

Nashua Community College

2009 - 2010 Student Handbook

Class Cancellation Policy

If Nashua public schools cancel due to weather issues, NCC will also cancel for day classes. There will be NO delayed openings for this campus. If Nashua public has a delay, NCC classes will still run as scheduled. Division of Continuing Education cancellation decisions will be made separately and by 3pm of the given day. Please watch local and regional television stations or listen to area radio stations to confirm NCC's cancellation. (Public schools sometimes cancel due to non-weather related issues.) The cancellation will also run on our outgoing message of the College telephone system and on our website *www.nashuacc.edu*.

MISSION

Community College System of New Hampshire

The Community College System of New Hampshire will provide comprehensive, market-driven, accessible, quality programs of higher education and services that respond to the needs of students, businesses, and communities.

VISION

Nashua Community College will meet the changing education needs of the communities that it serves.

Through a process of continuous improvement, the College will become

- The preferred provider of two-year postsecondary education in the Nashua region
- A student-centered educational institution that will advance and enrich the educational, economic, and cultural life of the diverse community we serve.
- An educational institution that promotes life-long learning for personal and professional growth.

To achieve this vision, the College selected ten strategic goals as the framework for its strategic plan:

- Accessibility and Affordability
- Preparation for Transfer
- Services and Citizenship
- Governance
- Financial Management
- Programs of Instruction
- Development of Partnerships
- Workforce Development
- Student Development
- Technology

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Nashua Community College recognizes the dignity and worth of all persons and believes that postsecondary education should be available to all who can benefit from the opportunity. Further, the College believes that education should be a rewarding experience offered in a supportive environment that fosters the growth and the well-being of all members of the community it serves. The College advances attitudes of mutual respect, tolerance, and support for individual differences.

Actions taken by the College should reflect a commitment to accessible

and affordable educational experiences that cultivate a passion for learning. Believing that the College should reflect the diversity of the community it serves, we will assist students with varying levels of ability and diverse backgrounds to develop critical job skills, attitudes, and values to enrich their lives.

Working together as a community of empowered, resourceful, and responsible individuals, we will measure our institutional success by the accomplishments of our students and the College itself.

THREE MAJOR PRINCIPLES GUIDE THE OPERATION OF THE COLLEGE:

A Commitment to Access and Diversity

We believe in providing open access to the College and its services. To that end, the College has special responsibility to encourage students who might not aspire to higher education to explore opportunities at the College.

A Commitment to Partnerships and Involvement with the Community

We recognize the importance of enhancing the economic vitality and quality of life for all citizens of the community. In this regard, the College continues to foster cooperative relationships with other educational institutions, community and government organizations, and business and industry.

As part of its involvement with the community, the College teaches students about their responsibility to contribute to the welfare of the community in which they live. Through volunteerism and service learning, students make a positive impact in the community.

A Commitment to Effective Stewardship of Resources

The institution accepts its responsibility to be accountable to the community that supports the College. Thus, in its operation, College personnel are always mindful to exercise prudent management of finances and other resources.

CORE VALUES

The College addresses four major areas through its core values:

Communication

We recognize the importance of providing a learning environment that is characterized by open communication, involvement in decision-making, and respect for individuals. Consequently, the College provides a positive academic and social environment for all stakeholders by:

- Encouraging collaboration, involvement, and participation in College operations
- Empowering faculty, staff, and students to be actively involved in the College's governance structure

- Fostering an environment of belonging and acceptance
- Demonstrating sound teamwork principles and practices.

Striving for Excellence

The College focuses on achieving results that improve its reputation by:

- Having high expectations for faculty, staff and students
- Being learner-focused to meet the needs of those we serve
- Providing challenging learning opportunities and appropriate related services
- Developing integrated learning communities and interdisciplinary curricula
- Documenting institution outcomes
- Encouraging continuous improvement and growth through systematic evaluation and the refinement of programs, services, and processes.

Innovation

The College will encourage risk-taking to meet the changing needs of the marketplace and our key stakeholders by:

- Being flexible and willing to adapt to changing needs of the community
- Anticipating and capitalizing on opportunities for institutional growth.

Integrity

The College will thrive by maintaining trusting relationships with our key stakeholders. Integrity will be characterized by:

- Being mutually respectful
- Demonstrating honesty and sincerity
- Acting fairly and reasonably
- Demonstrating responsible behavior in meeting commitments and obligations.

