Rationale for Certificate of Skill Proficiency vs. Career Certificate

Certificates of Skill Proficiency or Career Certificates are both something that can be approved and implemented at the local level. Such certificates are often offered as stepping stones towards a larger goal – usually some form of vocational accreditation or certification. Where more coursework is needed to achieve some vocational goal, these “mini-certificates” may provide a means of assessing program support and of establishing short-term goals that are more readily achieved.

A Certificate of Skill Proficiency is intended to give students a set of skills that can apply to various occupations. For example, knowledge of GIS or the ability to use particular computer programs might be beneficial skills for individuals seeking employment in a variety of fields.

A Career Certificate is intended to prepare students to work in a specific job field. For example, a sequence of classes in a career certificate may prepare students to enter entry level employment as a Automatic Transmission Service/Repair Technician or allow a Certified Nurses Assistant to gain employment in the acute care hospital setting.

Completion of the Certificate of Skill Proficiency or Career Certificate will not appear on a student’s transcript. It is the responsibility of individual divisions to award these types of certificates.

If you have any further questions please see your division curriculum representative or the curriculum chair.