



**NORTHERN
PENNSYLVANIA
REGIONAL COLLEGE**

General Education Philosophy and Goals

1. PURPOSE

The general education philosophy and goals of Northern Pennsylvania Regional College (“NPRC” or the “College”) describe the commitment of the College to provide a strong foundation in general education, while establishing the ability to pursue lifelong learning and professional success.

2. SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

This policy is applicable to all academic students at NPRC, the faculty responsible for instruction, and the academic administrative team.

3. REFERENCES

- 3.1 INDX-1110-01: Master Policy Index
- 3.2 CLDR-1110: Policy Review Schedule
- 3.3 INDX-1110-02: Document Naming Key
- 3.4 NPRC-3030: Academic Program Review
- 3.5 PROC-3030: Academic Program Review Procedure

4. DEFINITIONS

- 4.1 An Academic Student is any individual enrolled in any credit-bearing course(s) of instruction offered by the College.
- 4.2 General education foundational courses are those required for each degree to fulfill the categories of Communication, Reasoning, Analysis of Diverse Perspectives, Technological Competence, and Professionalism as communicated through the Academic College Catalog.

5. POLICY

- 5.1 All academic degree programs shall include general education foundational courses whose content, expectations, objectives, and learning outcomes embody the general education goals. Major courses within each academic degree program shall apply the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and abilities established by the general education foundational courses to the disciplines within the major.

5.2 General education foundational courses are grouped into the following categories: Communication, Reasoning, Analysis of Diverse Perspectives, Technological Competence, and Professionalism.

5.3 Student proficiency in each general education category is assessed using the following learning goals. Upon successful program completion, graduates of a certificate or degree program should be able to:

- 5.3.1 Communicate accurately and appropriately using verbal and written language to explain, discuss, and facilitate the exchange of relevant knowledge applying critical thinking, and information literacy;
- 5.3.2 Reason through a range of approaches for analysis, evaluation, and problem-solving;
- 5.3.3 Examine a range of human differences and perspectives related, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, culture, region, country, religion, and/or language and how they influence viewpoints and interactions among individuals and groups in various contexts;
- 5.3.4 Apply a combination of knowledge, skills, and abilities to gather information, solve problems, or complete tasks using technology; and
- 5.3.5 Exhibit professionalism through adherence to principles of ethical behavior and organizational codes of conduct while assuming responsibility and accountability for one's actions.

5.4 As a group, general education foundational courses require an annual academic program review as outlined for all other certificate and degree programs in NPRC 3030: Academic Program Review.

5.5 All degree programs require successful completion of coursework in each category of General Education Foundational Courses as specified in a student's catalog of record.

- 5.5.1 Associate of Arts (AA) and Associate of Science (AS) degrees require a minimum of 27 credit hours of general education coursework comprised of general education foundational courses. Applicability to each discipline, transfer considerations, and existing articulation agreements are considered.

5.6 Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree, a minimum of 15 credit hours of general education coursework comprised of General Education Foundational Courses.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES AND TIMELINES

6.1 The Vice-President of Academic and Student Affairs is responsible for oversight of this policy.

7. REVIEW STATEMENT

Review of this policy will occur in alignment with CLDR-1110: Policy Review Schedule.

8. SIGNATURES

Signature on file

3/14/25

Chairperson, Board of Trustees

Date

Signature on file

3/14/25

President

Date

Revision Notes: Policy in Revision