



# STUDENT HANDBOOK

## 2025-2026



Cuyahoga  
Community  
College



# Table of Contents

<b>Student Handbook Home</b> .....	3	Tuition and Fees .....	21
<b>Welcome</b> .....	3	Tuition Guarantee Program .....	22
Mission .....	3	15+ Perks Program .....	22
Vision .....	3	College Credit Plus Tuition Waiver .....	22
Values .....	3	30 Credit Hour Standard Program .....	22
Statement of Commitment .....	3	Withdraw/Refund Deadlines .....	22
<b>College Culture</b> .....	3	Application Procedures .....	22
<b>Important Phone Numbers</b> .....	3	BankMobile Disbursements .....	23
<b>Campus and Site Locations</b> .....	4	Federal Programs .....	23
<b>Academic Calendar</b> .....	4	Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) .....	23
2025-2026 Academic Calendar .....	4	Repeated Courses and Financial Aid .....	24
<b>Academic Schools</b> .....	4	Scholarships .....	24
<b>College Policies, Procedures and Guidelines</b> .....	5	Tax Credit Info .....	25
College Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines .....	5	Tuition and Fees Deduction (1098-T) .....	25
Student Conduct Code and Student Judicial System .....	5	Student Accounting .....	25
Procedure on Student Complaints .....	13	Parking .....	25
Procedure on Grade Disputes .....	14	<b>Special Services and Procedures</b> .....	25
Procedure on Academic Status .....	16	Student Accessibility Services: Disability Services for Students .....	25
Readmission After Academic Dismissal .....	17	Service Animals .....	26
<b>Grading</b> .....	17	Religious Accommodation .....	26
Academic Progress Reporting .....	17	Discrimination and Harassment .....	26
Auditing a Course .....	17	Title IX .....	27
Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) .....	18	Pregnancy Modifications .....	27
Types of Credit for Prior Learning .....	18	Tri-C 100% Tobacco-Free Policy .....	27
Final Grades .....	18	Choose Not To Abuse .....	27
Grading System .....	18	Concealed Weapons .....	28
Grade Point Average .....	19	Soliciting, Canvassing, and Sales/Distributing and Posting Written Materials .....	28
Pass/No Pass Grade Option .....	19	Emergency Procedure .....	28
Repeating a Course .....	19	Hazing .....	28
Fresh Start: GPA Adjustment Procedure for Student Success .....	20	Sexual Offense Felony Reporting .....	28
Transcript of Grades .....	20	Unattended Children .....	28
Student Attendance for Athletes .....	20	Access to Student Records .....	28
Withdrawal .....	21	Directory Information .....	29
Petition for Withdrawal Exception .....	21	Technology Resources Procedure .....	29
Refund Schedule .....	21	10 Essential Tips for Success at Tri-C .....	29
<b>Student Financial Aid and Financial Information</b> .....	21	Office of the Ombudsman ("Ombuds") .....	29

# Student Handbook Home

## Welcome

We're excited you've chosen to begin your educational journey at Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®). The entire College community is here to help you reach your goals. Tri-C offers one door that opens many opportunities, whether you plan to transfer, prepare for a new career, or take personal enrichment courses. Throughout your first year, we will provide resources and information to help you develop essential skills like time management, goal setting and academic planning. The Office of Student Affairs presents this handbook to guide you through your Tri-C experience. You'll find information on developing plans to complete a certificate or associate degree, transfer to a four-year institution or transition into a new career. But while this handbook is a great resource, it may not answer every question. Contact your campus Student Affairs office for more support. The Tri-C team looks forward to being part of your success!

## Mission

To provide high-quality, accessible and affordable educational opportunities and services — including university transfer, technical and lifelong learning programs — that promote individual development and improve the overall quality of life in a multicultural community.

## Vision

Cuyahoga Community College will be recognized as an exemplary teaching and learning community that fosters service and student success. The College will be a valued resource and leader in academic quality, cultural enrichment and economic development characterized by continuous improvement, innovation and community responsiveness.

## Values

To successfully fulfill the mission and vision, Cuyahoga Community College is consciously committed to diversity, integrity, academic excellence and the achievement of individual and institutional goals. We are dedicated to building trust, respect and confidence among our colleagues, students and community.

## Statement of Commitment

The College declares that

- It will educate students by means of free, open and rigorous intellectual inquiry to seek the truth.

- Its duty is to equip students with the opportunity to develop the intellectual skills needed to reach their own informed conclusions.
- It is committed to not requiring, favoring, disfavoring or prohibiting speech or lawful assembly.
- It is committed to creating a community dedicated to an ethic of civil and free inquiry that respects the autonomy of each member, supports individual capacities for growth, and tolerates the differences in opinion that naturally occur in a public higher education community.
- Its duty is to treat all faculty, staff and students as individuals, to hold them to equal standards and to provide them equality of opportunity with regard to their race, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

## College Culture

Tri-C acknowledges the critical role that open, honest and orderly communication plays in achieving its mission, vision, values and goals. All members of the College community should support and encourage such communication.

Respecting diverse beliefs, ideas and experiences is essential to cultivating a safe and healthy campus community. Diversity promotes creative thinking and self-awareness and enhances social development. All members of the College community should demonstrate respect, reason, restraint and civility when communicating with others.

Members of the College community shall be free to support their beliefs or opinions in ways that do not violate others' rights or freedoms and do not disrupt regular College operations or activities.

Tri-C acknowledges the importance of an environment that is conducive to learning. Visit [tri-c.edu/policies-and-procedures](http://tri-c.edu/policies-and-procedures) for more information.

## Important Phone Numbers

### Customer Service Center: 216-987-6000

All Tri-C phone numbers are in the 216 area code.

	Eastern Campus	Metropolitan Campus	Western Campus	Westshore Campus	BUC
Assessment	987-2256	987-4311	987-5256	987-3888	987-3877
Bookstores	987-2070	987-4550	987-5550	987-3908	987-5550
Campus Police and Security Services	987-4325	987-4325	987-4325	987-4325	987-4325
Career Center	987-2567	987-4913	987-3086	987-5031	987-5575
Counseling	987-6000	987-6000	987-6000	987-6000	987-6000

	Eastern Campus	Metropolitan Campus	Western Campus	Westshore Campus	BUC
Enrollment Center (Admissions and Financial Services)	987-6000	987-6000	987-6000	987-6000	987-6000
Financial Aid and Scholarships	987-6000	987-6000	987-6000	987-6000	987-6000
Library	987-2085	987-4292	987-5410	987-3887	987-3877
Program 60	987-6000	987-6000	987-6000	987-6000	987-6000
Student Accessibility Services	987-2052	987-4344	987-5079	987-5736	987-5079
Student Affairs	987-2202	987-5544	987-5027	987-5926	987-5757
Student Life	987-2045	987-4610	987-5427	987-59	987-5757
Tutoring	987-2343	987-4253	987-5683	987-5902	987-3879
Transfer Center	987-4115	987-3841	987-5085	987-3130	987-5085
Registration General Information					
Workforce Innovation	987-3075	987-3030			
Corporate College® West	987-2800	987-2800			
Corporate College® East	987-2800	987-2800			
Encore	987-3075	987-2274			

## Campus and Site Locations

### Brunswick University Center (BUC)

3605 Center Road  
Brunswick, Ohio 44212

### Corporate College East (CCE)

4400 Richmond Road  
Warrensville Heights, Ohio 44128

### Corporate College West (CCW)

25425 Center Ridge Road  
Westlake, Ohio 44145

### Eastern Campus

4250 Richmond Road  
Highland Hills, Ohio 44122

### Hospitality Management Center (HMC)\*

180 Euclid Ave.  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

### KeyBank Advanced Technology Training Center (KeyBank ATTC)

3409 Woodland Ave.  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

## Manufacturing Technology Center (MTC)

2415 Woodland Ave.  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

## Metropolitan Campus

2900 Community College Ave.  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

## Transportation Innovation Center

24881 Rockwell Drive  
Euclid, Ohio 44117

## Western Campus

11000 Pleasant Valley Road  
Parma, Ohio 44130

## Westshore Campus

31001 Clemens Road  
Westlake, Ohio 44145

RTA: Most Tri-C campuses and sites (except BUC) can be reached via RTA. Use the online trip-planning feature at [RideRTA.com](https://ride.rta.com) or call the RTAanswerline at 216-621-9500.

\*Parking for HMC is available at the ProPark (JACK Casino) garage at 2047 Ontario St., between Prospect and Euclid avenues, on the east side of the street. When entering the garage, veer to the right and park on Level 6. Take the elevator to Level 1 and turn right out of the door. It is a short walk around the corner to the HMC.

## Academic Calendar

### 2025-2026 Academic Calendar

[Tri-C Fall 2025 Academic Calendar: Cleveland, Ohio](#)

[Tri-C Spring 2026 Academic Calendar: Cleveland, Ohio](#)

[Tri-C Summer 2026 Academic Calendar: Cleveland, Ohio](#)

## Academic Schools

Tri-C has five [academic schools](#). The schools house related credit and noncredit programs, providing clear paths to degree and career attainment.

Students are assigned to a school when they declare a major. Being part of a school gives students a sense of identity and community within the College, while also providing a home base for all their academic needs.

Students receive more personalized attention, career guidance and academic support to help them stay on track and earn credentials and degrees more quickly.

Streamlined processes help them register for the classes they need and connect them with resources across the College. The academic schools bring the “feel” of a four-year school to Tri-C while immersing students in their own and adjacent academic fields, helping them clarify and refine their ambitions while building relationships and professional connections that last a lifetime.

View more academic school information in the [course catalog](#):

- [School of Advanced Manufacturing, Engineering, and Computer Science](#)
- [School of Business, Legal Professions, and Hospitality](#)
- [School of Creative Arts](#)
- [School of Liberal Arts and Sciences](#)
- [School of Nursing and Health Professions](#)

## College Policies, Procedures and Guidelines

### College Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines

**Cuyahoga Community College is committed to providing high-quality, accessible and affordable education within a student-centered environment.**

To maintain these high standards, the College must furnish an atmosphere conducive to student and educational growth, as well as one that encourages civility. The Student Conduct Code fosters and protects the mission of the College, promotes the scholarly and civic development of the students in a safe and secure learning environment, and protects the people, properties and processes that support the College and its mission.

The Student Conduct Code identifies prohibited conduct and clarifies when the code applies to student behavior. The Student Conduct Code closely relates to the College's Student Judicial System procedure (rule 3354:1-30-03.6), which sets forth penalties imposed for prohibited conduct and establishes a disciplinary process for alleged violations.

Our goal is for students to mature both socially and intellectually during their time at

Tri-C. Students will gain understanding of the institutional values reflected in our policies and become familiar with the importance of personal integrity.

The core values of the Office of Student Affairs provide a framework for programs and practices that mirror the institutional values of **integrity, respect, responsibility, fairness and diversity**.

The College promotes a civil environment in which all students can learn and grow. Examples of behaviors that cultivate a civil atmosphere include:

- Attending class on time and actively participating.
- Listening in class when the instructor or other students are speaking.
- Turning your cellphone and other electronic devices off during class time, unless otherwise instructed.
- Respecting the rights of others to express viewpoints different from your own.

As a Cuyahoga Community College student, you are expected to uphold these core values and contribute to the growth and development of the campus. It is the student's responsibility — and in their best interest — to become familiar with all applicable conduct-related policies. The student conduct process is not a legal process and is separate from local, state and federal court proceedings.

Rather, the standard of responsibility is based on a preponderance of evidence. The student conduct process is designed to:

- Determine consequences for behaviors that violate College rules and policies and/or local, state and federal laws.
- Offer outcomes that assist students in learning about the impact of their actions.
- Protect the integrity of students, faculty, staff, the institution and the College community.

Contact your campus Student Affairs office for more information. We look forward to serving you!

### Office of Student Affairs

Visit [tri-c.edu/policies-and-procedures](http://tri-c.edu/policies-and-procedures) to view all College procedures. The student handbook is available online at [tri-c.edu/studenthandbook](http://tri-c.edu/studenthandbook).

