



NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY

SEC. II- GRADUATE: PROGRAM 3.0

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

UNIT POLICY—ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Certificate: A non-degree program that requires at least 12 credits. A graduate certificate program may be Post-Baccalaureate (if admission is offered after completion of a bachelor's degree) or Post-Master's (if admission is offered after completion of a master's degree). The catalog information should clearly indicate whether a certificate is a (i) stand-alone certificate, (ii) add-on certificate to a complementary degree program or (iii) a continuing education/professional development certificate. The Registrar will maintain a unique code for each certificate program. Curriculum requests for all PB (Post-Baccalaureate) and PM (Post-Master's) certificate programs should be submitted to the Graduate Council, the Teacher Education Council (if teaching licensure option is included), and then to the Faculty Senate for approval. The name of the certificate appears on the transcript. A student may be admitted independently to a stand-alone certificate program or to a continuing education/professional development certificate program. However, an add-on certificate can only be pursued after admission to a degree program.

Post-baccalaureate and post-masters certificate programs are designed to provide specialized graduate level training in a focused area. The minimal criteria are:

- All courses comprising the certificate program must be at a level acceptable for graduate credit, i.e. a course numbered at 600 or higher.
- The minimum number of semester credit hours required for a certificate may vary from program to program, but must consist of at least 12 semester credit hours.
- Courses required by the certificate program must be taught by members of the graduate faculty.
- Admission requirements of the School of Graduate Studies must be met by an applicant.
- A student may be admitted to the School of Graduate Studies for a certificate program without being admitted to a degree program. A student may subsequently apply for

admission to a degree program for which the certificate credit hours constitutes some portion of total requirements, subject to the Graduate Transfer Credits policy.

Date amendment is effective: May 12, 2014

First approved: August 6, 2012

Amended: March 10, 2014

Approved by the Chancellor