UPDATED Discussion Support Document

Final Title 5 Alignment of the SRJC Local General Education Pattern

5 February 2025 / Contributing authors: Kate Blackwell, Articulation Officer and members of the Academic Senate Executive Committee

The final question being asked of the Academic Senate as concerning the alignment of our SRJC local general education pattern and associate degree graduation requirements with Title V updates is:

Does the Academic Senate wish to adopt two new exemptions to local degree requirements specific to students in high unit majors and/or those having completed six months or more of active miliary service?

These would be adding NEW exemptions to our local degree requirements for graduation. Title V requires students to complete all units in Areas 1 through 6 as outlined in Title V. Our decision to include additional local SRJC Areas 7 and 8 would be impacted by these possible exemptions if we so choose to pass them.

NEW possible Exemptions to SRJC Graduation Requirements:

- 1. Students in certain high-unit majors; and/or
- 2. Students who have completed 6 or more months of continuous active military service (see also <u>ASCCC</u> <u>Resolution 18.04</u>);

Background For Consideration:

1. Students in certain high unit majors: Students following a local AA/AS degree program that requires 34-36 units would have the ability to waive up to 3-units from Areas 7 or 8 only. Students following a local AA/AS degree program that requires 37 or more units would have the ability to waive up to 6-units from Areas 7 or 8 only. This would keep student requirements at / close to the 60-unit associate degree requirements with the combination of degree required coursework and the GE pattern.

Note: Some students will not utilize the waiver based on their course choices or even major course requirements depending on which program they are following. The most common use of the exemption will be amongst our Health Science Degree completers; for example, Dental Hygiene is a good example of a degree that has a 97.5-unit requirement.

2. Students who have completed 6 or more months of continuous active military service: This exemption would be a 3-unit credit toward Area 8 only, Student Success and Wellness, for eligible students. If we choose to pass this new exemption, it would be added to our <u>local options for authorized assessments for Credit for Prior Learning.</u>

Note: For additional information on credit for prior learning specific to prior military service see also <u>ASCCC</u> <u>Resolution 18.04</u> and or <u>Advisory on Awarding College Credit for Prior Military Experience (AB 2462).</u>

A video explainer has also been provided by Kate Blackwell, Articulation Officer, available here.

¹ Long standing exemptions reflecting SRJC, Title V, and Statewide policies that that do NOT require our attention and will continue beyond Fall 2025 include: First, SRJC has consistently allowed students following an AA/AS to choose among all offered GE patterns. Students currently following a CSU or IGETC pattern, are exempt from completing local GE. This will be maintained beyond Fall 2025, when Cal-GETC takes the place of the CSU and IGETC patterns. Students following an AA or AS degree may choose from Local GE or Cal-GETC whereas students following an ADT program can only complete Cal-GETC per the state mandate. Also, students holding a baccalaureate degree from an institutionally accredited institution are exempt from having to complete an additional GE pattern in their pursuit of a secondary (or beyond) degree, as they have already completed a General Education pattern.