## Student Conduct Code and Student Judicial System

### (A) INTRODUCTION

1. The College is committed to equity and civility in an inclusive environment. To maintain high standards,

the College must furnish an atmosphere conducive to personal development and educational growth, as well as one that fosters collaboration through a lens of diversity. The Student Conduct Code is established to protect the mission of the college and the commitment to our core values. The Student Conduct Code addresses the promotion of safe and secure learning environments, and the protection of people, properties, and processes that support the College and its mission.

2. The Student Conduct Code identifies prohibited conduct and clarifies when the code applies to student behavior. The College recognizes the student's property interest in their education. Students are entitled to due process which is defined in this procedure.
3. The Student Conduct System Procedures establishes the process for alleged violations of the Student Conduct Code. Meetings and hearings encompassed in the Student Conduct System Procedures are administrative and do not follow the protocol for civil or criminal proceedings

## **(B) JURISDICTION**

1. The Student Conduct Code applies to the on-campus conduct of all students and registered student organizations, including conduct using the College's computing or network resources. The College reserves the right to address through this procedure any conduct on or off campus which poses a risk or threat of harm to the health safety and welfare of the general public. In addition, the College reserves the right to address any conduct which may put the College in a negative light. The Student Conduct Code also applies to the off-campus conduct of students and registered student organizations in direct connection with:
  1. Academic course requirements or any credit or noncredit experiences, such as internships, field trips, study abroad trips, clinicals or practicums;
  2. Any activity sponsored, conducted or authorized by the College or by a registered student organization;
  3. Any activity that causes substantial destruction of property belonging to the College or members of the College community or causes or threatens serious harm to the safety or security of members of the College community; or
  4. Any activity in which a police report has been filed, a summons or indictment has been issued or an arrest has occurred for a crime of violence.
5. The Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) is responsible for coordinating the resolution of complaints of harassment and discrimination based on an individual's protected class.
2. Each student shall be responsible for their conduct, even though conduct may occur before classes begin or after classes end, as well as during the academic year and during periods between terms of actual enrollment (and even if their conduct is not discovered until after a student has ceased to be enrolled).
3. The College reserves the right to administer the Student Conduct Code and proceed with the student judicial system even if the student withdraws from the College, is no longer enrolled in classes or subsequently fails to meet the definition of a student while a disciplinary matter is pending.
4. Students continue to be subject to city, state and federal laws while at the College, and violations of those laws may also constitute violations of the Student Conduct Code. The College reserves the right to review the conduct in light of our community standards when the conduct has a direct nexus to the college or to individuals in the College. In such instances, the College may proceed with College disciplinary action under the Student Conduct Code independent of any criminal proceedings involving the same conduct and may impose sanctions for violation of the Student Conduct Code even if such criminal proceedings are not yet resolved or are resolved in the student's favor. Determinations made or sanctions imposed under this Student Conduct Code shall not be modified because criminal charges arising out of the same facts giving rise to the violation of the Student Conduct Code were dismissed, reduced or resolved in favor of or against the criminal law defendant.

## **(C) DEFINITIONS**

1. These definitions apply to both the Student Conduct Code and the Student Conduct System Procedures as described in section F of this Student Conduct Code.
  1. **Advisor** – A person, chosen by the respondent or complainant, at their own expense, who advises/supports them through the Student Conduct System Procedures. The advisor is not permitted to represent the respondent or complainant in the Student Conduct System Procedures or participate directly in the proceedings (examples of advisors include, but are not limited to, parents, attorneys, etc.).
  2. **Allegation** – Communication of a claim that the Student Conduct Code has been violated.
  3. **Allegation Letter** – Formal notice of an allegation of a specific violation of the Student Conduct Code.

4. **Appeal** – The method by which a decision can be reviewed to ensure compliance with the Student Conduct Code. All appeals must be submitted in writing to the Office of Student Affairs and may be denied if not in accordance with Student Conduct System Procedures.
5. **Appellant** – A student who appeals the decision of a student conduct administrator.
6. **Appellate board** – A group of three (3) administrators authorized by the executive vice president of Access, Learning and Success, or their designee, in accordance with the Student Conduct System Procedures, to hear appeals of conduct meetings and/or level one hearings. The Appellate Board shall not have previously participated in the conduct process under review.
7. **Business day** – Monday through Friday, excluding any date that is a College holiday, winter leave day or a day that the College is closed for weather, emergency or any other reason.
8. **Campus** – Includes everything encompassed in the College Premises including but not limited to all virtual learning environments and electronic means of communication supported by the College.
9. **College** – Cuyahoga Community College District, all College property, or property leased or under the control of the College including College-sponsored events or activities.
10. **College official** – Any person, officer or agent, of the College performing assigned administrative or professional responsibilities, including campus police and safety services.
11. **College premises** – All land, buildings, facilities and other property in the possession of or owned, used or controlled by the College (including adjacent streets, parking lots, garages and sidewalks).
12. **Complainant** – Person providing information alleging that a student violated College rules, regulations or policies.
13. **Conduct code** – Document that contains and explains College rules, regulations, policies and procedures for addressing student behavior.
14. **Conduct hold** – A hold may be implemented during the Student Conduct System Process or in order to address a student's failure to respond to a communication from the Office of Student Affairs, which will impact a student's ability to conduct any current or future business to include enrollment, obtain transcripts, or graduation, until such time as a sanction determination is made.
15. **Conduct meeting** – Presentation of allegations, fact finding and investigation of alleged conduct, conducted by the student conduct administrator.
16. **Conduct report/public report** – Written or electronic statement or report provided by a complainant to the Office of Student Affairs.
17. **Cyberbullying** – The use of social media or any electronic means to send messages of an intimidating or threatening nature.
18. **Decision Letter** – Written decision from the student conduct administrator that explains the outcome and sanction, if any, of a Conduct Meeting or Level One Hearing.
19. **Expungement** – Elimination of a student disciplinary file or redaction of a person's name from a disciplinary file.
20. **Faculty member** – Any person hired by the College to conduct classroom or teaching activities or who is otherwise considered by the College to be a member of its faculty.
21. **Level one hearing** – Meeting conducted with student conduct administrator involving both the respondent and the complainant, either separately or together. Both parties may have the assistance of an Advisor.
22. **Member of the College community** – Any person who is a student, guest, faculty member, College official or any other officer, agent, or person employed by the College. A person's status in a particular situation shall be determined by the student conduct administrator.
23. **No Contact Order** – A prohibition from having any and all contact or communication with a designated party for an indefinite or specified period of time. Contact includes in-person, electronic, email, telephonic or by use of a third party.
24. **Persona non grata** – A person who has been deemed detrimental to the College community and is no longer permitted to frequent or be present in any or specified College locations.
25. **Plagiarism** – The use of published or unpublished words, ideas or other work that is not your own without full and clear acknowledgment of the source. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:
  1. Using someone else's information (regardless of whether you choose to quote or paraphrase) without citing the source;
  2. Failing to use quotation marks when quoting a source word for word;
  3. Failing to cite a paraphrased source;



4. Submitting work prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials; and
  5. Copying any information from an internet site (or other source) without properly acknowledging the source; and/or
  6. Resubmitting a portion of one's own prior work, unless explicitly permitted to do so by the instructor in the current course.
26. **Preponderance of evidence** – The standard used in determining if the respondent is responsible for a Student Conduct Code violation; specifically, it must be found that it is “more likely than not” that the alleged behavior/conduct occurred and was a violation of College rules, regulations or policies.
  27. **Registered student organization** – Any number of groups who have complied with the formal requirements for College recognition through the Student Life and Engagement Offices.
  28. **Respondent** – Any person defined as a member of the College community who has been alleged to have violated College rules, regulations or policies.
  29. **Revocation** – The process by which a College degree, certificate or license can be revoked.
  30. **Student** – Student – A person who has applied, registered or is taking credit or noncredit courses at the College, either full time or part time, to pursue training, certification, undergraduate or professional studies. A person withdraws after allegedly violating the Student Conduct Code, who is not officially enrolled for a particular term but who has a continuing academic relationship or educational interest with the College, or who has been notified of their acceptance for admission.
  31. **Student conduct administrator** – Any person or persons authorized by the executive vice president of Access, Learning and Success or their designee
  32. **Tenure** – Any period of active enrollment at any College location.
  33. **Witness** – Any person who has direct information regarding an alleged incident.

## (D) PROHIBITED CONDUCT

Any student found to have engaged, or to have attempted to engage, in any of the following conduct while within the College's jurisdiction, as set forth in 3354-1-3003.5(B), will be subject to disciplinary action by the College. Conduct prohibited by 3354:1-60-01, the College policy on discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, retaliation

and Title IX shall be addressed under the procedure outlined in section 3354:1-60-02 discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct and Title IX procedure.

1. **Academic dishonesty** – Acts of dishonesty including, but not limited to:
  1. Cheating, plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty;
  2. Furnishing false information to any College official, faculty member or office;
  3. Forgery, alteration or misuse of any College document, record or instrument of identification; and
  4. Resubmitting a portion of one's own prior work, unless explicitly permitted to do so by the instructor of the current course.
2. **College rules** – Violation of any College policy, procedure, directive or other requirement (including, without limitation, requirements set forth in the student handbook) published in hard copy or available electronically.
  1. Unauthorized possession, duplication or use of keys or other modes of entry to any College premises or unauthorized entry to or use of College premises.
  2. Unauthorized use of College supplies or equipment for personal purposes.
  3. Violating campus traffic rules or regulations or obstruction of the free flow of pedestrian or vehicular traffic on College premises or at College-sponsored or College-supervised functions.
  4. Violating public health procedure, including but not limited to; failure to adhere to “personal statement of responsibility” and/or other health protocols.
3. **Controlled substances** – Violation of the College's alcohol, drug and tobacco policy (3354:1-20-05) or any related College procedure.
4. **Destruction/misuse of property**
  1. Destroying, defacing, tampering with, materially altering or otherwise damaging property not one's own. This includes, but is not limited to: doors, windows, elevators, swipe card mechanisms, restroom equipment, vending machines, signs, College vehicles, computer equipment and classroom equipment.
  2. Creating a condition that endangers or threatens property not one's own.
5. **Disorderly conduct** – Disorderly or disruptive conduct which unreasonably interferes with College activities or with the legitimate activities of any member of the College community, including but not limited to any language considered obscene or profane as determined by the student conduct administrator.
  1. Participating in an on- or off-campus demonstration, riot or activity that disrupts the normal operations of the College and/or



