

Pertinent Policy Information for All Texas College Students
The following policies are for your information and review.

Open Admission Policy

Students entering the four-year baccalaureate degree program are expected to have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 or its equivalent. Students with less than a 2.00 cumulative grade point average at the time of admission will be directed to the association of arts program and must meet with the admission committee or be advised by that committee through correspondence.

Class Attendance Policy

The student is responsible for attending all lectures, seminars, laboratories, and field work for each registered class (beginning with the first day of class scheduled) in order to verify registration with instructors, and to complete all work assigned for the course. If a student does not attend class during the first week (first five instructional days) of the semester, or does not attend five consecutive class sessions and does not give prior notification to the instructor of reasons for absence and intent to attend the class, the student may be recommended to the Vice President of Academic Affairs to be administratively withdrawn from the course.

The student will be held accountable for adhering to the College Attendance Policy and are expected to attend class as scheduled. Instructors are not obligated to allow students to submit late assignments because of their absence unless the absence(s) have been officially excused. An officially excused absence, however, gives the individual who missed the class an opportunity to do the work assignment late but in no way excuses him/her from the work required. Official excuses are granted by the Vice President for Academic Affairs for authorized College activities, verified personal illness, or illness or death in the student's immediate family.

Students should understand that absences may jeopardize their grades. **A student will be permitted one unexcused absence per credit hour of the course in which he/she is enrolled. Any student whose unexcused absences exceed the number permitted may, at the discretion of the instructor, be assigned a grade of —F or be dismissed from the class.**

Absences may count from the first official date of classes and not from the first day the student attends. It is the responsibility of the instructor to keep an accurate attendance record of all students enrolled. Students receiving veterans' benefits are required to attend classes according to the regulations of the Veterans Administration in addition to those regulations set by the College for all students.

Students absent from class for any of the reasons listed below may, at the discretion of the instructor, receive an **excused absence** by presenting the proper documentation as indicated in the Table below:

Excused absences and acceptable documentation (Samples)

| Reason | Documentation |
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| Personal illness or illness of immediate family member | Physician's statement |
| Death in immediate family | Funeral program |
| Patriotic duty (military or jury duty; court appearance, etc.) | Copy of notice or summons |
| Performance of co- or extra-curricular obligations to the College (travel with athletic | Written statement from sponsor or notice from either the Office of Academic Affairs or |

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| teams, class field trips, conferences, seminars, fine arts performance, etc.) |
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| Student Affairs |
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Grade Appeals Process

If a student wishes to appeal a grade after the initial grade has been reported, the following steps should be followed:

- The initial appeal for posted grades begins with a discussion between the instructor and the student;
- If a grade change is granted, the instructor must complete a Change of Grade Form and submit it to the Registrar's Office after it has been approved by the Vice President of Academic Affairs;
- However, if there is no resolve for the grade in question, a written statement should be submitted to the division chair for consideration; and
- The Vice President of Academic Affairs has the final decision in grade resolutions that cannot be settled in the aforementioned steps.

Student Refund Policy

A refund is defined as financial aid and/or cash payments minus the amount retained by the institution for the student's actual period of enrollment. Any student who withdraws from the institution may be eligible for a refund of institutional charges, according to the published refund policy. However, a student who received financial aid and withdraws from the institution may be required to refund all or a portion of the financial aid awards to the appropriate financial aid programs.

The effective date of withdrawal will be the date when the withdrawal is officially completed and recorded by the Office of the Registrar. In order to receive a full refund, the official withdrawal must be completed and recorded in the Office of the Registrar on or before the 12th class day for the fall or spring terms. For the summer term the withdrawal must be completed by the 2nd day of the summer term.

If the school determines that a student did not begin the withdrawal process or otherwise notify the school of the intent to withdraw, the school may determine the appropriate withdrawal date. The school may use as the student's withdrawal date the student's last date of attendance at an academically-related activity. The school must document that the activity is academically-related and document the student's attendance at the activity. Examples of academically-related activities include, but are not limited to: an examination; a tutorial; computer-assisted instruction; academic counseling; and turning in a class assignment.

Student Complaint Policy

Texas College has adequate procedures for addressing written complaints by students and can demonstrate that the procedures for resolving complaints are followed. The College has engaged a codified and systematic process to make certain that all students who have a grievance can have the opportunity for review and resolve. A student grievance is any complaint made in writing by a student to an appropriate administrative officer of the College alleging unfair, unreasonable, arbitrary, capricious, and/or discriminatory applications of College policies. A grievance may result from academic experiences, non-academic matters involving administrators, staff, or student organizations or matters related to alleged discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, disability, creed, or marital status.

