

**Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD)  
2025-2026 Associate in Arts, Elementary Education (AA-EE) Degree**

**Description**

The Maricopa County Community College District Associate in Arts, Elementary Education (AAEE) degree requires a minimum of 60 semester credits for the program of study. A minimum grade point average of 2.0 (4.0 scale) and grades of “C” or better in all courses are required to earn the degree. The AAEE degree is governed by the MCCCD General Academic Policies for Transfer Degrees. Refer to [curriculum.maricopa.edu](http://curriculum.maricopa.edu) (click on Current Programs) to search for the corresponding 8101 AAEE. A minimum grade point average of 2.0 (4.0 scale) and grades of “C” or better are required in all courses to earn the degree. The AA degree is governed by the MCCCD General Academic Policies for Degrees Designed for University Transfer.

The Associate in Arts, Elementary Education degree includes the following components:

- I. Required Courses
- II. Restricted Electives
- III. Arizona General Education Curriculum for Arts (AGEC-A)
- IV. MCCCD Additional Requirements (Oral Communication and Critical Reading)

**Purpose of the Degree**

The Associate in Arts, Elementary Education (AAEE) degree is designed for the student who plans to transfer to an Elementary Education, Early Childhood, Multicultural/Multilingual, or Special Education program at an Arizona public higher education institution and/or who plans to become a classroom instructional aide. Generally, the degree transfers as a block without loss of credit to Arizona's public universities, and in most cases, its required courses apply to graduation requirements for these Education majors. The AAEE is also embedded within the Bachelor of Arts, Elementary Education and Special Education (BAEE/SPED) offered by the Maricopa Community Colleges.

**Degree Requirements**

The requirements for the Associate in Arts in Elementary Education follow. The following websites identify the courses that apply to the different General Education Core and Awareness Areas: [AGEC](#) and the [AGEC matrix](#) report at [aztransmac2.asu.edu/cgi-bin/WebObjects/agec](http://aztransmac2.asu.edu/cgi-bin/WebObjects/agec). Courses available for both Areas during a current or upcoming semester can also be found using the “[Find a Class](#)” tool on [maricopa.edu](http://maricopa.edu) and on each MCCCD college’s website. Course sequence is available at [maricopa.edu/degrees-certificates#programs](http://maricopa.edu/degrees-certificates#programs).

**Requirements**

<b><u>Requirements</u></b>	<b><u>Credits</u></b>
<b>I. Required Courses</b> .....	<b>14-20</b>
EDU221 Introduction to Education.....	(3)
EDU222 Introduction to the Exceptional Learner.....	(3)
EDU230 Cultural Diversity in Education.....	(3)
FYE101 or FYE103 Introduction/Exploration To College, Career and Personal Success.....	(1-3)
MAT256 Investigating Quantity: Number, Operations, and Numeration Systems.....	(4)
MAT257 Investigating Geometry, Probability, and Statistics.....	(0-4)

**II. Restricted Electives**..... 8

A total of eight (8) semester credits is required to satisfy the Arizona Professional Teacher Standards: three (3) credits in an additional Education (EDU) course and five (5) credits in Content Area Electives.

Courses must transfer to all public Arizona universities as elective credit, departmental elective, or equivalent to a university course as indicated in the [Arizona Course Equivalency Guide](https://aztransfer.com/tools/) (https://aztransfer.com/tools/) in effect when the course is taken. Courses identified as non-transferable in the Arizona Course Equivalency Guide cannot be used to satisfy this requirement.

Select one (1) additional EDU course (other than EDU221, EDU222, EDU230 or EDU250)..... (3)  
Recommended:

- EDU110 Education in Film
- EDU220 Introduction to Serving English Language Learners (ELL)
- EDU236 Classroom Relationships
- EDU/HUM/STO292 The Art of Storytelling

Choose any combination from the following list of courses and prefixes to total five (5) credits of additional coursework. Course(s) selected must be different from those used to fulfill a requirement of the AGEC-A and/or those used to fulfill Required Courses.