- infringes on the rights of other members of the College community in the pursuit of their education or employment; or leading, inciting or attempting to lead or incite others to disrupt the schedule and/or normal College activities, whether on or off College premises (this includes social networking sites and virtual environments).
6. **Gambling** – Gaming or betting for money or other possessions on College property or in any College-operated or managed facility.
  7. **Harassment**
    1. Threatening or intimidating a person, sufficient to create a reasonable fear of harm by that individual, including bullying, cyberbullying, or coercion.
    2. Stalking is a course of conduct directed at a specific person that is unwelcome and would cause a reasonable person to feel fear. Examples include repetitive and menacing pursuit, following, and or interfering with the peace and or safety of another.
    3. Creating a condition that endangers or threatens the health, safety or welfare of another person.
    4. Physically restraining or detaining another person, or removing any person from any place where they are authorized to remain.
  8. **Hazing** – Doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization, including but not limited to national or international organizations, or any act to continue or reinstate membership in or affiliation with any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person, including coercing another to consume alcohol or a drug of abuse, as defined by the Ohio Revised Code.
  9. **Abuse of Student Conduct System** – Abuse of the Student Conduct System Procedures includes, but is not limited to:
    1. Failure to obey the notice from a student conduct administrator or other College official to appear for a meeting or hearing as part of the student judicial system;
    2. Falsification, distortion or misrepresentation of information before a student conduct administrator;
    3. Initiation of a Student Conduct Code allegation in bad faith or malicious intent or for retaliation for a protected activity;
    4. Using harassment, intimidation, threats, force or coercion while attempting to discourage an individual's proper participation in or use of the Student Conduct System Procedures;
  5. Attempting to influence the impartiality of a member of the Student Conduct System Procedures prior to, during and/or after the Student Conduct System Procedures and;
  6. Harassment (verbal or physical) and/or intimidation of a member of the Student Conduct System Procedures prior to, during and/or after the Student Conduct System Procedures;
  7. Failure to comply with the sanction(s) imposed under the Student Conduct System Procedures; and
  8. Influencing or attempting to influence another person to commit an abuse of the Student Conduct System Procedures
  10. **Laws** – Engaging in conduct that is sufficient to constitute a violation of federal, state, or local law that causes, or could cause, harm to the campus community to the extent the college's interests are distinctly and clearly involved.
  11. **Physical violence** – Physical abuse including, but not limited to: punching, slapping, kicking, spitting or otherwise striking any person(s) and/or other conduct whether or not it threatens or endangers the health, safety and/or welfare of any person.
  12. **Reasonable request** – Failure to comply with direction of College officials or law enforcement officers acting in performance of their duties and/or failure to identify oneself to these persons as, and when, requested to do so.
  13. **Recording privacy** – Any use of electronic or other devices to make an audio, photographic or video record of any person without the person's consent, when such a recording is likely to cause injury, distress or damage to reputation. This includes, but is not limited to, taking video or pictures of another person in a gym, locker room, restroom, or any location where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. The storing, sharing and/or distributing of such unauthorized records by any means is also prohibited.
  14. **Sexual misconduct** – Sexual misconduct - See the College Policy on Discrimination, harassment and Title IX. 3354:1-60-01.
  15. **Theft** – Using, taking and/or possessing property or services that are knowingly not one's own and/or without permission of the owner.
  16. **Weapons** – Illegal or unauthorized possession, use or distribution of firearms, explosives, other weapons, or dangerous chemicals or other materials on College premises or use of any such item, even if legally possessed, in a manner that harms or threatens others.
    1. As identified in the College Safety and Security Policy, 3354:1-50-04;

## (E) SANCTIONS

The following sanctions may be imposed upon any student found to have violated the Student Conduct Code (more than one of the sanctions listed may be imposed for any single violation):

1. **Warning** - Official notice in writing or given verbally to the student that the student is violating or has violated the Student Code of Conduct. Such warning will be recorded in the student's conduct record.
2. **Probation** - A written reprimand. Probation is for a designated time period. Probation includes but is not limited to rehabilitative or restorative action with the probability of more severe disciplinary sanctions if the student violates any College rules during the probationary period.
3. **Dismissal/Suspension** - Temporary separation of the student from the College or specific activities/events, buildings or locations for a defined period of time, after which the student is eligible to request, in writing, permission of the student conduct administrator to be readmitted. Such permission may be granted or denied at the sole discretion of the student conduct administrator. Additional conditions for readmission may be specified including, without limitation, the completion of the normal application process.
4. **Expulsion** - Permanent separation of the student from all College locations, events and activities.

IN ADDITION, THE FOLLOWING  
SANCTIONS MAY BE INCORPORATED INTO ANY OF  
THE ABOVE  
SANCTIONS:

- a. **Behavioral Requirement** - Required activities including, but not limited to: seeking academic or personal counseling, substance abuse screening, written apology, etc.
- b. **Discretionary sanction** - Work assignments, essays, services to the College or other related discretionary assignments.
- c. **Eligibility restriction** - Student deemed not in good standing for conduct purposes for a specific time period. Restriction may include:
  - i. Ineligibility to hold office in any registered student organization or hold elected or appointed office at the College; or
  - ii. Ineligibility to represent the College in any way, including participating in a study abroad program, attending conferences or representing the College at an official function, event or competition.
  - iii. **Loss of privileges** - Denial of specified privileges for a designated time period. Student may be denied specific privileges

or be restricted to a specific mode of coursework.

5. **Reasonable Fines** - Reasonable fines may be imposed.
6. **Revocation of admission and/or degree** - Student Affairs may recommend to the Board of Trustees that the Board vote to revoke a degree awarded from the College on the basis that the student has engaged in conduct established as dishonest, fraudulent, misrepresentation or any other violation of the College standards for obtaining the degree, or for other serious violations committed by a student prior to graduation.
7. **Restitution** - Compensation for Loss, damage or injury. This may take the form of appropriate service and/or monetary or material replacement. This is not a fine, but rather a repayment for the value of the property or loss of service due to damage or loss inflicted.
8. **Withholding degree** - The College may withhold awarding a degree otherwise earned until the completion of the Student Conduct System Procedures, including completion of all sanctions imposed, if any.
9. **Group sanctions** - - The following sanctions may be imposed upon groups or registered student organizations found to have violated the Student Code of Conduct One or more of the sanctions listed above; or
  1. Deactivation, de-recognition or loss of all privileges (including status as a registered student organization) for a specific time period.
  2. A violation that leads to a suspension, expulsion or other sanction may have the additional consequence of loss of tuition and fees. While not a sanction, students should consider this as a potential consequence resulting from violations of the Student Conduct Code

## (F) STUDENT CONDUCT SYSTEM PROCEDURES

1. **Bringing Allegations:**
  1. Any student or employee may report an alleged violation of the Student Conduct Code through an electronic reporting tool made available through the Office of Student Affairs. If a conduct report is received by an employee or office other than Student Affairs it must be routed to the Office of Student Affairs.
  2. All allegations should be submitted as soon as possible after the event or knowledge of the event takes place, preferably within Fifteen (15) business days. After this timeframe, and except where longer timeframes are required

by law, no allegation may be submitted without prior written permission of the Executive Vice President of Access, Learning & Success or their designee who may grant or deny such permission at their sole discretion.

3. The Student Conduct Administrator will determine if the allegations contained in the incident report are within the parameters of the administration of the student conduct code. The Student Conduct Administrator may conduct an initial investigation to determine if the allegation has merit and/or if they can be addressed administratively by mutual consent of the parties.
4. The Student Conduct Administrator shall present all allegations in written form to the student.
5. A time shall be set to discuss the allegation(s) during a conduct meeting not more than ten (10) business days after the student has been notified of the alleged violations. Maximum time limits for scheduling a conduct meeting may be extending at the discretion of the Student Conduct Administrator

## 2. Interim suspension

1. The College recognizes a student's constitutionally protected property interest in their education and students are entitled to due process. After an incident report has been filed, the Student Conduct Administrator in their sole discretion may impose an interim suspension, but only if the Student Conduct Administrator determines the suspension to be appropriate to:
  1. protect the safety and well-being of members of the College community or to protect College property;
  2. protect the reporting and/or respondent's own physical or emotion safety and well-being; or
  3. prevent or deter disruption of, or interference with, the normal operations of the College.
2. During the interim suspension, a student may be denied access to all or part of the College premises (including classes) and/or all other College activities or privileges for which the student might otherwise be eligible, as the Student Conduct Administrator may determine to be appropriate.
3. The interim suspension does not replace the regular Student Conduct System Procedures, which shall proceed normally.
4. The student should be notified in writing of the interim suspension and the reasons for the action. The notice should include the time, date, and place of a conduct meeting where the student may show cause why the interim

suspension should not be in place or should be modified pending the final resolution of the allegation(s).

3. **Conduct meeting(s)** – Presentation of allegations to the respondent which includes but is not limited to fact finding and investigation of the conduct issue which can occur in one meeting or over the course of multiple meetings. Upon the conclusion of the Conduct Meeting(s) the Student Conduct Administrator, in their sole, reasonable discretion, will either issue a Decision Letter or proceed to a Level One Hearing. If the respondent fails to appear for their scheduled conduct meeting, the conduct meeting shall continue in accordance with the Student Conduct System Procedures. The Conduct Administrator shall provide the decision in writing to the respondent. In the event there is a finding of responsibility the respondent shall be held accountable for any finding of responsibility and all resulting sanctions.
4. **Level one hearings** – shall be conducted by the Student Conduct Administrator according to the guidelines below:
  1. Level one hearings will be conducted in private, though communications in such hearings should not be considered confidential.
  2. The reporting party and the respondent have the right to be assisted by an advisor they choose, at their own expense. The complainant and/or respondent is responsible for presenting their own information, and therefore, advisors may be present but are not permitted to participate in the Level One Hearing.
  3. The Student Conduct Administrator, will determine if the level one hearing involving multiple parties are conducted either separately or jointly. Should a joint conduct meeting occur all parties are required to complete the appropriate FERPA releases to allow joint participation.
  4. The Student Conduct Administrator, at their discretion may permit the Reporting Party and/or other Witnesses to attend the Level One Hearing.
  5. The reporting party, the respondent and the Student Conduct Administrator may arrange for witnesses to present pertinent information to the Student Conduct Administrator. Witnesses will provide information to and answer questions from the Student Conduct Administrator. Only the Conduct Administrator is permitted to ask questions.
  6. Pertinent records, exhibits, and written statements may be accepted as information for consideration by a Student Conduct Administrator at their discretion.

7. All procedural questions are subject to the final and sole discretion of the Student Conduct Administrator.
8. The Student Conduct Administrator, at their sole discretion may require multiple level one hearings in order to more fully and fairly evaluate alleged violations.
9. The Student Conduct Administrator will determine whether the respondent has committed the alleged violation(s) after consideration of all relevant information and the final level one hearing concludes.
10. The Student Conduct Administrator's determination shall be made on the basis of the Preponderance of the Evidence, defined as whether it is more likely than not that the respondent violated the Student Conduct Code.
11. Formal rules of process, procedure, and technical rules of evidence, such as are applied in criminal or civil court proceedings, are not used in Student Conduct System Procedures.
12. The Student Conduct Administrator shall create a record, this may include all or some combination of video, audio or written record of the level one hearing. The record shall be the property of the College, subject to all local, state and federal laws
13. If the respondent fails to appear for their scheduled level one hearing, the hearing shall continue in accordance with the Student Conduct System Procedures. The Conduct Administrator shall provide the decision in writing to the respondent. In the event there is a finding of responsibility the respondent shall be held accountable for any finding of responsibility and all resulting sanctions
5. **Decision letter**
  1. Upon the conclusion of a conduct meeting and/or level one hearing, the student conduct administrator shall prepare and issue a Decision Letter.
  2. In each case in which a Student Conduct Administrator determines that the respondent has violated the Student Conduct Code, the Student Conduct Administrator shall determine and impose sanction(s). Following the Conduct Meeting and/or Level One Hearing, the Student Conduct Administrator shall notify the respondent and the reporting party, if required by law, in writing of the determination and any sanction(s) imposed, if applicable. The Student Conduct Administrator is not otherwise required to provide notice of assigned sanction(s) or meeting details to the reporting party.

