



MT. SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE

# Certificate vs. Associate Degree

## What's the Difference?

### Certificates

- **Certificates of Achievement and Skills Certificates** or go to [bit.ly/40yWqBh](https://bit.ly/40yWqBh)
  - Focuses on career and technical skills
  - Courses are primarily in the area of study (e.g., Child Development, Welding, Accounting, Supply Chain, etc.)
  - At least 1/2 of the credits earned towards the certificate must be completed at Mt. SAC
- **Certificates of Competency and Occupational Training Certificates of Completion** or go to [bit.ly/4gj8qgf](https://bit.ly/4gj8qgf) for certain non-credit programs of study.

**Major  
Courses  
Only**



# Associate Degrees

- **Associate of Science (AS)** or go to [bit.ly/4jysE8s](http://bit.ly/4jysE8s)
  - Designed to meet the needs of students interested in gaining technical skills for entry-level employment.
- **Associate of Arts (AA)** or go to [bit.ly/4jysE8s](http://bit.ly/4jysE8s)
  - Designed to meet the needs of students interested in graduating with a two-year college degree by studying in a specific area of emphasis. This degree is not intended for transfer preparation.
- **Associate of Science-Transfer (AS-T) & Associate of Arts-Transfer (AA-T)** or go to [bit.ly/3Cpx296](http://bit.ly/3Cpx296)
  - Supports transfer to a CSU by completing half of the Bachelor's degree at Mt. SAC.



## AS/AA DEGREE



## AS-T/AA-T DEGREE