Content Area Electives: Select a total of five (5) credits from the following options ..... (5)

- ARH+++ Any ARH Art Humanities course(s)
- ART+++ Any ART Art course(s)
- BPC+++ Any BPC Business-Personal Computers course(s)
- CFS/ECH176 Child Development
- CFS205 Human Development
- CIS+++ Any CIS Computer Information Systems course(s)
- ECN+++ Any ECN Economics course(s)
- EDU+++ Any EDU Education course(s) (except EDU221, EDU222, EDU230, and EDU250)
- EED215 Early Learning: Health, Safety, Nutrition and Fitness **OR**
- CFS123 Health and Nutrition in Early Childhood Settings **AND**
- CFS125 Safety in Early Childhood Settings

- ENG+++ Any ENG English course(s)
- ENH+++ Any ENH English Humanities course(s)
- GCU+++ Any GCU Cultural Geography course(s)
- GPH+++ Any GPH Physical Geography course(s)
- HIS+++ Any HIS History course(s)
- MAT+++ Any MAT Mathematics course(s) 140 or higher (except MAT256 and MAT257)
- MHL+++ Any MHL Music: History/Literature course(s)
- MTC+++ Any MTC Music: Theory/Composition course(s)
- POS+++ Any POS Political Science course(s)
- THE+++ Any THE Theatre course(s)
- THF+++ Any THF Theatre and Film course(s)
- THP+++ Any THP Theatre Performance/Production course(s)
- Any Foreign Language course(s)
- Any Natural Science course(s)

**III. Arizona General Education Curriculum--Arts (AGEC-A)**..... 35-44\*

The AGEC-A requires a minimum of 35 credits (32 if FYC is met by single transfer course)\*;

AGEC designations are subject to change. See AGEC matrix for each course's value(s) in the semester it is taken. Some of the courses have been approved for more than one designation. Notes below will show how such courses may be used to meet multiple degree requirements.

- A. First-Year Composition [FYC]..... 6\*
- ENG101 OR ENG107..... (3)\*

- AND ENG102 OR ENG108..... (3)\*
- B. Literacy and Critical Inquiry [L] - COM225 Public Speaking..... 3
- C. Mathematical Applications [MA]..... 3-6  
 Requires a course in college mathematics (MAT140, MAT141, MAT142, MAT145, MAT146) or college algebra (MAT150, MAT151, MAT152, MAT155, MAT156) or precalculus (MAT187, MAT188) or higher approved general education course in the Mathematical Applications [MA] area for which MAT15+ is a prerequisite.  
 (Note that MAT182, MAT206, MAT256, MAT257 do NOT meet this requirement).
- The minimum math requirement for graduation defaults to the lowest base-level math, as identified above. Some emphasis may require higher-level math; refer to curriculum.maricopa.edu (click on Current Programs) to search for specific emphasis math requirements.
- D. Computer/Statistics/Quantitative Applications [CS]..... 3  
 BPC110 Computer Usage and Applications **OR**  
 CIS105 Survey of Computer Information Systems **OR**  
 EDU/EED115 Digital Literacy for Teaching and Learning in Education  
 EDU/EED115 recommended.
- E. Humanities, Arts and Design [HU]..... 6  
 Note that some of these courses also have Awareness Areas designations and can be used to satisfy [G] and/or [H] requirement as well as [HU]. (AGEC designations are subject to change. See [AGEC matrix](#) for each course's value(s) in the semester it is taken.)
- 1) Select one of the following ARH, DAH, MHL or THE courses:..... (3)  
 ARH100 Introduction to Art OR  
 ARH101 Prehistoric through Gothic Art OR  
 ARH102 Renaissance through Contemporary Art OR  
 DAH100 Introduction to Dance OR  
 DAH201 World Dance Studies OR  
 DAH250 Dance in Popular Culture OR  
 MHL140 Survey of Music History OR  
 MHL145 American Jazz and Popular Music OR  
 MHL146 Survey of Broadway Musicals OR  
 MHL153 Rock Music and Culture OR  
 THE111 Introduction to Theatre OR  
 THE220 Modern Drama
- AND
- 2) Select one of the following EDU, ENH or HUM courses:..... (3)  
 EDU/ENH291 Children's Literature (Recommended) OR  
 ENH110 Introduction to Literature OR  
 ENH241 American Literature Before 1860 OR  
 ENH242 American Literature After 1860 OR  
 HUM250 Ideas and Values in the Humanities: Early Civilizations to the Renaissance OR  
 HUM251 Ideas and Values in the Humanities: Renaissance to the Contemporary World
- F. Social-Behavioral Sciences [SB]..... 6  
 Note that some of these courses also have Awareness Areas designations and can be used to satisfy [G] and/or [H] requirement as well as [SB]. (AGEC designations are subject to change. See [AGEC matrix](#) for each course's value(s) in the semester it is taken.)
- 1) Select one of the following US History/Government courses\*\*..... (3)  
 These courses satisfy the United States Constitution requirement for state teacher certification.  
 GCU/POS113 United States and Arizona Social Studies OR

