

GRADUATION



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Graduation

Moraine Valley grants four associate's degrees and various occupational certificates. Associate in Arts, Associate in Science and Associate in Fine Arts degrees are designed for Transfer Program students. The Associate in Applied Science degree and occupational certificates are designed for Career Program students.

Graduation Requirements for Associate's Degrees—The following requirements must be met by students pursuing an associate's degree.

- An official high school transcript with date of graduation, a GED certificate or equivalent documents on or before petition for graduation.
- A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0, which does not include developmental and remedial courses.
- A minimum of 62 credit hours, including courses that meet the general education and any specific program requirements for the degree.
- A passing grade in COL-101.
- Developmental and remedial courses cannot be applied toward an associate's degree unless specified in the program description but can be applied to full or part-time student status. Developmental and remedial courses include, but are not limited to, CHM-099; COM-060, COM-070, COM-080, COM-085, COM-090; COS-100; MTH-060, MTH-070, MTH-080, MTH-090, MTH-095, MTH-097; and RDG-040, RDG-041, RDG-070, RDG-071, RDG-090, RDG-091.
- A student must earn at least 15 credit hours at Moraine Valley.
- Illinois state law requires that every graduate demonstrates knowledge of the Illinois and United States Constitutions. Students may meet this requirement by doing one of the following:
 - completing Moraine Valley's political science courses PSC-110 and PSC-115;
 - passing the Constitution exam through the Moraine Valley Testing Center located in B101; or
 - providing evidence of having passed the Constitution test in high school or college.
- A completed graduation petition must be submitted to Admissions and Records by the stipulated deadline.
- All degrees and certificates will be conferred and transcribed with the date (December/May/August) all requirements for that degree/certificate were met.

- On Sept. 18, 1991, Governor Jim Edgar signed into law Public Act 87-581, which states, "Programs shall at least: (1) require each public institution of higher education to include, in the general education requirements for obtaining a degree, course work on improving human relations to include race, ethnicity, gender, and other issues related to improving human relations to address racism and sexual harassment on their campuses, through existing courses." Students at Moraine Valley Community College satisfy the requirements of this law through COM-103, which is a required course in each of the degree programs (A.A., A.S. and A.A.S.).
- Students must meet the degree or certificate requirements as stated in the Moraine Valley catalog current at the time they first enrolled and earned credit ("D" or above in college-level or developmental courses) or the requirements in effect when the degree or certificate is completed. However, if enrollment has been interrupted by six or more consecutive semesters (including summer semesters), the student must meet the degree or certificate requirements in effect at the time of re-enrollment or the requirements in effect when the degree or certificate is completed. Exceptions are the Allied Health and Nursing programs. Students who are readmitted to Allied Health and Nursing programs must follow the requirements in effect at the time of their readmission to the program.

General Education Requirements

Associate in Arts (A.A.), Associate in Science (A.S.) and Associate in Fine Arts (A.F.A.)

See Transfer Programs section of this catalog for detailed information.

Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.)

See Career Programs section of this catalog for detailed information. Some programs may require more than 62 credit hours.

Occupational Certificates

The college offers several programs of occupational specialization. Completion of one of these programs is recognized with a certificate.

The requirements are the following:

- successful completion of the specified courses;
- a cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.0, which does not include developmental and remedial courses;
- at least one third of the certificate hours in Moraine Valley courses and attend the college during the semester in which the certificate requirements are completed;



GRADUATION

Developmental and remedial courses cannot be applied toward a certificate or degree unless specified in the program description. Developmental and remedial courses include, but are not limited to, the following: CHM-099; COM-060, COM-070, COM-080, COM-085, COM-090; COS-100; MTH-060, MTH-070, MTH-080, MTH-090, MTH-095, MTH-097; and RDG-040, RDG-041, RDG-070, RDG-071, RDG-090, RDG-091.

- submission of a graduation petition to Admissions and Records by the stipulated deadline.

Graduation Petition Deadlines and Fees—Candidates for completion of a certificate or degree must file a graduation petition in Admissions and Records.

Deadlines for filing petitions are the following:

Fall graduation (December)—Sept. 15

Spring graduation (May)—Feb. 1

Summer graduation (August)—June 1

The nonrefundable graduation petition fee is \$15. An additional charge is made when multiple certificate or degree combinations are completed at once. Candidates who complete certificates must file a graduation petition in Admissions and Records.

Six weeks is required for final certification and mailing of diplomas.

Second Associate's Degree

Moraine Valley will grant more than one associate's degree to the same student provided all specified requirements are met for that particular degree.

Students may earn an Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degree but not both.

Students may earn more than one Associate in Applied Science degree.

Students with an Associate in Applied Science degree who wish to complete the requirements for either an Associate in Arts or an Associate in Science degree are advised to review the section of the catalog that outlines Transfer Program requirements. Students should meet with a counselor or advisor because not all courses required in the respective Associate in Applied Science programs are intended for or accepted as transfer credit to senior institutions.

Students who have received an associate's degree from another college may earn an associate's degree from Moraine Valley by completing the program requirements for the degree and fulfilling the general graduation requirements.

Students who seek a second degree from Moraine Valley are subject to published fee charges and petition deadlines.

Graduation Ceremony

The graduation ceremony is held once a year at the end of spring semester for graduates from the previous summer and fall semesters and current spring graduates.

Honors

Students who complete a degree program reflecting scholarly achievement are honored at graduation. The cumulative grade point average will be used to determine graduation honors. This grade point average includes courses which count toward a certificate or degree and does not include developmental and remedial courses. Degree graduates with a cumulative grade point average between 3.9 and 4.0 are recognized as graduating summa cum laude. Degree graduates with a cumulative GPA between 3.75 and 3.89 are recognized as graduating magna cum laude. Degree graduates with a cumulative GPA between 3.5 and 3.74 are recognized as graduating cum laude.

Certificate graduates are also recognized at graduation for their achievements. Certificate graduates with a cumulative GPA between 3.75 and 4.0 are recognized as graduating with high honors. Certificate graduates with a cumulative GPA between 3.5 and 3.74 are recognized as graduating with honors.

At the commencement ceremony, honor graduates wear cords to designate specific academic honors. The different colored cords represent the following honors:

Associate's Degrees

Summa Cum Laude—gold cord

Magna Cum Laude—silver cord

Cum Laude—white cord

Certificates

With High Honors—silver and green cord

With Honors—white and green cord

Members of the college's honor society, Phi Theta Kappa, wear stoles at the commencement ceremony to designate their honor society. These stoles are available prior to graduation by contacting the honor society advisor.