## **(G) APPEALS**

1. **Appellate board panel** – The Appellate Board Panel shall consist of three (3) of the following individuals from a cross section of the campuses: Student Affairs Deans and Assistant Deans, Academic Affairs Deans and Assistant Deans, Associate Deans, full time faculty, and/or staff members at Director level and above.
2. **Appeal process**
  1. A decision reached by the Student Conduct Administrator or a sanction imposed by the Student Conduct Administrator may be appealed by the respondent. within ten (10) business days of the date the Student Conduct Administrator's decision letter is issued. Notice of intent to appeal must be in writing and must set for the documentation that provides the basis of the appeal. The appeal shall be limited to a review of the record of the Conduct Meeting and/or Level One Hearing and supporting documents for one or more of the following purposes:
    2. To determine whether the conduct meeting and/or level one hearing was conducted fairly in light of the alleged violations and information presented, and in conformity with prescribed procedures. Any inquiry into fairness shall consider, at a minimum, whether the complaining party had a reasonable opportunity to prepare and to present information that the Student Conduct Code was violated, and whether the respondent had a reasonable opportunity to prepare and to present a response to those allegations. Deviations from prescribed procedures will not be a basis for sustaining an appeal unless such deviations might reasonably have led to a different decision and/or different sanctions than were imposed.
      1. To determine whether there were facts presented that, if believed by the Student Conduct Administrator, were sufficient to establish that a violation of the Student Conduct Code occurred.
      2. To determine whether the sanction(s) imposed were appropriate for the violation of the Student Conduct Code which the respondent was found to have committed.
      3. To consider whether the Conduct Meeting and/or Level One Hearing should be reopened to allow the Student Conduct Administrator to review newly available information. The Appellate Board may direct a re-opening of the Conduct Meeting and/or Level One Hearing to

review newly-available information if and only if the Appellate Board determines that:

1. he appellant neither knew nor should have known such information at the time of the Conduct Meeting and/or Level One Hearing, and the information could reasonably be expected to alter the decision made by the Student Conduct Administrator.
3. **Appellate board decision** – Following the Appeal, the Appellate Board shall advise the respondent, in writing of the Appellate Board's decision.
  1. If the Appellate Board overturns the decision of the Conduct Meeting and/or Level One Hearing, the matter will be returned to the Student Conduct Administrator for re-opening of the Conduct Meeting and/or Level One Hearing as applicable. In accordance with the ruling of the Appellate Board the Student Conduct Administrator shall reconsider the Conduct Meeting and/or Level One Hearing determination and/or sanction(s). The Student Conduct Administrator shall then issue a Decision Letter in accordance with this procedure. The student may appeal the findings in the Decision Letter per Section F(5) of this procedure as any other Conduct Meeting and/or Level One Hearing.
  2. If the Appellate Board upholds the decision of the Conduct Meeting and/or Level One Hearing, the matter shall be considered final and binding upon all involved.

## **(I) PROCESS TO EXPUNGE STUDENT CONDUCT CODE RECORDS**

1. A Student wishing to remove disciplinary actions from their educational record must provide a written request to the Student Conduct Administrator at the campus of their enrollment that administered the discipline, no less than two years after the sanction has been completed. The request must include the following information:
  1. Student's full name at the time of attendance/disciplinary action;
  2. Student number;
  3. Disciplinary record for which student is requesting removal;
  4. Date of disciplinary action; and
  5. Reason for request; please describe and document any actions that represent personal growth that you have taken that support your request to expunge your conduct record. Examples of personal growth include: Mentoring, community service, academic growth, personal counseling, etc. Please

explain where/how you believe you have grown as a person and provide additional documentation that supports that growth.

2. Requests will be reviewed by a College-wide panel consisting of student affairs deans, administrative deans and faculty.
3. The student will be advised in writing of the panel decision. Expulsion, dismissal, revocation of degree or any sanctions related to cheating or plagiarism may not be expunged.

Effective date: March 6, 2023

Prior effective date(s): December 1, 2022; May 11, 2020; June 1, 2014; June 10, 2008

Procedure amplifies: 3354:1-30-03

## **Student Affairs Office Locations**

### **Eastern Campus**

4250 Richmond Road (ESS [2133](#))  
Highland Hills, Ohio 44122  
216-987-2202

### **Metropolitan Campus**

2900 Community College Ave. (MBA 105)  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115  
216-987-4240

### **Western Campus/BUC**

11000 Pleasant Valley Road (WSS G204)  
Parma, Ohio 44130  
216-987-5027

### **Westshore Campus**

31001 Clemens Road (SLT 216)  
Westlake, Ohio 44145  
216-987-5926

## **Procedure on Student Complaints**

### **(A) INTRODUCTION**

1. The College strives to provide every student with a successful and positive educational experience. As part of an effort to continuously improve the College while also resolving legitimate student concerns, the College maintains this student complaints and grade disputes procedure. This procedure does not apply to issues covered by the College policy on affirmative action, equal opportunity, discrimination and harassment (rule 3354:1-42-01 of the administrative code) or that policy's associated procedures. It also does not apply to issues covered by the Student Conduct Code or student judicial system.

2. In this procedure, "days" means weekdays other than College holidays, winter leave days, or days the College is closed due to weather, emergency or other reason.
3. The student complaint and grade dispute processes are distinct and separate. A student who wishes to make a complaint and also to dispute a grade must follow both processes described in sections (B) and (C) below.

## **(B) STUDENT COMPLAINTS (TRI-C.EDU/CONCERNS)**

1. The complaints process does not apply to grade disputes, which are addressed in section (C) below.
2. Any student or community member who is dissatisfied with an aspect of their collegiate experience involving a faculty member or other employee may seek resolution of the matter with the College, as follows:
  1. The student or community member must initiate the matter orally with the faculty member or other employee who is the focus of the complaint within a reasonable time frame.
  2. That individual will meet with the student or community member, listen to the facts and circumstances surrounding the complaint and provide a response to the student or community member.
  3. In the event the student or community member is not satisfied, he or she may appeal by explaining the complaint fully, in writing, using the online complaint system available at [www.tri-c.edu/concerns](http://www.tri-c.edu/concerns).
  4. The associate dean of academic affairs will meet jointly or independently with the student or community member and faculty member (or the appropriate supervisor will meet jointly or independently with the student and individual who is the focus of the complaint) within 15 days following receipt of the complaint. The academic affairs associate dean or supervisor will review the facts and circumstances and provide the student with a written response. This decision will be final. The campus academic affairs dean or designee will send a copy of the decision to the campus president.
3. Any student or community member who is dissatisfied about an issue that does not involve a faculty member or other employee, or that involves an employee whose office or normal work location is not at a campus or Corporate College location, may seek resolution of the matter as follows:
  1. The student or community member must address these non-academic complaints in writing using the online complaint system available at [www.tri-c.edu/concerns](http://www.tri-c.edu/concerns). The dean of student affairs or their designee shall

receive the complaint and shall communicate the College's decision regarding the complaint to the student within 15 days of receiving the written complaint.

2. The decision communicated in prior paragraph (B)(3)(a) will not be subject to student appeal.

Effective date: May 17, 2021

Prior effective dates: Sept. 3, 2010; March 25, 2019

Procedure amplifies: 3354:1-30-03

## **Procedure on Grade Disputes**

### **(A) INTRODUCTION**

1. The College strives to provide every student with a successful and positive educational experience. As part of its effort to resolve student grade concerns, the College maintains this Grade Disputes Procedure. This Procedure does not apply to issues covered by the Student Conduct Code or Student Judicial System.
2. Nothing in this Procedure on grade disputes prohibits a student from seeking relief under the College's policy and procedure prohibiting discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, retaliation or Title IX under Section 3354:1-60.01 & 3354:1-60.02; the Procedure on Student Complaints 3354-1-30-03.4; or any other procedure available to the Student. Pursuing a resolution under this procedure will not impact the result of any other procedure. However, it is important to note, pursuant to the tenants of Academic Freedom, all requests for a change of a recorded grade are resolved under this Procedure.

### **(B) DEFINITIONS**

1. In this procedure, "days" means weekdays other than College holidays, winter leave days, or days the College is closed due to weather, emergency, or other reason.
2. Grade Disputes are challenges to final course grades.

### **(C) GRADE DISPUTES**

1. Generally, responsibility for academic evaluation rests with the faculty member.
2. Students are responsible for achieving academic performance standards established for each course in which they are enrolled.
3. The grade dispute process is comprised of three levels (Levels 1-3).

4. It is the student's responsibility to take the required steps in the process, within the given timelines, or the right to dispute the grade is automatically and permanently waived.

5. Level 1 grade disputes: the instructor

- a) All Level 1 Grade Disputes must be filed in writing by a student, with the instructor, no later than sixty days after the disputed grade is recorded by the Registrar and appears on the student's permanent record..

- b) The student must notify the instructor in writing of their desire to dispute the final grade, and request a discussion. The instructor must schedule the discussion for a mutually agreed date to occur not later than ten days after receiving the written notice (email is acceptable). Discussion can take place in person, by e-mail, video conferencing, or by phone. The instructor must inform the student, in writing, their decision regarding the disputed grade. A student may proceed to Level 2 of the Grade Dispute process, if the resolution was not satisfactory to the student or the instructor did not respond to the student or schedule a meeting within the time frame allotted.

6. Level 2 grade disputes: Faculty review panel

- a) If the student wishes to pursue the grade dispute to Level 2, the student shall submit a Grade Dispute electronically through the online portal found at (<https://www.tri-c.edu/student-resources/student-complaints-and-concerns/grade-dispute.html>) within ten days of receipt of the Level 1 decision from the instructor. If the instructor fails to respond to the student's request for a discussion during the Level 1 process, the student will have an additional ten-day period to file the Grade Dispute Form. That would give the student twenty days starting with the date in which the original request for a dispute was made. The notice must state the students' reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of Level 1, must provide evidence to support changing the grade, and must clearly and completely state specific changes to the student requests (These are required fields on the Grade Dispute Form. Incomplete responses will be returned to the student. However, the student's deadline to submit the Level 2 dispute will not be extended by an incomplete submission that is returned to the student).

- b) Should the notice of the Grade Dispute, at any Level, contain allegations which, if true, could violate 3354:1-60-01 College policy on discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, retaliation and Title IX; 3354: 1-60-02 Discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, Title IX and retaliation complaint

procedure, the faculty member, academic dean or designee shall immediately make a referral to the Office of Institutional Equity. The process taken by the Office of Institutional Equity will not affect any timelines outlined by this procedure. The Office of Institutional Equity will provide the results of its initial assessment or investigation status to the Level 2 or Level 3 panel, depending on when the allegation was raised, for consideration when evaluating the student's request.

- c) A copy of the written notice to proceed to Level 2 shall be provided by the academic dean or designee to the Associate Dean and Instructor within ten days after receipt. The instructor will provide a written response to the Associate Dean within ten days.

- d) The Associate Dean or designee will appoint and convene, within twenty days of receipt of the student's written notice, a faculty review panel composed of three tenured faculty members, preferably from the field of the disputed class. If there are no tenured faculty members in that field, other tenure-track faculty members may be chosen. At least one faculty member will be from another campus or school. Faculty members who may have had responsibility for the grade in dispute will not be appointed to the panel. The panel will select its chairperson, who may remove or replace panel members in consultation with the Associate Dean in order to prevent bias in the process. All members must be present at each panel meeting; or the meeting must be rescheduled.

- e) The faculty review panel must offer the student and the instructor the opportunity to meet with the panel and deliver a statement or documents as evidence. The panel may meet with both the student and the instructor at the same time or may meet with them separately. The chairperson of the peer review panel will provide a minimum of five days' written notice to the student and instructor of any meeting they are required to attend. The student, instructor, or any panel member may request that the chairperson postpone a panel meeting, if the requestor is unable to attend due to causes beyond the requestor's control.

- f) The panel shall have sole discretion to approve or deny the dispute

- g) The panel will review any information provided by the Office of Institutional Equity. In the event the initial assessment or investigation performed by the Office of Institutional Equity provides enough evidence to support the claim that there was a violation of college policy, the panel shall consider the preliminary initial assessment or investigation



findings in making its decision. The panel may also permit the Office of Institutional Equity to make a formal presentation to the panel of its findings[PA1] [PA2] [PA3] [WA4] .

h) The chairperson will report the panel's decision in writing to the associate dean or designee within fifteen days of the panel's receipt of the charge to review the Level 2 grade dispute. In reporting its decision, the review panel will address each main point that the student has raised, state a rationale for the decision and provide copies of all documents reviewed and considered to the associate dean or designee.

i) The Associate dean or designee shall notify, in writing, the student and instructor of the official decision and the action taken or to be taken in the matter, within ten days of receipt of the written report of the faculty review panel. The associate dean or designee shall upload copies of the decision, and all documents reviewed and considered to the software system used to track Grade Disputes.

