

**NACCAS Standards and Criteria**  
**January 2014**

**Standard X – Occupational Associate Degree Programs**

The institution offers Occupational Associate Degree programs and/or courses that are consistent with the institution's mission and educational objectives. The general education courses offered in the program are applicable to the occupation. Institutions offering degree courses and/or programs must meet all other applicable standards of accreditation.

- D 1. Instructors teaching applied general education courses must have at least an associate's degree with appropriate course work in the subject area(s) taught OR related work experience (3 years) and college level course work in the subject area being taught.
- D 2. If the institution has a transfer policy, it must state that a minimum of 25% of the degree program must be delivered by the institution awarding the degree.
- D 3. The program must consist of a minimum of two academic years and 60 semester credit hours in length.
- D 4. A minimum of 45 semester credit hours must be included in the occupational area.
- D 5. A minimum of 15 semester credit hours must be included in general education courses.
- A 6. Courses and/or programs enhance the ability of an individual to apply academic and occupational skills in the workplace.
- A 7. Courses and/or programs must be qualitatively related to the occupational degree offered.
- D 8. Resource materials available to degree-seeking students are relevant, current, and appropriate to the courses of study and/or programs.