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Students may file a grievance or register a formal complaint by presenting the complaint in writing to the appropriate administrative officer of the College.

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| • Sexual Harassment (Employee-Student) | Human Resources Officer |
| • Sexual Harassment (Student-Student) | Vice President/Dean of Students |
| • Academic Matters | Vice-President/Academic Affairs |
| • Financial Matters | Vice-President/Business and Finance |
| • Others | Vice President/Dean of Student Affairs |

Office Locations to File Written Complaints.

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| • Human Resources Officer | Martin Hall, First Floor |
| • Vice President for Academic Affairs | Martin Hall, First Floor |
| • Vice President for Business and Finance | Martin Hall, First Floor |
| • Vice President/Dean of Student Affairs | McKinney Hall, First Floor |

Grading Policies

GRADING POLICY: The final semester grades are determined by the instructor based on the grades earned by the student for all course work. Grades are reported officially by the instructors to the Office of Registrar at mid-semester and at the end of the course according to the following grading system:

A - (90-100) – indicates outstanding performance combined with intellectual alertness and initiative;

B - (80-89) – indicates above average work that is performed in a sustained and creative manner according to all requirements of the course;

C - (70-79) – represents the minimum accepted performance for course work in the major or minor area;

D - (60-69) – represents work in the lowest passing quality through which a student can fulfill the minimum requirements of a course. It is considered to be borderline.

F-(Below 60) – indicates that the student has failed. If the course is required, the student must repeat the course for a passing grade. If a student earns an “F” in a course that extends over two semesters, he or she may not continue in the same or higher subject area until the first course is taken again and passed;

I - (Incomplete) – is assigned when circumstances beyond the control of the student make it impossible for the student to complete all work of the course. It is the student’s responsibility to conference with the instructor to ensure that the grade of “I” is changed when the work is completed. The student has one (1) semester following the incomplete being issued to complete course work;

NC - (No Credit) – is assigned as the grade for the student who has not fulfilled requirements of a developmental education (or remedial) course which he/she has attended regularly; and

W - (Withdrawal) – indicates that the student has officially withdrawn from the course. If the course is required, the student must complete the course at a later date in order to receive credit. The “W” indication is administratively assigned by the Registrar.

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FX - indicates that a student has not officially withdrawn from the college, nor completed satisfactory coursework for a letter grade. The FX indication is administratively assigned by the Registrar.

GRADE APPEAL PROCESS: If a student wishes to appeal a grade after the initial grade has been reported, the following steps should be followed:

The initial appeal for posted grades begins with a discussion between the instructor and the student. If a grade change is granted, the instructor must complete a Change of Grade Form and submit the form to the Division Chair then to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and ultimately the Change of Grade form will rest in the Office of the Registrar after all necessary approvals.

When the designation of "I" has defaulted to a grade of "F" the grade cannot be changed. If there is no satisfactory resolve at the faculty level, the student may go to the Division Chair for further consideration; and if the Division Chair does not offer resolve to the grade appeal, the student has the right to take the complaint to the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

STATUTE OF LIMITATION: Texas College has a statute of limitation that grants a student six (6) years to complete an academic degree plan.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS REVIEW: Review of academic progress is conducted by the Office of Academic Affairs. Students in jeopardy receive notice of their standing if they are not progressing academically. To remain in good standing and receive financial aid, the student must complete at least 67% of the expected course work by the end of each academic year and must achieve a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 each semester.

NON-DISCLOSURE OF EDUCATIONAL RECORDS

Information protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 may be made available to persons with the written authorization of the student. Under FERPA, employees of the College may be given access to student information based on having legitimate educational need.

For additional information regarding FERPA regulations, you may go the web address:

<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>; you may call 1-800-USA-LEARN (1-800-872-5327) (voice); individuals who use TDD may call 1-800-437-0833; or you may write at the following address:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202-8520

AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

Texas College provides equal opportunity to qualified disabled persons in accordance with the requirements of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). This Act ensures that individuals with current disabling conditions are provided reasonable accommodations to enable them to enjoy the programs, activities, services and employment opportunities offered by the College. Texas College adheres to this provision once a student/employee self identifies. Students may contact the Office of Academic Affairs for information/assistance.