#### 7. Level 3 grade disputes: College-wide academic appeals board

a) If the student or instructor wishes to appeal the decision to Level 3, he or she must file a written notice of the appeal with the Dean of the School in which the course resides. This notice must be filed within ten days from the date the Level 2 decision was sent. The notice will explain the reasons for the appeal. A copy of the written notice of appeal shall be provided by the Dean (or their designee) to the chairperson of the faculty review panel, and the student or instructor. The chairperson of the faculty review panel and/or the instructor/student may choose to respond in writing to the appeal notice.

b) The Dean or designee will request that the executive vice president for academic and student affairs convene, within ten days of receipt of notice of appeal, a College-wide academic appeals board. The board will be composed of three tenured faculty members, one academic administrator, and one student affairs administrator. The appeals board membership will be selected annually by the executive vice president for academic and student affairs from faculty members nominated by the joint faculty senate council (JFSC) who are acceptable to the executive vice president for academic and student affairs, and academic and student affairs administrative nominees who are acceptable to the JFSC. The academic administrator will chair the College-wide academic appeals board.

c) The Appeals Board will review any information provided by the Office of Institutional Equity, and any information provided or used in Level 2 In the event the initial

assessment or investigation performed by the Office of Institutional Equity provides enough evidence to support the claim that there was a violation of college policy, the panel shall consider the preliminary initial assessment or investigation findings in making its decision. The panel may also permit the Office of Institutional Equity to make a formal presentation to the panel of its findings

d) The academic appeals board will review the Level 2 decision and supporting documentation but will not consider any new issues, information, or evidence.

e) If it does not conclude its review within one month of its first meeting on the case, the academic appeals board will issue a status report to all parties involved in the case.

f) The academic appeals board will report its decision to the Dean (or their designee) and the Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs no later than sixty days after having been convened. The academic appeals board's decision may deny or grant the appeal. If the appeal is denied, the decision of the board is final. If the appeal is granted, the board will refer the matter to a new faculty review panel to determine the resolution.

g) The Dean (or the Dean's designee) will notify relevant parties of the decision of the academic appeals board within ten days of the receipt of the decision. Relevant parties are the student, the instructor, the faculty review panel, the associate dean or designee, the dean of student affairs, and the executive vice president for academic and student affairs.

### **(D) The President or the President's designee is hereby directed to take all steps necessary and appropriate for the effective implementation of this procedure.**

Effective date: July 1, 2025

Prior effective date: January 1, 2024, September 3, 2010, March 25, 2019

Procedure amplifies: 3354:1-30-03

## **Procedure on Academic Status**

### **(A) Good academic standing and Dean's List**

Students will be considered to be in good academic standing as long as they meet the grade point average (GPA) requirements listed in Section (B). Students who

have a current GPA of 3.50 or higher and who have earned 12 or more credits during the current term will be placed on the Dean's List.

## (B) Academic probation

1. A student will be placed on academic first probation (P1) if their cumulative GPA is less than shown below:

Total Credit Hours Attempted	Cumulative GPA
0-11 inclusive	.75
12-29 inclusive	1.50
30-50 inclusive	1.75
51 and above	2.00

2. Academic first probation continues as Probation 2 (P2) until the student's cumulative GPA is not less than the requirement stated in (B)(1).
3. A student placed on academic first probation (P1) at the end semester must participate in one of the following interventions.
  1. Academic First Probation appointment with an academic counselor
  2. Online Academic Probation Workshop

## (C) Academic dismissal

1. A student with more than 12 credits will automatically be dismissed after the next consecutive term following the probation status if the student's cumulative GPA is less than the requirement stated in section (B)(1).
2. A student who has been academically dismissed from the College is prohibited from enrolling in additional classes but may petition for academic readmission.
3. Students whose current credits attempted are 0.0 due to receiving all or any combination of "W," "AU," and "I" grades will retain their previous academic standing.
4. The president or their designee is hereby directed to take all steps necessary and appropriate for the effective implementation of this procedure.

## Readmission After Academic Dismissal

A student who has been dismissed from Tri-C must petition for academic readmission.

The first time a student has been academically dismissed from Tri-C, they will not be permitted to enroll for the next semester. A student dismissed for a second or subsequent time will not be permitted to enroll for two semesters.

A Petition for Readmission form must be submitted at least 3 business days prior to the start of the semester. Forms can be obtained from Admission and Financial Services or counseling offices.

Upon readmission after academic dismissal, a student must:

- Meet with an academic counselor;
- Complete an academic plan; and
- Register for no more than two courses as recommended by a counselor.

Once readmitted, the academic status is Second Probation. The student must maintain a 2.0 GPA in the courses taken after readmission.

## Grading

### Academic Progress Reporting

Academic progress grades are an evaluation of students' progress in courses at the midpoint of all sessions eight weeks in length or longer. Faculty assign grades of either "S" (satisfactory) or "U" (unsatisfactory). Students are encouraged to meet with an academic counselor if they receive a "U" grade in any course. Students can view their (current term only) academic progress grades on *my Tri-C space*. These grades do not appear on a student's permanent record.

### Auditing a Course

Auditing a course means that a student attends classes but is not required to submit assignments or take exams. Students, therefore, receive neither a grade nor course credit. Students must indicate their intention to audit a course on a separate form completed during the audit registration period. The auditing fee is the same as that of a regular course registration. Credit courses or pass/no pass courses cannot be converted to audit status after audit registration. Additionally, audited courses cannot be converted to credit or pass/no pass status after audit registration ends.

Currently enrolled Tri-C students are permitted to audit courses. Careful consideration is advised before requesting permission to audit a course. When uncertain whether to audit a course, students should see a counselor. Audit registration must be completed in person.

Audited courses may be added on the dates published in the Enrollment Guide at [tri-c.edu/student-resources/enrollment-guide.html](http://tri-c.edu/student-resources/enrollment-guide.html).

## Credit for Prior Learning (CPL)

Credit for Prior Learning is degree credit awarded for demonstrated relevant college-level education acquired through nontraditional schooling, work or other life experience.

Through CPL, subject matter experts evaluate how prior experiences might translate to college-level knowledge and how that knowledge may equate to college credit.

Students can apply for CPL at any time after admission to the College. Credit approved through the evaluation process will be posted to their transcript.

A student may obtain a maximum of 30 semester credits of CPL. Awarded CPL will not affect a student's GPA or quality points, nor will it substitute for the required minimum of 20 semester credits of residency needed for graduation.

## Types of Credit for Prior Learning

Recognized options under which CPL may be awarded include:

AP	Advanced Placement Credit
BYP	By-Pass Credit
CLEP	College-Level Examination Program Credit
EX	Challenge Exam Credit
CTAG	Career-Technical Assurance Guide Credit
DSST	DANTES Subject Standardized Tests Credit
IB	International Baccalaureate Diploma Program Credit
MC	Military Credit - Including DSST DANTES Subject Standardized Tests Credit
MTAG	Military Transfer Assurance Guide Credit
TPC	Tech Prep Credit
ITAG	Industry-Recognized Transfer Assurance Guide
OTC	Ohio Technical Center Degree Pathways

## CPL FEES

Students will be charged \$50 per course that is approved for CPL through the By-Pass Credit and Challenge Exam options. All fees must be paid at a Tri-C Admissions and Enrollment Services Office. Students taking a CLEP exam must pay associated costs directly to the College Board.

See [tri-c.edu/cpl](https://www.tri-c.edu/cpl) for additional information about transferring credits to Tri-C.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Visit the Tri-C webpage <https://www.tri-c.edu/get-started/credit-for-prior-learning/index.html> for more information and to apply for CPL.

## Final Grades

Final grades are available for viewing on *my Tri-C space* within one week after the last day of each term.

## Grading System

**A (Excellent–4 points):** A grade of “A” indicates that a student has demonstrated excellent academic performance. It carries a weight of four quality points for every credit of the course in which the grade is earned.

**B (Good–3 points):** A grade of “B” indicates that a student has demonstrated good academic performance. It carries a weight of three quality points for every credit of the course in which the grade is earned.

**C (Average – 2 points):** A grade of “C” indicates that a student has demonstrated average academic performance. It carries a weight of two quality points for every credit of the course in which the grade is earned.

**D (Below average–1 point):** A grade of “D” indicates that a student has demonstrated below- average academic performance. It carries a weight of one quality point for every credit of the course in which the grade is earned.

**F (Failure–0 points):** A grade of “F” indicates that a student has failed to demonstrate minimal academic performance. It carries a weight of zero quality points for each credit of the course in which the grade is earned.

**P (Pass–0 points):** A grade of “P” indicates that a student has passed and completed a course requirement. It carries a weight of zero quality points for each credit of the course in which the grade is earned. P represents C or better work. Credits earned are not included in the computation of a student's cumulative GPA.

**NP (No pass–0 points):** A grade of “NP” indicates that a student has not passed and completed a course requirement. It carries a weight of zero quality points for each credit hour of the course in which the grade is earned. NP represents D or F work. No credits are awarded, and the NP is not included in the computation of a student's cumulative GPA.

**AU (Audit–0 points):** A notation of “AU” indicates that a student was granted permission to register for a credit course and attend that course on an audit basis with no academic credit to be awarded. A student may not convert registration status from credit to audit (or audit to credit) after classes begin.

**I (Incomplete–0 points):** A notation of “I” indicates that a student has not completed all course requirements as a result of circumstances judged by the instructor to be beyond the student's control. Students who receive official permission to postpone an exam are assigned an I grade

for that course. Students must personally request an incomplete grade from their instructors. Incomplete grades are not granted automatically. Incomplete grades can be removed by completing the examination or other requirements no later than the end of the sixth week of the academic term following the semester in which the I was noted. Failure to complete such in the required time frame will result in an F grade.

**I/E (Include/exclude–0 points):** A course considered eligible for repeat is one that has an identical course (number, title and credits) or one officially identified as equivalent by the College catalog. Specialized courses with allowable accrued credits will be considered for repeat calculations only upon written request and validation by the appropriate academic area of identical topic repeat.

**T (Transfer credit–0 points):** A notation of “T” indicates that a student has been awarded credit for coursework that has been evaluated and accepted in transfer from another institution of higher education in accordance with Tri-C’s policy on transfer credit from other institutions. Transfer credits awarded shall not be included in the computation of a student’s cumulative GPA.

**USF (Military physical education credit–0 points):** A notation of “USF” indicates that a student has been awarded credit in recognition of physical education training received during at least 365 days of active duty in the U.S. military, as documented on the student’s DD-214. USF credit carries zero quality points and is not computed in GPA.

**W (Withdrawal–0 points):** A notation of “W” indicates a student’s withdrawal from a course in accordance with Tri-C’s withdrawal policy. Withdrawals carry zero quality points and are not computed in GPA.

## Grade Point Average

Grade point average (GPA) is a measure of scholastic performance. It is computed by dividing the sum of the total quality points earned by the total number of credits (quarter or semester) attempted.

The following example illustrates the computation of GPA:

**Points X Credit = Total Points**

Grade			
A	4	3	12
B	3	3	9
C	2	4	8
D	1	3	3
F	0	3	0
Total		16	32

**GPA: 32/16 = 2.00**

GPA can be computed for any given semester or for the total of all credits attempted. When a GPA is computed for the total of all of the credits attempted, it is referred to as the cumulative GPA.

Courses in which the letter symbols S, U, P, NP or the action symbols AU, W, CBE, I, IP, \*, T, ACE, AP, CLP or USAF are noted are not included in the computation of a student’s GPA.

## Pass/No Pass Grade Option

An alternative to a letter grade (A, B, C, D or F), the Pass/No Pass grade option allows students who want to explore a discipline and/or course to register without the penalty of a grade impacting their GPA. A student can elect up to 12 credits taken Pass/No Pass to fulfill degree requirements at Tri-C.

Things to consider before selecting a P/NP grade:

- Some restricted/selective admission program courses require traditional letter grades for their core course requirements. Courses used as prerequisites or core courses for health career and nursing programs must have a traditional letter grade. Pass/No Pass grades will not be accepted for prerequisites and core courses for health career and nursing programs. Students must consult with their program manager or counselor to determine P/ NP grading options.
- Once selected, the P/NP grade option cannot be converted back to a traditional grade option; nor can a traditional grade option be converted to the P/NP option after the 100% refund period. If a letter grade is required for a course taken as Pass/No Pass, the course must be retaken using the traditional grade option. Courses taken as P/NP do count toward financial aid enrollment requirements.

