn a certificate 8. Courses taken for a certificate may not be taken on a pass-not pass basis 9. A cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 is required in all courses taken at ISU towards the certificate 	<p>Undergraduate Certificates An undergraduate certificate provides a way to give formal recognition of focused study in a specialized area that is less comprehensive than required for an undergraduate major. The requirements of the certificate program will determine if an associate or baccalaureate degree is required for the award of the certificate.</p> <p>An undergraduate certificate has the following requirements and understandings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A student has received either an associate degree or a baccalaureate degree from any accredited institution or will earn an ISU baccalaureate degree at the same time or before the requirements for the certificate are completed. 2. Admissions Criteria. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Students earning a certificate with a baccalaureate degree must meet all ISU admission requirements for either freshman (https://www.admissions.iastate.edu/freshman) or transfer students (https://www.admissions.iastate.edu/transfer). b. Students earning a certificate without an ISU baccalaureate degree apply as a non-degree seeking student and will be asked by Admissions if their intent is to declare a certificate. Students must have earned an associate or baccalaureate degree prior to being admitted to the certificate program. Students should refer to the admissions website (https://www.admissions.iastate.edu/nondegree/undergraduate_requirements) for admission requirements for nondegree undergraduate students. Students must meet any additional admission requirements for the certificate. 3. Requirements for Certificates

<p>10. A notation of a completed certificate will be made on a student's transcript and a printed certificate will be awarded.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A minimum of 20 credits, with at least 12 credits taken at ISU which are applied towards the undergraduate certificate requirements. All prerequisite requirements for the certificate must be met as part of fulfilling the requirements for the certificate. b. At least 9 of the credits taken at Iowa State University must be in courses numbered 300 or above. c. The certificate must include at least 9 credits that are not used to meet any other department, college, or university requirement. Credits used to meet the certificate requirements may be used to satisfy the credit requirement for graduation and to meet credit requirements in courses numbered 300 or above. d. Courses taken for a certificate may not be taken on a pass-not pass basis. e. A cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 is required in all courses taken at ISU towards the certificate. f. A student may not receive both an undergraduate major and a certificate of the same name. <p>4. Awarding of Certificates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The following criteria must be met prior to the award of a certificate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. For students earning an ISU baccalaureate degree, a certificate is awarded concurrent with or after the ISU baccalaureate degree. ii. For students that have received a baccalaureate or associate degree from any accredited institution, a certificate is awarded upon completion of the certificate requirements. b. A notation of a completed certificate will be made on a student's transcript and a printed certificate will be awarded.
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Approved FS Curriculum Committee, 10-13-2021, 6-0-0

Approved FS Academic Standards and Admissions Committee, 10-14-2021, 5-0-0

Approved FS Academic Affairs Council, 10-20-2021, 11-0-0

Approved by Faculty Senate, 12-14-2021