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**Administrative Regulation**  
Chapter 4 – Academic Affairs

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**AR 4000 CATALOG RIGHTS**

For the purposes of this regulation, “continuous enrollment” means attendance in at least one semester (Fall or Spring) in each academic year.

For the purposes of meeting graduation requirements, a student may elect to meet the requirements by following catalog rights either:

- (1) at the time the student began such continuous enrollment or
- (2) at the time of graduation.

Catalog rights dictate that a student may satisfy the requirements of a degree or certificate by completing the general education and major/area of emphasis requirements in effect at any time of their continuous enrollment.

Students who leave SMC to attend another accredited institution may petition for special consideration to maintain catalog rights for the purpose of earning a degree or certificate, if the absence does not exceed two years.

A student is entitled to receive a degree or certificate provided the student has met all degree or certificate requirements consistent with catalog rights. Santa Monica College will post the degree or certificate to the student’s transcript based on the applicable catalog year rights and report the term it is granted to the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office.

*References: Title 5, Section 40401  
Ed. Code Sections 66600, 89030 and 89035  
Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program Handbook*

Revised: 6/11/02, 6/7/11, 04/28/15  
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