

ACADEMIC FORGIVENESS POLICY

Monroe County Community College recognizes that some students experience difficulty with academic performance due to life's circumstances, and oftentimes their subsequent academic record prohibits them from achieving educational and career goals. By way of example, life's circumstances may include, but are not limited to, personal, emotional and/or financial problems, or devastating and unavoidable events which did not permit them to perform at a level representative of their abilities. In an effort to lessen the negative impact of past performance on the student's ability to earn a degree, certificate, or successful transfer, the College offers to students the Academic Forgiveness Policy.

The primary purpose of this policy is to provide a "fresh start" to those students who performed poorly in the past but have since demonstrated an ability to succeed with College level academic studies. This policy is not intended to permit students with chronically poor performance to stay in College, nor to raise false hopes for students who are not making progress.

Through Academic Forgiveness the student may petition to have his/her academic grade point average (GPA) recalculated with failing "E" grades forgiven according to the eligibility criteria and stipulations as specified below. As an alternative to Academic Forgiveness, students are encouraged to consider the course-repeat option whenever possible to improve the GPA. Because this forgiveness policy may be granted one time only, the students should discuss its appropriateness with a College counselor in the office of Admissions and Guidance Services.

When the eligibility requirements have been fulfilled and approved, the student's cumulative GPA will be recalculated with the "E" grades removed from the calculation. Forgiven grades of "E" will remain on the student transcript with a special notation explaining this policy.

Eligibility Criteria

1. Forgiveness will be granted one time only for a student.
2. A maximum of sixteen (16) semester hours of "E" grade for courses numbered 100 level and above may be applied toward this policy.
3. If fewer than 36 months have elapsed since the end of the semester in which the last "E" grade to be forgiven was received, before the Academic Forgiveness Policy is applied, the student must have successfully completed (with a 2.00 GPA or higher) a minimum of 30 credit hours in courses numbered 100 or above.
4. If more than 36 months have elapsed since the end of the semester in which the last "E" grade to be forgiven was received, before the Academic Forgiveness Policy is applied, the student must have successfully completed (with a 2.00 GPA or higher) a minimum of 12 credit hours in courses numbered 100 or above.

Stipulations

1. The student may obtain an application for Academic Forgiveness from the College Registrar. The submitted application is reviewed by the Registrar for accuracy and is approved if all eligibility criteria and stipulations have been met.
2. The office of Financial Aid does not accept "forgiveness status" in the calculation of cumulative GPA for standards of progress.

3. Academic Forgiveness, when granted, applies only to MCCC courses. There is no guarantee, expressed or implied, that academic forgiveness will be recognized by any other college or university.
4. Grades of “E” that have been documented for academic dishonesty are not eligible under this policy.
5. Limited access programs such as, but not limited to, nursing, respiratory therapy, and culinary arts have program-specific academic standards, which address course failure/withdrawal for students enrolled in these programs.
6. A student can graduate with honors only if all grades are calculated, including forgiven “E” grades.