Certificates

A certificate means a credential issued by an institution in recognition of the completion of a curriculum other than one leading to a degree;

Credit-bearing certificates must be registered with the New York State Education Department, guided by the Regulations of the Commissioner [click on link: Part 50 General Regulation on Program Registration].

Different Types of Certificates

NYSED classifies all certificate programs into the following two categories:

1. **Certificate** programs (all undergraduate programs)
   An undergraduate certificate program is one that requires:
   - at a minimum that the applicant have a high school diploma or equivalent;
   - that the curriculum be of a depth and breadth consistent with the undergraduate degree programs; and
   - that the curriculum ensure a level of sophistication consistent with students in a bachelor's degree.

2. **Advanced Certificate** (C.A.S.) programs (all post-baccalaureate and post-master's programs)
   A graduate certificate program is one that requires:
   - at a minimum that the applicant have a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution;
   - that the curriculum be of a depth and breadth consistent with graduate degree programs that require a bachelor's degree;
   - the curriculum ensures a level of sophistication consistent with students who hold a bachelor's degree and are undertaking graduate level work; and
   - all courses that can count toward a graduate certificate must be consistent with the standard established for SU graduate courses.

* NYSED registered certificate programs follow the same procedures that are followed by degree programs for admission, degree certification, and notation on the official SU transcript.

The Approval Process

The Committee on Instruction determined that approval for certificates will follow the same approval process as new or modified degree programs.

Last revised: Friday, September 29, 2006