

## 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.

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