## Repeating a Course

In general, a student may repeat a course in which a grade of A, B, C, D, P, NP or F has been previously earned. When a course is repeated and a higher grade is earned, the previous grade will be excluded from the student’s cumulative GPA calculation. If the same course grade is earned, the first grade earned chronologically is used to calculate GPA. Please note that all grades remain posted on the student’s official transcript.

If a student is awarded a Fresh Start designation, grades excluded from the GPA calculation will be included for the purpose of determining eligibility for honors or other recognition based on the entirety of the student’s academic career and record of academic performance at the College.

Pass/No Pass courses are not counted toward GPA calculations; therefore, the P/NP option cannot be used when repeating a course in which a previous letter grade was earned.\* Credit for courses will be awarded only once in the semester in which the highest grade was awarded, unless the course description specifically states that additional credit may be earned.

Students are responsible for consulting with their program manager or counselor to determine if their specific program has guidelines or limitations for course repetition. Please note that some programs limit course repeats.

Students planning to transfer to another college or university are cautioned that the receiving institution may use all grades earned to compute a GPA for admission purposes. Also, since repeating a course may have an adverse effect on financial aid eligibility, students are urged to consult with Student Financial Aid and Scholarships as well as with a counselor before repeating a course.

\*Exception: For students who previously took MATH-0910 and received a letter grade, the new P/NP will replace the previous grade.

## Fresh Start: GPA Adjustment Procedure for Student Success

Fresh Start allows Tri-C to consider a GPA adjustment for students who have received failing grades. This procedure is not applicable to those students previously awarded this consideration. For detailed information, contact the Counseling office at 216-987-6000 (Option 4).

## Transcript of Grades

Information on a student's academic performance is available on *my Tri-C space*. Students can view their unofficial educational record at any time. Academic progress reports and final grades are available on the specific dates set in the academic calendar.

Students must file all grade disputes within 60 calendar days after the disputed grade is recorded.

Visit [tri-c.edu/transcripts](http://tri-c.edu/transcripts) to request official transcripts of grades earned. Students receive one free transcript upon graduation.

## Student Attendance for Athletes

Regular class attendance is expected. Tri-C is required by law to verify the enrollment of students who participate in federal Title IV student aid programs and/or who receive educational benefits through other funding sources. Eligibility for federal student financial aid is based in part on enrollment status.

Students who do not attend classes for the entire term are required to withdraw from the course(s). Additionally, students who withdraw from a course or stop attending class without officially withdrawing may be required to return all or a portion of their financial aid based on the date of last attendance. Students who do not attend the full session are responsible for withdrawing from their course(s).

Tri-C is responsible for identifying students who have not attended a course before financial aid funds can be applied to students' accounts.

Therefore, attendance is recorded in the following ways:

- For in-person and blended-learning courses, students must attend class by the 15th day of the semester (or equivalent for terms shorter than five weeks) to be considered attending. Students who have not met all attendance requirements for in-person and blended courses, as described herein, within the first two weeks or equivalent, will be considered not attending.
- For online courses, students must log in at least two times per week and submit one assignment per week for the first two weeks of the semester, or equivalent to the 15th day of the term. Students who have not met all attendance requirements for online courses, as described herein, within the first two weeks or equivalent, will be considered not attending.

At the conclusion of the first two weeks of a semester or equivalent, instructors report any registered students who have "Never Attended" a course. Those students will be administratively withdrawn from that course. However, after the time period in the previous paragraphs, if a student stops attending a class or wants or needs to withdraw, for any reason, it is the student's responsibility to withdraw from the course by completing and submitting the appropriate Tri-C form by the established withdrawal deadline.

Tri-C is required to ensure that students receive financial aid only for courses that they attend and complete. Students reported for not attending at least one of their registered courses will have all financial aid funds held until confirmation of attendance in registered courses has been verified. Students who fail to complete at least one course may be required to repay all or a portion of their federal financial aid funds and may be ineligible to receive future federal financial aid awards. Students who withdraw from classes prior to completing more than 60% of their enrolled class time may be subject to the required federal refund policy.

If illness or emergency should necessitate a brief absence from class, students should confer with instructors upon



their return. Students having problems with coursework due to a prolonged absence should confer with the instructor or a counselor.

## Withdrawal

Students may withdraw from any semester course prior to the end of week 12 of the full semester, (or 80% of any instructional part of the semester). Specific withdrawal dates are available by semester at any Admissions and Enrollment Services Office or in the [Enrollment Guide](#).

To withdraw from a course or courses, students must withdraw online or submit a completed withdrawal form by specific deadlines.

Withdrawal dates are published in the Enrollment Guide and on *my Tri-C space* on the Withdrawals/Refunds card. Refund dates are published in the Enrollment Guide and on *my Tri-C Space* on the Withdrawals/Refund card. The refund schedule for all parts of term within a semester or summer session is determined proportionately to the full semester schedule, established by Tri-C procedure.

A student may withdraw from a course or courses for any reason up to the last day of week 12 of the full 16-week semester. Withdrawal from a course prior to the last day of the second week of the semester will have no notation made in permanent records; withdrawal thereafter will be noted with a W grade.

Withdrawals related to student conduct are administrative withdrawals approved by the dean of student affairs or their designee.

All transactions involving withdrawal from courses shall be done in writing via Tri-C email and on forms provided by Tri-C or through electronic means. A student's failure to attend classes shall not constitute an official withdrawal.

Students called for long-term activations under Title 10 or Title 32 (15 days or greater) should complete the [Military Call to Active-Duty Form](#).

## Petition for Withdrawal Exception

Beyond week 12 (or 80% of any instructional part of a semester), a student who is unable to complete the current semester for reasons beyond their control (such as an emergency medical condition or other extenuating circumstances) may petition for a late withdrawal by completing a Petition for Withdrawal Exception and submitting supporting documentation to the Admissions and Enrollment Services Office. The Withdrawal Exception Review Committee meets once per semester to review petitions. Submission of a Petition for Withdrawal

Exception does not guarantee approval, and a recommendation by the committee to deny a request is final.

A recommendation by the committee to approve a request must also have approval from the appropriate instructor and academic dean. Submission deadline is defined as 30 days after the academic semester for which you are petitioning. Conditions approved under previous withdrawal petitions may not be approved again.

## Refund Schedule

Students who officially withdraw from the institution or reduce the number of credits for which they are registered may be entitled to an adjustment of charges or a refund of amounts paid. Any refund or adjustment will be based on the official drop/withdrawal date listed in the enrollment guide for that particular term.

A refund will only be issued if there are no other financial obligations to Tri-C. Refunds are paid to the student's selected refund preference with BankMobile Disbursements. (See the BankMobile Disbursements section of this handbook.

## Student Financial Aid and Financial Information

Financial aid consisting of scholarships, grants, loans and part-time employment, through the Federal Work-study program is designed to supplement a student's own resources. Student financial aid may be available for an entire academic year, including summer semester or for part of the year based on a student's enrollment.

Per federal and state regulations, primary considerations for recipients' financial aid eligibility are financial need, U.S. citizenship or eligible non-citizen status, and the potential to succeed in an academic program at Tri-C. However, some types of financial aid are based on criteria other than financial need.

## Tuition and Fees

Tri-C, supported by Cuyahoga County taxpayers and assisted by the State of Ohio, maintains modest tuition and fees, both of which are subject to review by the Board of Trustees during any academic year and may be changed at its discretion with approval from the Ohio Department of Higher Education. Current tuition and fees can be found in the enrollment guide and at [tri-c.edu/payingforcollege](http://tri-c.edu/payingforcollege).

## Tuition Guarantee Program

Tri-C's Tuition Guarantee program is an incentive for first-time college students to enroll full time for three years and pay the same tuition throughout that period.

For more information, visit [tri-c.edu/tuitionincentive](http://tri-c.edu/tuitionincentive)

## 15+ Perks Program

The 15+ Perks program is an incentive for students to enroll full-time and earn rewards equal to 50% of tuition. This program rewards students for enrolling each term and allows them to complete a degree or certificate within two years. Students can sign up on *my Tri-C space* or get more information from Admissions and Financial Services.

To be eligible for 15+ Perks, a student must:

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov)
- Complete all developmental education requirements
- Have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher
- Successfully complete at least 15 credits in a fall or spring semester, or at least seven credits in a summer session
- Enroll in at least 12 credits in the next semester (fall or spring) or three credits in summer
- Sign the 15+ Perks program agreement
- For more information, visit [tri-c.edu/tuitionincentive](http://tri-c.edu/tuitionincentive)

## College Credit Plus Tuition Waiver

The College Credit Plus Tuition Waiver offers former college credit plus (CCP) and Tech Prep students a 10% discount on tuition and fees paid when attending Tri-C after graduation.

For more information, visit [tri-c.edu/tuitionincentive](http://tri-c.edu/tuitionincentive)

## 30 Credit Hour Standard Program

30 Credit Hour Standard Program provides a tuition waiver for summer semester when you achieve 30 credits within the academic year. The waiver is 50% of the cost of tuition up to 12 credits.

To be eligible for the 30 Credit Hour Standard, a student must:

Be new or transfer students with fewer than 12 college credits who begin in the fall semester (starting Fall 2017) must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Complete at least 30 or more credit hours in a three-semester (fall, spring and summer) academic year

- Maintain consecutive enrollment each semester throughout the year, including summer term
- Earn a satisfactory grade for pass/fail classes or a grade of C or higher for all graded classes
- Declare or reaffirm a program of academic study
- accumulate fewer than 90 credits
- Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov)
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher
- Sign a 30 Credit Hour Standard Program Agreement Form

For more information, visit [tri-c.edu/tuitionincentive](http://tri-c.edu/tuitionincentive)

## Withdraw/Refund Deadlines

Students who withdraw from academic credit courses will receive a refund of applicable tuition and fees in accordance with the following schedule, which governs all withdrawals/refunds of tuition and fees for full-term courses of academic credit.

### Withdraw/Refund period: <https://www.tri-c.edu/paying-for-college/withdraw-refund.html>

If tuition was paid in full and there is no other outstanding balance, your payment minus the percentage you are responsible for will be refunded.

The refund process will begin two weeks after the start of term. Financial aid recipients should contact Student Financial Aid to determine how a withdrawal will affect their financial aid eligibility. The schedule for all parts of a semester and the summer session will be determined in proportion to the full semester schedule.

You will not be responsible for the instructional, general or supplemental fees if Tri-C cancels a course.

No refunds are granted if a student is dismissed from Tri-C for disciplinary reasons.

## Application Procedures

Students applying for financial aid must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov). Review details on the application process at [tri-c.edu/financialaid](http://tri-c.edu/financialaid).

Students are strongly encouraged to complete the FAFSA at least four weeks prior to the priority deadlines listed below.

Fall Semester	July 1
Spring Semester	Dec. 1
Summer Session	May 1



## BankMobile Disbursements

The College delivers your refund with BankMobile Disbursements, a technology solution, powered by BMTX, Inc.

Fee-free Allpoint ATMs are conveniently located on campus and at many citywide locations (Allpoint ATM's vary by location, availability and hours of operation are subject to change). Visit [tri-c.edu/paying-for-college/refund-choice.html](http://tri-c.edu/paying-for-college/refund-choice.html) or [bankmobiledisbursements.com/refundchoicesso](http://bankmobiledisbursements.com/refundchoicesso) for more information.

## Federal Programs

### Federal Pell Grant

Federal Pell Grants are awarded to eligible undergraduate students who display exceptional financial need and have not earned a bachelor's, graduate, or professional degree. Students can apply for the Pell Grant by completing the FAFSA.