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Since the College serves a diverse student population possessing a wide range of backgrounds and academic abilities, the institution provides a variety of education programs, instructional methods, supplementary services, and co-curricular activities. The major aim of the College is to assist students to become self-reliant, self-confident, skilled workers and educated people.

The College believes that the educated person is able to read critically, write clearly and comprehensively, reason analytically, and utilize mathematical and scientific skills to solve life's problems. The educated person functions as a responsible and ethical member of society, recognizes and copes with the ambiguities of life, and appreciates

diversity. The educated person moves from concrete to abstract levels of thinking, integrates and synthesizes knowledge, is comfortable with the interchangeability of roles both student and teacher, and engages in constructive self-criticism. The educated person is a life-long learner. By embracing an understanding and appreciation of today's socially and technologically-complex world, and by applying intellectual skills, the educated person improves his/her life and contributes to community.

EXPECTED INSTITUTIONAL COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY

The College fulfills its mission as determined by the extent to which the institution:

- Engages in programs and activities that expand access to higher education for all members of the community
- Offers college-preparatory instruction that prepares students for success in college-level work
- Provides students with a full range of student development and academic support services
- Offers students the opportunity to contribute to the well-being of others through service learning and volunteerism
- Prepares individuals for employment in a variety of careers in business, the health sciences, computer applications, engineering and industrial technologies, and public service
- Serves as an entry-point for bachelor degree programs by providing the first two years of a four-year program through a sequence of general education that stresses an appreciation of the arts and the humanities, the social sciences, communication and computational skills, the sciences, and computer literacy
- Provides economic development and continuing educational activities to meet the needs of business, industry, and government while enhancing employee skills and enriching their lives
- Collaborates with visual and performing arts organizations in the community to elevate the human spirit.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Vice President of Academic Affairs

The Vice President of Academic Affairs is the chief academic officer at the College and is responsible for all instructional and academic programs. Students are encouraged to bring their ideas and concerns to the Vice President especially as they relate to academics.

Student Evaluations of Faculty

Each semester students are asked to evaluate their instructors. The entire evaluation process is designed to maintain and improve a quality educational program. The Vice President of Academic Affairs will distribute the official faculty evaluation form. The completed forms will be collected by a designated student and will be returned to the Vice President of Academic Affairs in a sealed envelope. Confidentiality will be maintained.

Cheating or Plagiarism

A student found guilty of plagiarism or cheating will receive a grade of “F” (Failure) on the work in question. The VP of Academic Affairs will be notified immediately. The student will be placed on academic probation immediately, notified in writing to this effect, and warned if involved in a similar incident in the future, he/she will be dismissed from the College. Please see Judicial Procedure.

Copyright Policy

The Copyright law of the United States (Title 17 U.S.Code) governs the making of photocopies of copyrighted materials. Students are liable for any infringements of these laws. The Attorney General’s office will not defend students for copyright violations.

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REGISTRAR

The Registrar is responsible for record keeping of course registration, withdrawals, and grades. The Registrar keeps all student transcripts

updated and determines if a student has met graduation requirements. For specific information regarding course registration, withdrawals, grade changes, etc., see the Academic Policies and Procedures section of this handbook, your Faculty Advisor, or the Academic Advising Center.

Veterans Assistance

For the latest information regarding entitlement, duration, and time limits, please go to www.gibill.va.gov and click on the link for Educational Benefits.

Once you have registered for classes and the VA Certifying Official at NCC certifies your enrollment for a semester, you must verify your enrollment directly with the VA Office at the end of each month during the semester. It only takes a couple of minutes to complete this process. If this is not completed, you will not receive your monthly payment. Please be aware that NCC is required by law to notify the Veterans Administration whenever a change in enrollment affects your enrollment status. This will most likely affect your VA payments.

Veterans can earn Credits by Examination, but these credits cannot be counted toward the total number of credits taken during a semester.

The Regional V.A. Office is located at:

Veterans Administration Regional Office
Norris Cotton Building
275 Chestnut Street
Manchester NH 03103

Toll Free number is 1-800-827-1000 or on the Internet www.gibill.va.gov.

Registration

Each semester students register for courses with their Academic Advisor during the designated registration period prior to each semester. All students are encouraged to contact their Academic Advisor before completing the course registration form. Students are responsible for registering for the appropriate course(s) according to their program profile. No credit can be given for any course unless a student is officially registered. Any changes after registration must be made by obtaining the appropriate forms in the Registrar’s Office. Non-matriculated students may take courses on a space available basis.