HIS103 United States History to 1865 OR  
 POS110 American National Government

AND

- 2) Select one of the following CFS, ECH, GCU, ECN, HIS or PSY courses..... (3)  
 CFS205 Human Development OR  
 CFS/ECH176 Child Development OR  
 ECN211 Macroeconomic Principles OR  
 ECN212 Microeconomic Principles OR  
 GCU121WG World Geography: People, Places, and Culture OR  
 HIS104 United States History 1865 to Present OR  
 PSY101 Introduction to Psychology  
 (CFS/ECH176 recommended)

G. Natural Sciences [SQ/SG]..... 8  
 The lecture course(s) selected for Natural Sciences must include or be accompanied by the corresponding laboratory course for a total of four (4) credits each. At least four (4) credits must be designated as [SQ]. Eight (8) credits of [SG] will not satisfy this requirement.

- 1) Life Sciences: Select four (4) credits of SQ or SG in Biology (BIO)..... (4)  
 AND  
 2) Physical Sciences or Earth/Space Sciences: Select four (4) credits of SQ or SG from one of the following prefixes:..... (4)  
 AGS, ASM, AST, CHM, GPH, GLG, PHS, or PHY

Note: Students are advised to check with the university they plan to attend as specific requirements for lab sciences may vary.

- H. Awareness Areas..... 0-3  
 1) Cultural Diversity in the United States [C]..... (0)  
 Met by EDU222 and EDU230 in Required Courses.  
 2) Global Awareness [G] OR Historical Awareness [H]..... (0-3)  
 May be met by [HU] and/or [SB] course(s) depending on specific courses selected. (AGEC designations are subject to change. See [AGEC matrix](#) for each course's value(s) in the semester it is taken.)

**IV. MCCC Additional Requirements**..... 0-3

- A. Oral Communication..... (0)  
 Met by COM225 that is required to satisfy AGECA Literacy and Critical Inquiry [L]  
 B. Critical Reading..... (0-3)  
 CRE101 [L] Critical Reading OR equivalent as indicated by assessment

**TOTAL**..... 60-64\*\*\*

\*FYC may be met with fewer than 6 credits if a student has transfer credit from ASU, NAU or UAZ for a single course that meets FYC in full.

\*\*State certification requirements include courses on the constitutions of the U.S. and Arizona. Taking GCU/POS113 for [SB] fulfills this requirement completely. Students who instead take HIS103 or POS110 for [SB] should consider taking POS221 as a Content Area Elective so they have completed study of both constitutions. POS220 meets state certification requirements for both constitutions but does not meet [SB].

\*\*\*64 semester credits is the maximum accepted toward most degree programs at Arizona's public universities. Some exceptions apply; consult with an academic advisor for additional transfer pathways.