

II.E. Graduate Academic Certificate Programs

[Senate Regulation \(SR\) 735](#) authorizes Graduate Divisions to grant certificates of completion of graduate curriculum, also known as Graduate Academic Certificates (GACs). SR 735 requires that certificate programs, *except those offered by University Extension*, be approved by both the Divisional Graduate Council and CCGA. A GAC is defined as a certificate program that:

- a) does not require its students to be enrolled in another graduate program;
- b) is not offered solely through a UC Extension Program;
- c) has an independent admissions process, which requires at least a Bachelor's degree for admission; and
- d) carries a minimum of 3 quarters (or 2 semesters) of full-time resident study.

Certificate program proposals that meet the above criteria and are approved by CCGA according to SR 735 will be recognized as the only GACs that bear the official seal of the University of California. **UC campuses may offer certificates without the official seal that do not conform to SR 735 requirements (e.g., are offered in conjunction with other types of professional or academic degrees, and are not considered stand-alone programs).** These certificates should be critically reviewed on the local campus.

Details of the Process

New GACs should be reviewed/approved first at the local campuses by the Divisional Graduate Council before being submitted for systemwide Senate review by CCGA. The systemwide review of GACs typically includes the following elements:

1. New GAC program proposals will be submitted to CCGA for review as full proposals similar to those for the master's and Ph.D. programs.
2. The review of a new GAC program at CCGA will involve at least one external expert reviewer.

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Certificate of Completion of Graduate Curriculum. Each graduate division may issue a certificate of completion of a graduate curriculum to a student provided that

1. The student has completed a minimum of three quarters (or two semesters) in full-time resident study at the University of California with a grade-point average of at least 3.0. (Am 9 Mar 83)
2. The student has during this residence taken regular upper division (100) and/or graduate (200) courses under regularly appointed faculty.
3. The student entered the program with a bachelor's degree or its equivalent, or with a higher degree.
4. At the time of entry, the student was acceptable for admission to the Graduate Division.
5. The student has completed a program approved by the Divisional Graduate Council and the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs in accordance with their regular reviewing procedures for approval of higher degrees.

6. The student's studies are not covered by a diploma or other certificate. The certificate shall be in the following form:

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Certificate of a Graduate Curriculum in

By authority of the Division of the Academic Senate

..... has been awarded the

Certificate of Completion of the Graduate Curriculum in

.....

[Field]

upon the recommendation of the faculty of the curriculum to the Graduate Council at

[Campus]

Dated

.....

Dean of the Graduate Division

Dean of the School of

Chancellor at

[Campus]

.....
President of the University (En 17 Nov 70)