

<b>General Education Policy</b>	Policy Number	2.2
	Effective Date	May 21, 2014

**1.0 POLICY & PURPOSE**

The Board of Trustees of Laramie County Community College (LCCC) is committed to providing educational opportunities shaped by the expectations of a global society and contemporary world. LCCC prepares students to lead both practical and meaningful lives. This is accomplished through well-designed academic programs aligned with professions and occupations, as well as through a purposeful focus on general education. Thus, all graduates of LCCC will have completed a robust curriculum that develops within them the competencies and abilities necessary to engage successfully as citizens in a globalized, competitive, and socially interconnected world, regardless of their chosen career field.

The General Education program at LCCC provides a foundation of knowledge and skills to develop a life of personal fulfillment and contribution to society.

According to the Higher Learning Commission’s (HLC) 2003 statement on General Education:

The Commission has believed that quality undergraduate higher education involves breadth as well as depth of study. As understood by the Commission, general education is intended to impart common knowledge and intellectual concepts to students and to develop in them the skills and attitudes that an organization's faculty believe every educated person should possess. From an organization's general education, a student acquires a breadth of knowledge in the areas and proficiency in the skills that the organization identifies as hallmarks of being college educated. Moreover, effective general education helps students gain competence in the exercise of independent intellectual inquiry and also stimulates their examination and understanding of personal, social, and civic values.

In accordance with the HLC’s beliefs, further supported by the Board of Trustee’s commitment, the purpose of this policy is to direct the President to establish procedures that articulate the expectations for the general education provided within the degree and certificate programs offered by LCCC.

**2.0 REVISION HISTORY**

Adopted on: 5/21/14

**3.0 PERSONS AFFECTED**

Persons affected are the Laramie County Community College Board of Trustees, the Laramie County Community College President, and the Laramie County Community College Faculty, Staff and Students.

#### 4.0 DEFINITIONS

- A. *Competency* – The mechanism by which student learning is assessed. A competency is a specific, measurable statement of what a student knows or is able to do upon completion of a course or program of study.
- B. *Institutional Competencies* – The overarching abilities that students develop throughout their educational experience at LCCC and are able to demonstrate as graduates.
- C. *General Education* – A purposeful program of students’ educational activities that builds a mature understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures and the human condition, mastering of multiple modes of inquiry, ability to effectively analyze and communicate information, and recognition of the importance of creativity fundamental to lifelong intellectual growth.

#### 5.0 REVIEW OF THE CURRICULUM

The Board of Trustees supports a robust, rigorous, and diverse general education curriculum that provides a broad education to LCCC students. This curriculum must be practical and relevant in meeting student needs for success in achieving their educational goals. The President shall implement and maintain a process for the review of the general education curriculum to ensure it includes what is essential for developing student abilities as identified in the College’s institutional competencies and the completion of Board approved programs of study. Maintaining an appropriate general education curriculum is essential.

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REQUIRED APPROVALS	NAME/SIGNATURE	DATE
Originator(s) Name(s)	José Fierro, Academic Affairs Vice President	2/25/14
Ratified by College Council	Co-chair Kari Brown-Herbst	5/2/14
Recommended by President (Signature)		5/2/14
Approval by Trustees (Signature)		5/21/14