Eligible students can receive the Pell Grant for no more than 12 full-time semesters or the equivalent (roughly six years). The award amount can change yearly. The maximum Pell Grant award for the 2025-2026 award year is \$7,395. Award amounts are based on the Student Aid Index (SAI) determined by completion of the FAFSA and enrollment status (credit hours enrolled each semester).

Students may also be eligible for Year-Round Pell, in which they may receive up to 150% of their annual Pell Grant award. To take advantage of Year-Round Pell, students must be enrolled full time in the fall and spring semesters and enroll in at least one credit hour for the summer semester.

### Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)

The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) program provides grants to students who demonstrate exceptional financial need to help meet postsecondary education costs. Students must be eligible for the Pell Grant. FSEOG recipients are eligible to receive awards from this program for the period required to complete their first undergraduate bachelor's degree. Students apply for FSEOG funds by completing the FAFSA. The awards are contingent on the availability of funds. Students who may be eligible for this program are encouraged to complete the FAFSA as early as possible each year to ensure full consideration.

### Federal Work-Study Program

The Federal Work-Study (FWS) program allows eligible students to work and earn money while enrolled in college. FWS is awarded to students who demonstrate

exceptional financial need as determined by the FAFSA. Award amounts can vary based on the availability of funds and a student's financial need, with a maximum of \$8,500 for the 2025-2026 award year.

Students must be enrolled at least half-time (six credit hours), be selected for a position, and pass a background check to participate in the FWS program. Students who are not offered FWS on their financial aid award may check with the Student Financial Aid & Scholarships office to inquire about their eligibility for the program.

### Federal Direct Student Loan Program

There are two types of Federal Direct Loans available to undergraduate students (subsidized and unsubsidized), each with individual eligibility requirements. In general, students must complete the FAFSA, be enrolled at least half-time (six credit hours), and maintain satisfactory academic progress in their course program of study. Loan repayment is not required until six months after a student graduates, leaves school, or drops below half-time enrollment.

Federal Direct Loans are awarded based on several factors, including dependency status, year in college, cost of attendance, and financial need. The maximum amount that first-year and second-year undergraduate students can borrow is \$9,500 and \$10,500, respectively. Third-year undergraduate students enrolled in a bachelor's degree program may be able to borrow up to \$12,500. Eligible students may be able to receive a portion of their loans that are subsidized. Meaning, the interest is paid by the federal government while the student is in an in-school deferment or a grace period.

Students who are not offered Federal Direct Loans on their financial aid award may contact the Student Financial Aid & Scholarships office to inquire about their eligibility for the program.

### Federal Direct PLUS Loans for Parents

Parents of eligible dependent undergraduate students may apply to borrow a Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan for by contacting the Student Financial Aid & Scholarships office. PLUS Loans are awarded based on an approved credit check, requested amount, and cost of attendance. Students must meet the general eligibility requirements for financial aid and be enrolled at least half-time (6 credit hours).

## Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

Federal regulations require that students "make measurable progress towards completion of their course of study" to remain eligible for federal financial aid. This is

called Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and is a federal requirement for financial aid eligibility. To remain eligible to receive federal financial aid, students must meet **all** the following SAP standards:

1. Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.
2. Complete at least 67% of all attempted credit hours.
3. Complete your academic program within 150% of the published credit hour requirement

These requirements apply to all credits attempted (including remedial, repeated, and transfer courses), for part-time and full-time students, for all semesters of enrollment within an academic year, including those semesters for which no financial aid was received.

#### **Failure to Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress**

Failure to maintain compliance with Tri-C's SAP standards may result in the loss or disqualification of future financial aid eligibility. Students who become disqualified may be eligible to complete an SAP Appeal to have their financial aid eligibility reinstated.

#### **Financial Aid Warning**

Students who do not meet the GPA and/or Completion rate SAP standards at the end of one term of enrollment will be placed on Financial Aid Warning. During the financial aid warning term, students are eligible for federal financial aid and are encouraged to reevaluate their academic progression toward the completion of their course of study, obtain academic advising, and use other academic support resources to support their academic success.

If students are still not in compliance with all Tri-C SAP standards at the end of the warning period, they will be placed on Financial Aid Disqualification.

#### **Financial Aid Disqualification**

Students who are not making satisfactory academic progress after at least two semesters of enrollment, have reached or exceeded the maximum timeframe, or have an incomplete term (all failing grades or at least one incomplete "I" grade) will be placed on financial aid disqualification. During the period of financial aid disqualification, students will be ineligible to receive federal financial aid.

Students who are disqualified from federal student aid may regain their eligibility by improving their academic standing to meet SAP guidelines or being granted an approved SAP Appeal.

#### **SAP Appeal Process**

Students who have their financial aid eligibility disqualified due to SAP may submit an SAP Appeal via their My Tri-C Space. The appeal should include a personal statement detailing the circumstances that prevented the student from being academically successful and a plan for success, a copy of the student's Degree Works Audit Report, and a complete academic plan. Although supporting documentation is not required to submit an SAP Appeal, it is highly recommended.

Submission of an SAP Appeal does not guarantee the reinstatement of financial aid eligibility. The decision of the SAP Appeal Committee is final.

## **Repeated Courses and Financial Aid**

Federal financial aid funds may be used only once to repeat previously passed courses for which a student has already received credit. Any further attempts will not be covered by federal financial aid, even if required to improve the grade. However, if a student has not passed a course by receiving an F grade or has withdrawn (W) from a course without receiving credit, they will be able to receive financial aid to repeat the course, provided they meet all other eligibility requirements.

For example, you passed a course with a grade of D, but your program requires a minimum grade of C to move on to the next level. You repeat the course and earn a B. In this case, federal financial aid can be applied to the repeat attempt. However, if you had not earned at least a C the second time and needed to take the course a third time, that third attempt would not be eligible for federal aid, even if it is required to meet academic program standards.

If a course is determined to be ineligible due to repeated course policies, a student's financial aid award may be adjusted. In some cases, it is still possible that the amount of the financial award may cover the tuition balance for the ineligible course. Students must be enrolled in at least six credits of eligible, non-repeated coursework to receive federal student loans and be eligible to participate in federal work-study.

## **Scholarships**

Tri-C offers many scholarship opportunities to students, including merit-based awards for students who excel in the classroom, awards to participate on Tri-C athletic teams, and awards to serve on the Student Government. By completing the General Scholarship application, students may be matched with one of the more than 200 available opportunities to help pay for college.

To apply for the Cuyahoga Community College Foundation scholarship opportunities, students should complete

the online admissions application, the FAFSA, and the online Tri-C scholarship application. These scholarships are created and supported through the generosity of donors who believe in the Tri-C mission and the importance of access to education.

Tri-C also provides Workforce Training scholarships to help students pay for Workforce Innovation programs and training. These scholarships help cover a portion of program costs. To apply for Workforce Training scholarships, students should complete the online Workforce Scholarship Request Form. Before applying for a workforce scholarship, students should reach out to a program contact to ensure they meet the eligibility requirements for the program.

Total scholarship awards may not exceed the cost of attendance as determined by federal regulations and will be considered with all other financial aid received.

## Tax Credit Info

Students may benefit from the American Opportunity Credit or the Lifetime Learning Credit. Individuals should meet with a tax consultant to determine what, if any, tax deduction they may qualify for and/or receive. Visit [irs.gov](https://www.irs.gov) for more information on these tax credits.

## Tuition and Fees Deduction (1098-T)

An individual may be able to deduct qualified education expenses paid during the year for themselves, a spouse, or a dependent. 1098-T information is available on *My Tri-C space*.

## Student Accounting

The Student Accounting department is responsible for billing, collection, refunding and all third-party sponsor-related activities. A third-party sponsor is an entity that pays the tuition and fees for a student. Contact Student Accounting at [bursar@tri-c.edu](mailto:bursar@tri-c.edu) or by fax at 216-987-4724 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

## Parking

Tri-C offers parking for students and visitors on all campuses.

The College automatically charges an institutional fee, based on credit hours, at the time of registration. The fee provides students with unlimited access to all campuses, recreation facilities, Technology Learning Center locations, libraries and special events on campus.

Fees are adjusted accordingly when courses are added/dropped based on the resulting credit hours.

1-3 credit hours: \$10  
4-11 credit hours: \$50  
12+ credit hours: \$70

This fee applies to all students and is based on credit hours charged. It is *not* based on student status (e.g., part-time, full-time, College Credit Plus, distance learning). Vehicle registration is not required.

Students are permitted to park in any College lot except faculty/staff and visitor lots. Student vehicles found in visitor lots will be ticketed. Students parking in faculty/staff lots will be issued a citation.

No vehicle is to be left on Tri-C property for longer than 24 hours. Vehicles are subject to tow at the owner's expense thereafter. If a vehicle must be left overnight, notify Campus Police and Security Services.

Tri-C is officially closed one hour after classes end.

Citations may be paid by mail or in person at any Admissions and Enrollment Services Office. Appeals must be made within 10 days of notice of the violation by visiting Campus Police and Security Services or via the online parking appeal form at [tri-c.edu/parking](https://tri-c.edu/parking).

Penalty for non-payment may include withholding grades, holding registration, impounding the vehicle or warrant citation (municipal court).

Parking and traffic rules and regulations have been adopted by the Cuyahoga Community College Board of Trustees to regulate traffic and parking on Tri-C property.

Motorcycles, motorbikes and motor scooters are subject to the same regulations as automobiles. The motor vehicle laws of the state of Ohio are in full effect on Tri-C property.

Student Accounting does not maintain or enforce any of the above referenced policies regarding parking.

## Special Services and Procedures

### Student Accessibility Services: Disability Services for Students

Founded in 1979, Student Accessibility Services at Tri-C serves more than 1,500 individuals annually. Student Accessibility Services supports students and visitors with disabilities at any Tri-C campus, site or location and in any online course. Common disability types include learning

disabilities, intellectual disabilities, sensory limitations, mental health conditions, physical mobility conditions and chronic health issues. All matters related to a person's disability are kept confidential.

Student Accessibility Services (SAS) provides classroom accommodations and support for Tri-C students with disabilities. Once a student completes the online registration form on the SAS website, an intake appointment must be scheduled for the student to meet with a student advisor. To qualify for services, the student must provide documentation to establish that a disability exists that will substantially limit their ability to participate in the educational process without reasonable accommodations. Students with disabilities are encouraged to begin the process well in advance of the start of the semester to allow ample time for any follow-up and to ensure delivery of accommodations. However, students may apply for services at any time during the semester.

Typical academic disability accommodations include extended time for testing, assistive technology, sign language interpreters, disability advising, advocacy and, referral to appropriate College programs and community agencies. Student Accessibility Services is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, the State of Ohio and Tri-C.

For more information, visit [tri-c.edu/sas](http://tri-c.edu/sas) or call the Student Accessibility Services office on your campus:

Brunswick Univ. Center	216-987-5793
Eastern Campus	216-987-2052
Metropolitan Campus	216-987-4344
Western Campus	216-987-5079
Westshore Campus	216-987-5736

Students using Sorenson Video Relay can call 216-223-6181. Please identify which campus the student will be attending.

## Service Animals

Service animals are welcome at Tri-C and are subject to local and state laws and ordinances to the extent that those laws and ordinances do not conflict with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). The service animal must be under the care and control of its handler at all times. Handlers are responsible for any damage or injuries caused by their service animals and must take appropriate precautions to prevent property damage or injury.

Under the ADA, service animals must be harnessed, leashed or tethered, unless these devices interfere with the animal's work or the individual's disability prevents them from using these devices. In this case, the owner/handler must control the animal through voice, signal or other effective controls.

A service animal is present because it is needed to perform a functional task to assist its owner; therefore, it is considered to be "on duty" at all times when on campus and should demonstrate controlled behaviors (quiet, calm, non-distracting, remaining with handler at all times). Please note that some service dogs are trained to alert their handlers and may be trained to bark to do so.

Visit [tri-c.edu/sas](http://tri-c.edu/sas) for the most current service animal statement, including a list of behaviors that indicate a service animal may not be under the care and control of its handler.

