

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.6. NEW DEGREE/CERTIFICATES

Educational Affairs (EA) is recommending five new credentials, including four certificates and one Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree for implementation in Academic Year 2026-2027.

The proposed credentials align with Pillar 1 Student Access & Success of the 2030 Strategic Plan to create relevant pathways that meet workforce demands. The proposed credentials have been validated and have received support from the program faculty, College Curriculum Committee, Career Advisory Committees, Workforce Partners, and College leadership. Pending Board approval, these certificates and the degree will be subject to approval by the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) and the degree will also be subject to approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE).

	Program Credential	Academic Division/Department	Total Credit Hours/ Courses	New Courses Included	Effective Date
1	CADC Workforce Preparation Certificate	<u>Business and Social Sciences Division</u> Human Services (HUS)	23 credit hours/ 8 courses	0	August 15, 2026
2	Cloud Computing Certificate	<u>Business and Social Sciences Division</u> Computer Information Technology (CIT)	39 credit hours/ 13 courses	2	August 15, 2026
3	Enrolled Agent Certificate	<u>Business and Social Sciences Division</u> Accounting (ACC)	12 credit hours/ 4 courses	0	August 15, 2026
4	Multimedia Storytelling Certificate	<u>Communication Arts, Humanities and Fine Arts Division</u> Technical Communication (ENG)	32 credit hours/ 11 courses	0	August 15, 2026
5	Biotechnology A.A.S.	<u>Biological and Health Sciences Division</u> Biotechnology (BTC)	60 credit hours/ 20 courses	11	August 15, 2026
Recommendation: Approve the new certificates and Associate in Applied Science degree as listed above, with the effective date of August 15, 2026, for submission to ICCB and IBHE.					