

PRE-REQUISITES AND CO-REQUISITES

Reference: *Title 5 Sections 55000, 55002, 55003, and 58106*

The Southwestern Community College District adopts the following policy in order to provide for establishing, reviewing and challenging of pre-requisites, co-requisites, advisories on recommended preparation, advisories on recommended concurrent enrollment, and other limitations on enrollment in a manner consistent with law and good practice. The College District affirms the importance of appropriate pre-requisites and co-requisites in promoting student success and recognizes that having these requisites in place is a vital factor in maintaining academic standards, which protects the integrity and transferability of courses. The Governing Board also recognizes that, if these requisites are established unnecessarily or inappropriately, they constitute unjustifiable obstacles to student access and success. For these reasons, the Governing Board has sought to establish a policy which calls for caution and careful scrutiny in order to foster the appropriate balance between student rights and academic integrity.

The College District is authorized under Title 5 Section 55003(a) to establish requisites (pre-requisites, co-requisites, and other limitations on enrollment) and advisories (on recommended preparation and on recommended concurrent enrollment) for courses in the curriculum. All such requisites and advisories shall be established in accordance with the standards set out in Title 5 and as a result of collaborative dialogue amongst constituent groups as set forth by Policy 2510 Shared Planning and Decision Making. In addition, Policy 2515 The Role of the Academic Senate codifies the requirement of the College District to ‘rely primarily’ on faculty when establishing requisites and advisories. The level of scrutiny required to establish pre-requisites, co-requisites, and advisories on recommended preparation shall be based on both a content review and a statistical validation as defined in Title 5 § 55003. Determinations about pre-requisites and co-requisites shall be made on a course-by-course or program-by-program basis. Any requisites or advisories shall be necessary and appropriate for achieving the purpose for which they are established. Students may challenge a pre-requisite, co-requisite, or limitation on enrollment on grounds permitted by law. All requisites and advisories shall be identified in College District publications available to students.