## Religious Accommodation

The College is committed to making reasonable accommodations for the religious identities of its students and prevent adverse academic consequences based upon religious beliefs or observances that conflict with academic requirements. In accordance with Ohio's Testing Your Faith Act, the College shall permit a student to be absent for up to three days each academic semester to take holidays for reasons of faith, or religious or spiritual belief system, or to participate in organized religious activities conducted by a religious denomination, church or other religious or spiritual organization.

Students seeking an accommodation for absences permitted under Ohio's Testing Your Faith Act must provide the instructor with written notice of the specific dates for which the student requires an accommodation and must do so not later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of instruction. Any other reasonable religious accommodation must be submitted directly to the course instructor as early as possible. Visit Procedure 3354:1-60-04.1 for more information.

## Discrimination and Harassment

### Discrimination and Harassment

The College is committed to providing an educational environment, programs, and activities free from discrimination, harassment, and retaliation based on an individual's protected status as it relates to race, color, religion, sex (including sexual harassment, sexual violence, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, relationship violence, domestic abuse, stalking ), pregnancy, national origin, ancestry, veteran status, disability, age, and/or genetic information.

To ensure compliance with federal and state law, the College has developed procedures which will provide a prompt, fair, and impartial process for those involved in

allegations made against students and employees pursuant to the College's policy on discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, retaliation, and Title IX.

Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, and retaliation can be made in person, by mail, by phone, by email, or online to the Office of Institutional Access ("OIA") (see contact information below) in which OIA will coordinate the College's efforts to stop, remediate and prevent discrimination, harassment, and retaliation violations. The Discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and Title IX policy (3354:1-60-01) and procedure (3354:1-60-02) are available at [tri-c.edu/policies-and-procedures](http://tri-c.edu/policies-and-procedures). A physical copy can be obtained by contacting the College's Office of Institutional Access.

Julie Gran, Director of Office of Institutional Access, Title IX and Section 504/ADA Coordinator  
Jerry Sue Thornton Center  
2500 East 22nd Street, 3rd Floor Cleveland, Ohio 44115  
216-987-4778  
[julianne.gran@tri-c.edu](mailto:julianne.gran@tri-c.edu)

Visit [tri-c.edu/OIA](http://tri-c.edu/OIA) for more information.

## Title IX

The College is committed to providing an educational environment, programs, and activities free from discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, and retaliation based on sex (including sexual harassment, sexual violence, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, relationship violence, domestic abuse, and stalking). To ensure compliance with federal and state law, the College has developed a procedure that will provide a prompt, fair, and impartial process for those involved in allegations made against students pursuant to the College's policy on discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, retaliation, and Title IX:

Any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment (whether or not the person reporting is the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimination or sexual harassment), in person, by mail, by phone, by email, or online to the Office of Institutional Access (OIA), in which OIA will coordinate the College's efforts to stop, remediate and prevent discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, and retaliation violations.

The Discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, retaliation, and Title IX policy (3354:1-60-01) and procedure (3354:1-60-02) are available at [tri-c.edu/policies-and-procedures](http://tri-c.edu/policies-and-procedures), or you can request a physical copy from OIA.

Julie Gran, Director of Office of Institutional Access, Title IX and Section 504/ADA Coordinator

Cuyahoga Community College  
Jerry Sue Thornton Center  
2500 East 22nd Street, 3rd Floor  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115  
216-987-4778  
[julianne.gran@tri-c.edu](mailto:julianne.gran@tri-c.edu)

Visit [tri-c.edu/OIA](http://tri-c.edu/OIA) for more information.

## Pregnancy Modifications

As part of its commitment to ensuring equal access on the basis of sex to College programs and activities, the College provides reasonable modifications to students for pregnancy and related conditions. A student in need of a pregnancy modification should contact the College's Title IX Coordinator:

Julie Gran, Director of Office of Institutional Access, Title IX and Section 504/ADA Coordinator  
Jerry Sue Thornton Center  
2500 East 22nd Street, 3rd Floor  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115  
216-987-4778  
[julianne.gran@tri-c.edu](mailto:julianne.gran@tri-c.edu)

Visit [tri-c.edu/OIA](http://tri-c.edu/OIA) for more information.

## Tri-C 100% Tobacco-Free Policy

Cuyahoga Community College is committed to promoting a healthy lifestyle and workplace environment while preparing our students for tobacco-free work environments. The College supports administrators, faculty, staff and students in their efforts to reduce or discontinue the use of tobacco products. Therefore, the College approved a tobacco-free policy that supports a healthy environment for all who are on the grounds of any College location. Effective Aug. 8, 2016, the use of all types of tobacco products will be prohibited in all College-owned or leased properties including parking lots, garages and all outside areas. Visit [tri-c.edu/breathefree](http://tri-c.edu/breathefree) for more information.

## Choose Not To Abuse

Tri-C is dedicated to providing a clean learning environment free from the effects of alcohol and drug abuse. The use, possession, dispensation, manufacture or distribution of illegal drugs and controlled substances that are not medically authorized is prohibited.

Mandated by the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, Cuyahoga Community College has developed a Drug-Free Campus and Workplace program. All students are required to receive a copy of this program annually. The program specifically covers:



- **Sanctions** – Those choosing to violate the drug-free policy are subject to corrective action, up to and including discharge and possible referral for criminal prosecution.
- **What You Can Do: Alcohol and Drug Support Services** – Treatment options and referrals for rehabilitation. Students in need of assistance should contact their campus Counseling office.
- **Controlled Substances and You** – Health risks associated with the use of tobacco, illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol. The risks associated with drug and alcohol use are numerous and include emotional, mental and physical effects. Some are irreversible, and even short-term use can cause or contribute to loss of life.
- **Substance Abuse Penalties and Enforcement** – Legal sanctions (local, state and federal) and penalties for violators may include fines, imprisonment or both.

Students may view the entire Drug-Free Campus and Workplace program on *my Tri-C space*. Please contact the director of Health and Well-Being for a hard copy. Students interested in more information regarding community resources can visit [tri-c.edu/studentinfo](http://tri-c.edu/studentinfo).

## Concealed Weapons

No person shall knowingly possess, have under their control, convey or attempt to convey a deadly weapon or dangerous ordnance on any college property, unless specifically approved in advance as a job-related requirement (i.e., campus police officers) or stored in designated parking areas in accordance with the concealed carry weapons law of the State of Ohio as set forth in Ohio Revised Code 2923.12. This policy applies to all students, faculty and staff without regard to any concealed handgun license or permit an individual may possess.

## Soliciting, Canvassing, and Sales/Distributing and Posting Written Materials

No individual or organization may engage in soliciting, canvassing or selling of any kind at any College location. Except for individuals or organizations acting within such reasonable time, place and manner restrictions as may be required by the College, no individual or organization may distribute or post notices, circulars, signs or other written materials at any College location. Check with the Campus President's office and/or Student Life for possible exceptions to this rule.

## Emergency Procedure

Evacuation instructions are posted in each classroom and can be found along with College location emergency

procedure guides online at [www.tri-c.edu/whatwouldyoudo](http://www.tri-c.edu/whatwouldyoudo). Please be familiar with those postings. In the case of an emergency or drill, anyone present must follow the instructions issued over the on-site emergency notification system and by emergency personnel.

## Hazing

Hazing is illegal in Ohio. Hazing is an act that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization. Hazing is prohibited under the Student Conduct Code and the College's Anti-Hazing policy found at <https://www.tri-c.edu/policies-and-procedures/documents/3354-1-30-10-anti-hazing-policy.pdf>. Students may address their concerns to the dean of Student Affairs or view the Student Conduct Code at [tri-c.edu/studentaffairs](http://tri-c.edu/studentaffairs)

## Sexual Offense Felony Reporting

The sexual offense felony admission and reporting policy requires both credit and noncredit students to self-report any sexual offense felonies. Upon admission, returning or re-enrolling, all students are required to report all sexual offense felonies occurring within the past 15 years as well as any that require sexual offender registration. Individuals with sexual offense felonies seeking enrollment should anticipate delays resulting from additional required reviews.

## Unattended Children

Except for Tri-C students who are younger than 18, minors must be accompanied and supervised by a parent or other responsible adult at all times at any Tri-C location or event. This helps ensure safety and helps the College properly carry out its educational activities. Parents must make the necessary child care arrangements and are not permitted to bring children to classes or other learning spaces such as tutoring or testing centers.

## Access to Student Records

As part of its responsibilities to students, Cuyahoga Community College must maintain accurate and confidential student records. The College recognizes students' rights to access their educational records and to limit such access by others in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and associated federal regulations. These rights are spelled out in the College's procedure on student education records. A Collegewide FERPA release form is available online in *my Tri-C space*.

With certain exceptions, student records will not be released without prior written consent of the student.

Students have the right to review and question the content of their educational records within a reasonable time frame after requesting such a review. If there are any questions as to the accuracy or appropriateness of the records that cannot be resolved informally, an opportunity is provided for a hearing on the matter. Students who wish to review their educational records may visit [tri-c.edu/compliance](http://tri-c.edu/compliance) or apply to the appropriate Admission and Enrollment Services Center for details regarding College procedures designed to expedite their request.

## Directory Information

Tri-C has designated the following information as directory information and will disclose this information without prior written consent unless otherwise instructed by the student: Name, address (local and home), program of study (including college of enrollment, major and campus), enrollment status (e.g., full time, part time, withdrawn), dates of attendance and degrees, and honors and awards received.

The following will be disclosed for athletic team members only: Previous educational agencies or institutions attended, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, and weight and height.

Students who wish to have this information kept confidential should contact an Admissions and Enrollment Services Office, or call 216-987-6000.

## Technology Resources Procedure

Tri-C operates and maintains technology resources to facilitate the achievement of its mission and goals. Access to technology resources is a privilege, not a right. Access may be restricted or denied, and technology resources may be seized at any time and without notice. Users should not have an expectation of privacy in anything they create, store, send or receive using the College's technology resources. Every user is subject to this procedure and to other applicable procedures of the College. To access the technology resources procedure, see Administration Policies and Procedures at [tri-c.edu/policies-and-procedures](http://tri-c.edu/policies-and-procedures).

## 10 Essential Tips for Success at Tri-C

1. Attend class regularly and be punctual.
2. Visit professors during office hours or by appointment and engage in classroom discussions.
3. Visit a counselor to create your Academic Plan and follow up at least once each term to stay on track.
4. Get involved with student clubs and organizations (but not over-involved).

5. Proactively seek our scholarships and ask questions about financial aid.
6. Take care of yourself by getting enough sleep, eating nutritiously and staying physically active.
7. Learn about stress management, time management and financial literacy through campus workshops, Student Lingo videos, etc.
8. Utilize student success specialists, peer mentors and other campus support staff. They are here to help you stay motivated and overcome challenges on your journey.
9. Keep your skills sharp by routinely visiting the Learning Center for free tutoring in many courses and the Writing Center for writing support.
10. Research career paths and learn about job readiness in the Career Center. Plan ahead for a bright future!



## Office of the Ombudsman ("Ombuds")

The Office of the Ombudsman "Ombuds" is a safe and neutral space to help students.

The Ombuds can:

- Offer a safe place for students to discuss problems
- Help students evaluate the available options
- Listen attentively and empathetically and ask clarifying questions
- Provide coaching as needed (e.g., preparing for a difficult conversation)
- Help explain College policies and procedures
- Offer referrals to the appropriate Tri-C offices to resolve the students' concerns



To make an appointment with the Ombuds see below or complete the [Ombuds Referral Form](#).

Contact information:

Meghan Estes, Ombudsman  
Jerry Sue Thornton Center  
2500 East 22nd Street, 3rd Floor  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115  
216-987-3949  
[meghan.estes@tri-c.edu](mailto:meghan.estes@tri-c.edu)

Visit <https://www.tri-c.edu/administrative-departments/office-of-the-ombuds.html> for more information.