

Subject: Minimum Qualifications for Apprenticeship Instructors

Dear Senate Presidents,

Apprenticeship is a proven system of education and hands on training. Your community college district participates in an apprenticeship program. Current apprenticeship faculty and the California Apprenticeship Council have raised concerns about getting the best-qualified instructors into the apprenticeship classrooms, and efforts are underway to review and revise the minimum qualifications for apprenticeship faculty.

Out of concern regarding feedback from their own apprenticeship faculty, the Foothill and De Anza colleges Academic Senates passed resolutions urging the ASCCC to rely upon the apprenticeship faculty discipline experts as they consider appropriate minimum qualifications for apprenticeship instructors. This may be something that would be of interest to your Academic Senate. Please see the resolutions and the short note from the 3 senate presidents below.



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On Monday, June 5, 2017, the following resolutions were adopted by the Foothill and De Anza academic senates, respectively. We hope you'll be able to support our confidence in our apprenticeship faculty colleagues. We consider them to be highly qualified experts and should be relied upon to determine appropriate minimum qualifications for their disciplines.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Holcroft, Foothill College Academic Senate President

Mayra Cruz, De Anza College Academic Senate President

Isaac Escoto, FHDA District Academic Senate President

Resolution in Support of Apprenticeship Faculty Primacy in Determining Minimum Qualifications for Apprenticeship Disciplines

Whereas, **Foothill College** apprenticeship programs provide valuable career opportunities for students that allow them to master trade skills while completing degrees and/or certificates, which in turn open doors to earn living wages and contribute to much needed socioeconomic growth in California;

Whereas, the Foothill College academic senate recognizes faculty primacy in making recommendations regarding minimum qualifications for faculty, and recognizes that apprenticeship faculty are highly qualified discipline experts just as more traditional faculty are in their own disciplines, even though those qualifications are not typically recognized with traditional academic degrees;

Whereas, the Foothill College academic senate acknowledges that apprenticeship program directors recruit exceptional faculty in their disciplines to create the highest-quality educational programs for students and ultimately provide the public with highly skilled professionals who are well-prepared to create and maintain safe infrastructure for our state; and

Whereas, the Foothill College academic senate supports the continued efforts by the California Apprenticeship Council and apprenticeship faculty under section 87357 of the California Education Code to ensure our apprenticeship minimum qualifications reflect the trade experience, training, and ongoing professional development of credit apprenticeship faculty;

Resolved, that the Foothill College Academic Senate hereby encourages the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges to rely on our California Community College apprenticeship faculty members as they continue to actively engage the California Apprenticeship Council to create appropriate, flexible, and realistic minimum qualifications for teaching faculty in credit apprenticeship courses.

Adopted June 5, 2017

Resolution: Apprenticeship Credit Course Minimum Qualifications

Whereas, De Anza College apprenticeship programs provide valuable career opportunities for students that allow them to master trade skills while completing degrees and/or certificates, which in turn open doors to earn living wages and contribute to much needed socioeconomic growth in California;

Whereas, the De Anza College academic senate recognizes faculty primacy in making recommendations regarding minimum qualifications for faculty, and recognizes that apprenticeship faculty are highly qualified discipline experts just as more traditional faculty are in their own disciplines, even though those qualifications are not typically recognized with traditional academic degrees;

Whereas, the De Anza College academic senate acknowledges that apprenticeship program directors recruit exceptional faculty in their disciplines to create the highest-quality educational programs for students and ultimately provide the public with highly skilled professionals who are well-prepared to create and maintain safe infrastructure for our state; and

Whereas, the De Anza College academic senate supports the continued efforts by the California Apprenticeship Council and apprenticeship faculty under section 87357 of the California Education Code to ensure our apprenticeship minimum qualifications reflect the trade experience, training, and ongoing professional development of credit apprenticeship faculty;

Resolved, that the De Anza College Academic Senate hereby encourages the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges to rely on our California Community College apprenticeship faculty members as they continue to actively engage the California Apprenticeship Council to create appropriate, flexible, and realistic minimum qualifications for teaching faculty in credit apprenticeship courses.

Adopted June 5, 2017