Online registration is available at scheduled times for returning matriculated students. Matriculated students registering for classes for the first time must meet with their academic advisor to set up an academic plan. This will ensure that students meet course pre-requisites and complete course requirements in a timely manner. Online registration is not available to non-matriculated students.

Drop/Add Course

To drop or add a course, a student must complete a “Drop/Add Form”

obtained from the Registrar's office. To complete a valid drop/add form, students are required to meet with their advisor, obtain instructor's signature, obtain advisor's signature and return the form to the Registrar's office. Failure to complete the process will result in students being held academically and financially responsible for the entire semester and a final grade will be issued as though they had completed the semester as originally registered. By signing this form students recognize that they are financially responsible for any tuition and fees created by adding or dropping the courses listed and this action may affect their financial aid award.

Transcripts

Transcripts of a student's College record will be furnished upon written request. The first two copies are free. A fee of \$3.00 will be charged for each additional copy. A faxed copy will cost an additional \$5.00 per transcript. Copies sent to other Colleges within the Community College System are free.

Transcripts require two business days to be processed. A longer time is required at the end of each term and at graduation.

Grade Reports

Students access grades using the Student Information System.

In accordance with FERPA regulations, if a student has a hold on an account because of outstanding financial obligations, he/she will be able to view the final grades at the conclusion of the semester in question through Banner Student Web. However the student will be unable to view his/her entire transcript on Banner Student Web, but may view the entire transcript in the Registrar's office on request. No official transcript will be released until all outstanding financial obligations are resolved.

Academic Support Center

The Academic Support Center provides educational support and resources to the College community. Our mission is to offer a friendly environment as we assist you in your college career. These supports include:

- The Tutoring Center—Tutoring is available to all students, free of charge. Tutoring is led by faculty members and peer tutors. One-on-one, group, or drop-in tutoring takes place on campus and focuses on the needs of the student.
- Disability Services—Students who have documented disabilities may speak with the Disability Coordinator to establish reasonable accommodation plans. Many additional resources are available.
- Computer Lab—Students may use the computers to work on their assignments.
- PLATO Online Tutorial—Plato is an online, self-paced tutorial.

Subjects range from the basics of math and English to sciences and social sciences.

- Math Center—Staffed by math faculty, the Math Center offers drop-in assistance to all students.
- Workshops—Workshops on a variety of subjects are held during the course of each semester.

Change of Address

Students changing their living quarters, home address, telephone number or e-mail must notify the College. A change of name requires verification documents. Change of Address forms are available in the Registrar's Office, Business Office and Students Services Office.

Freshman Seminar

Freshman Seminar is a one-credit course required for all matriculated students in a degree program. It is designed to introduce students to the college experience, to connect students to college resources, and to offer new strategies for improved skills, such as listening, note-taking, studying techniques, and time management.

Students who have successfully completed 12 credits at another college will not be required to take LEXN101; however, no credit will be given for LEXN101.

Note: In some cases, a student may need additional credits toward the graduation minimum requirements of 64 credits.

Academic Advising Center

The Academic Advising Center, located in Room 105, is designed to help students with registration, course and program changes, transfer options, and other related college practices. Center advisors serve day, evening and weekend students. Hours and contact information for the Academic Advising Center are posted outside Room 105. Students can find their assigned advisor on Student Information Systems.

College-Level Examination (CLEP)

The College awards credits for some courses through the CLEP program administered by the College Entrance Examination Board. Passing grades for CLEP exams are 50 and above. Students should consult with their Program Coordinator, Department Chairperson or Vice President of Academic Affairs before taking CLEP exams to determine which CLEP exams with appropriate scores can be used to fulfill program requirements. Information about the CLEP exam is available in the Academic Advising Center. Nashua Community College is an approved test center.

The Writing Center

The Writing Center provides one-on-one tutoring and other writing

tools and resources for students of all skill levels. Tutoring may involve helping students with paper topics, developing ideas, focusing arguments and theses, paper organization, readability, and grammar and style. Students seeking assistance with all academic writing assignments, resumes and college application essays are encouraged to make an appointment with a writing tutor.

Library

The library has a unified approach to information management at the College. To support the curriculum, the library incorporates traditional library services along with searchable databases, software, and audiovisual equipment.

All borrowed materials must be returned by the due date. When the materials are not returned or are returned in damaged condition, the borrower will be billed for the replacement costs. Until the student's library account is cleared, a hold will be placed in the Student Information System (SIS) that will prohibit registration for future courses or receipt of transcripts. A claim will be sent to the State collection agency if materials are not returned or payment made for the loss. Any material taken out through interlibrary loan is considered to be an extension of the NCC library and therefore is bound by the same return policies.

