

New Credentials Awarded Policy - September 2023 Update

As a part of the normal policy revision cycle, the Credentials Awarded Policy, which defines the types of credentials awarded by Douglas College, has been updated. The Credentials Awarded Policy was first approved during the May 2022 Education Council meeting with several consultations and environmental scans taken place leading up to the approval.

The updated policy is effective immediately. Students negatively impacted by this policy will have until Fall 2023 before more stringent requirements impact their graduation eligibility. The policy outlines the minimum requirements credentials must satisfy; however, programs may elect to set higher requirements.

The key changes that may impact students are highlighted below:

Topic	Definition	What changed?
Residency Requirements	<p>The minimum amount of coursework in a credential that must be completed at Douglas College. It is usually expressed as a percentage.</p> <p>For example, a residency requirement of 50% in a Diploma means students need to take at least 30 credits at Douglas College and can transfer in a maximum of 30 credits from outside institutions.</p>	<p>Certificate programs: Increased to 50%</p> <p>Diploma programs: Increased from 25% to 50%</p> <p>Bachelor programs: Increased to 40%</p> <p>Graduate Diploma programs: Increased to 100%</p> <p>Post-Baccalaureate Diploma and Post-Degree Diploma programs: unchanged, minimum 50%</p>
Minimum Grade Point Averages for Graduation	<p>Grade Point Average (GPA) is a number calculated using the number of credits a course taken is worth and the letter grade earned.</p> <p>Program Grade Point Average (PGPA) is calculated based on the GPA of all courses taken to complete a given program's requirements.</p> <p>Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) is calculated</p>	<p>Certificate programs: Students will need to be in Good Academic Standing to graduate. Good Academic Standing means having a CGPA equal to or above 1.50.</p> <p>Diploma programs: Students will need to be in Good Academic Standing to graduate. Good Academic Standing means having a CGPA equal to or above 1.50.</p>

	<p>based on the GPA of all courses taken at the College.</p> <p>Good Academic Standing is the status of a student who is not on Academic Probation (CGPA equal to or above 1.50).</p>	<p>Bachelor programs: Unchanged. Students will be required to have a PGPA of 2.0.</p> <p>Graduate Diploma programs: Unchanged. Students will be required to have a PGPA of 2.33.</p> <p>Post-Baccalaureate Diploma and Post-Degree Diploma programs: Unchanged. Students will be required to have a Program GPA of 2.0.</p>
Suspensions and Expulsions	<p>Suspended and/or expelled students do not hold an active registration at the College. Students may be suspended or expelled for reasons including but not limited to student conduct, academic integrity, and/or academic performance.</p>	<p>Students on suspension will not be eligible for graduation until after the period of suspension.</p> <p>Students on expulsion cannot apply to graduate from Douglas College by transferring in courses from other institutions.</p>

Students who are negatively impacted by these new institutional minimums will have until Fall 2023 to complete their requirements following the old minimums. Students completing after Fall 2023 will be required to graduate with the new institutional minimums.

For example, diploma students will have until Fall 2023 to complete their program with a 25% residency requirement and a CGPA under 1.50. Diploma students completing after Fall 2023 will be required to have a 50% residency requirement and a CGPA equal to or higher than 1.50.

Completion in Fall 2023 means final courses in the Fall 2023 semester and graduating at the Winter 2024 graduation ceremony.

Other changes to the policy include:

- Changes to layout and formatting
- Minimum credit counts for establishing credential types
- Revised and clarified language around students receiving multiple credentials
- New language for awarding posthumous credentials

Students are recommended to speak with their [Student Success Advisor](#) for course planning and for further clarity on the new policy.

View the full policy [here](#).