

WORKFORCE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

A workforce education program consists of a coherent sequence of courses designed to prepare students for employment in a career field. Workforce education programs at COM are developed in close cooperation with business and industry to satisfy a need for timely and effective workforce education. COM offers Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees as well as workforce certificates, providing students the necessary academic skills and the workforce skills, knowledge, and abilities necessary to attain entry-level employment in a target occupation.

The following departments offer Workforce Education Programs:

- Allied Health Careers
- Business and Computer Technologies
- Human Service Careers
- Industrial Careers
- Nursing Careers
- Public Service Careers

Associate of Applied Science

The Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree is a workforce education degree and is designed for employment preparation and job skills enhancement and upgrading. The AAS is not a transfer degree, but some of the courses required for the AAS will transfer. Students should check the University Parallel Program and confer with Academic Advisors both at COM and at the next institution regarding the transfer of technical specialty courses.

Overall requirements for the AAS degree vary with each program area, but the standard requirements for any AAS degree are as follows:

Completion of 60 semester credit hours, with at least 50 percent from technical specialty courses.

The 60 hour total must have a minimum of 15 hours of general education courses, which must include one course in each of the following three areas:

- Language, Philosophy and Culture/Creative Arts
- American History/Government-Political Science/Social-Behavioral Sciences
- Math/Natural Sciences

Business and industry experts should provide substantial input into the curriculum design of a workforce education program, including profession-specific knowledge, skills, and abilities and general skills as appropriate, such as oral and written communication, mathematics, computer literacy, and industry-related workplace practices.

Completion of at least 25 percent of the credit hours toward this degree must be earned at COM.

Certificates

COM offers a numbers of workforce certificates, providing students the opportunity to pursue a career pathway in increments. Workforce education programs are designed to prepare students for employment in a career field, while offering multiple entry and exit points, enabling

students to work in their career field while transitioning to the next level of education. The following types of certificates are offered at College of the Mainland:

Level One Certificate (CERT1)

A workforce certificate consisting of between 15-42 credit hours which can be completed in one calendar year or less. Students who have a CERT1 declared major are exempt from TSI requirements. CERT1s prepare students for entry level work in a chosen career pathway.

Level Two Certificate (CERT2)

A workforce certificate consisting of between 30-51 credit hours. Students who have a CERT2 declared major are subject to the TSI requirements and may be subject to other eligibility requirements as determined by COM. CERT2s prepare students for entry or advanced level work in a chosen career pathway.

Level One and Level Two certificates offered by COM have been approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and other appropriate certification agencies or boards. Course requirements for each Certificate program are given in this section of the catalog. Certificates are awarded to students who successfully complete approved programs.

Occupational Skills Award

An Occupational Skills Award consists of between 9-14 credit hours and prepares students for basic skills employment. Students with a declared Occupational Skills Award major are exempt from TSI requirements.

Workforce Education Awards

Program/ Major	Degree	Certificate	Occupational Skills Award	Completely Online
Business Administration - Accounting	AAS	CERT1	OSA	
Business Administration - Entrepreneursl	AAS	CERT1		CERT1, AAS
Business Administration - Management	AAS	CERT1		CERT1, AAS
Business Administration - Marketing	AAS	CERT1		CERT1, AAS
Computer Information Systems - Networking		CERT1	OSA	
Computer Information Systems - Programming		CERT1	OSA	
Barber to Cosmetology Crossover			OSA	
Cosmetology - Esthetic Specialty		CERT1		

Cosmetology - High School Operator	CERT1		
Cosmetology - Instructor	AAS	CERT1	
Cosmetology - Operator		CERT1	
Criminal Justice	AAS		AA
Drafting - CAD		CERT1	OSA
Drafting - 2D/3D Model		CERT1	
Drafting - Industrial		CERT2	
Drafting - CAD	AAS		
Emergency Management	AAS	CERT1, CERT2	
Emergency Medical Services - Advanced		CERT1	
Emergency Medical Services - Paramedic		CERT1	
Fire Academy Certificate		CERT1	
Fire Officer		CERT1	CERT1
Fire Technology	AAS		
Graphic Arts - Graphic Design		CERT1	
Graphic Arts - Web Design		CERT1	
Graphic Arts - Graphic Design/Web Design	AAS		
Health Information Management		OSA	
Health Information Management - Medical Coding		CERT2	
Health Information Management	AAS		
Law Enforcement - Basic Peace Officer Academy		CERT1	
Medical Assisting - Basic		CERT1	

Medical Assisting		CERT2	
Medical Assisting	AAS		
Nursing - Vocational Nursing		CERT2	
Nursing - LVN- RN Transition	AAS		
Nursing - Occupational Safety and Health Technology	AAS	CERT1	
Pharmacy Technician	AAS	CERT1	
Process Technology	AAS		
Welding Technologies - Entry Level Welding		CERT1	
Welding Technologies - Advanced Level Welding		CERT1	
Welding Technologies	AAS		