Computer Labs

Personal computers are available on a scheduled basis for general student use. NCC expects responsible use of the computer facilities and that students adhere to the Computer Code of Ethics found in this handbook. No student is allowed to install any software on college computers.

Wireless Access Policy

The wireless network is available in the main building and the Wellness Center. Access can be arranged in the classroom as requested by faculty. Access to the system is controlled solely by the IT staff. Computers accessing the system must have up to date virus protection software and have current virus definition updates in place.

Any use of the wireless network must conform to the Student Computer Conduct Code.

TUITION

Tuition Deposit

A non-refundable tuition deposit of \$100.00 will be required from all matriculated students. A matriculated student is defined as one who has been formally accepted into a degree, certificate, professional certificate, or diploma program.

The President or his/her designee reserves the right to waive the fee for students identified as evening matriculated students, or in circumstances where the collection of the deposit is not feasible (e.g. late admits, financial hardship, obstacle to disbursing financial aid). The deposit will be applied to the tuition for the semester immediately following the student's matriculation and will not be refunded even if the student withdraws during the designated full refund period or if the student fails to attend. The tuition deposit is not transferable to another semester unless an exception is made by the President or his/her designee.

Advance Payment Requirement

Payment or arrangements for payment of all semester charges are due two weeks prior to the start of the semester. Failure to make payment in full or arrangements for payment two weeks prior to the start of the semester may result in the cancellation of the student's registration.

A student who fails to make payment as scheduled will be allowed to finish the course, but will be unable to receive an official transcript, certificate, professional certificate, or degree. Furthermore, the student may not register for future terms at the College and may be restricted from registration at other colleges in the CCSNH system. If payment is made, the student will be allowed to register for future classes. Full payment of all tuition and fees for any new classes will be required before the semester/term begins.

DEFINITIONS

Full-Time: A student who is registered for at least 12 credits in any given semester. Credits for financial aid eligibility must be part of a student's program of study.

Part-Time: A student who is registered for fewer than 12 credits.

Matriculated: A student who applies to and is officially accepted by the College in a program is said to be matriculated. The status remains until the student withdraws officially from the program or college or is dismissed for academic or disciplinary reasons or upon graduation. Matriculation defines a student's program of study and ensures that courses taken will meet program requirements.

Active Status - Matriculated: A matriculated student who has not officially withdrawn from a program or the College or has not registered for classes within a given semester, but returns to the College within three semesters will remain active and eligible to register for classes under the original program of study. All others must reapply to the program/college and follow the new program of study. Matriculated students who have not registered for three consecutive semesters will be automatically withdrawn from the College.

Non-Matriculated: A student who is enrolled in a course or courses but who has not officially been accepted into a College program. A

student who has taken individual courses and then decided to work for a degree should commit to a specific program and formally matriculate after proper counseling prior to the satisfactory completion of 9 semester hours in appropriate courses. In order to ensure that credits earned meet program of study requirements, a student should matriculate as early as possible.

Semester: The academic instructional semester shall be no less than 15 weeks and no more than 16 weeks or their equivalent, including final exams.

Course Drop

Dropping from a course(s) may be done up to the last date to “Drop” a course as listed in the 2008/2009 Campus Academic Calendar. Once an official course withdrawal is completed, within the drop period, a “W” grade will be recorded on the transcript. After the official last day to withdraw has passed, students will receive a grade or an auxiliary grade for the course. Dropping a course may affect financial aid eligibility. Students are encouraged to discuss withdrawal from a course with his/her academic advisor. Dropping from a required program course may mean that the student will be out of sequence in program course offerings which may delay graduation. The course withdrawal form (drop form) can be obtained from the Registrar’s office.

Audit

Under the Audit policy students may enroll in courses which provide an opportunity to learn more about the challenges of college work, explore a discipline of interest, refresh prior learning, or supplement existing knowledge. Typically, a student attends lectures, seminars, and/or labs but does not complete graded assignments. When enrolled as an audit, the student will not be given a final grade nor will credit towards graduation be given for the course (the academic transcript will reflect an AU for the course). *Students must pay the full tuition for the course. Financial Aid does not cover costs for an audited course.*

Not all courses can be taken for audit, and entry into a course as an auditing student is by permission of the instructor. A student must complete a registration as an audit during the first week of classes. Once admitted as an audit the student may not change to credit status after the designated add period; likewise, a student registered for credit may not change to audit status after the designated add period.

Exceptions to the above may be made by the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Transfer Credit

Students may be admitted to programs with advanced standing if they have taken appropriate college courses at another accredited institution

or System College and earned a “C” or higher. Courses successfully completed prior to admission will be considered for transfer. It is the student’s responsibility to furnish the following: (1) transfer request form, (2) official transcript, and (3) copy of the course description. A Department Chair, Program Coordinator or designee will evaluate each course and grade. The Vice President of Academic Affairs determines if the credits should transfer. The student will receive a copy of the list of courses accepted for transfer. Any current students seeking to take a course at another college and wishing to apply that course to their degree must submit a transfer credit authorization form to the Vice President for Academic Affairs for approval. Without this written approval prior to enrollment in the course, the College does not guarantee acceptance of this course as transfer credit. Grades of courses transferred are not included in the GPA or CGPA. Approved Credits earned at another institution will be added to the total credits accumulated for graduation.

Online Learning - Transfer of Credits

Matriculated NCC students enrolled in 100% online courses through another college must follow the existing System and College policies for transfer of credits. Students must earn at least a minimum grade of C for the course to transfer. It is recommended that students consult with an academic advisor prior to taking an online course to be assured that the course is appropriate to meet graduation requirements. Students should follow the transfer process at their home campus. There is no fee for transcript requests sent between System colleges.

At the conclusion of the online course, matriculated students should request that an official transcript be sent to their home campus so that a transfer of credits can be completed. Credits will not be automatically transferred unless the student initiates the transfer process. Non-matriculated students will have an official transcript at the host college campus offering the course(s). Students should follow the college policy for requesting transfer of credits to another institution. It is highly recommended that non-matriculated students interested in admission to one of the CCSNH colleges apply for admission to their program of choice as soon as possible. Students who complete courses as a non-matriculated student may find that not all of the online courses can be applied towards a specific degree, or certificate.

ALTERNATE WAYS TO EARN CREDIT

College Board Advanced Placement Examination Credit

The College recognizes the College Board Advanced Placement Examination Program as a means of evaluating a student’s eligibility for advanced placement and credit transfer. Students who have participated in the AP Program and who have been admitted to the College should have official AP grade reports forwarded directly to the College Admissions

Office. These grade reports should come from the College Board, Advanced Placement Examinations, CN6671, Princeton, NJ 08541-6671, telephone number (609) 771-7300. Upon receipt of the students AP grade reports, the Admissions Office will access the grade and recommend to the Vice President of Academic Affairs credits to be transferred based on the College's policies relating to the AP scores for the various exam subjects. The minimum score to receive credit varies from 3 to 5. No credit is awarded on any AP exam score of less than 3. The policy stating the specific exam scores for each subject area may be reviewed at either the Admissions or Registrar's Office.

Credit by Examination (CBE)

Credit by Examination may be earned by a matriculated student who, by study, training or experience outside the College has acquired skills or knowledge equivalent to that acquired by the student enrolled in a course at the College. Such skill, knowledge or experience shall be in the area of the course concerned and determined to be relevant by the Vice President of Academic Affairs or other authorized personnel. Students may challenge a course by requesting and completing an examination or evaluation that covers the instructional material of the course. If successful, the appropriate credits earned are applied to the student's program. Students requesting a CBE shall pay a fee of \$25 per credit to the cashier. This fee is non-refundable. Credit will not be given for grades below C. A student receiving a grade below a C is ineligible for another CBE in that course. A student may not request to CBE a course in which he/she is enrolled, has earned a grade within the Community College System of New Hampshire, or has been administratively withdrawn, or dropped from the course after the drop/add period.

Students wishing to satisfy an elective for Social Sciences or Humanities must take the CLEP.

A candidate wishing to review the material for which he/she shall be held responsible in a CBE may apply to the chairperson of the department concerned for a list of areas of the subject matter covered upon which the exam will be based. The CBE shall cover the content of the course being challenged. **The student must apply for and take the CBE by the end of the Drop/Add Period.** Students may not CBE a course in which they are currently enrolled (registered).

College-Level Examination (CLEP)

The College awards credits for some courses through the CLEP program administered by the College Entrance Examination Board. Passing grades for CLEP exams are 50 and above. Students should consult with their Program Coordinator, Department Chairperson or Vice President of Academic Affairs before taking CLEP exams to determine which CLEP exams with appropriate scores can be used to fulfill program

requirements. Information about the CLEP exam is available in the Academic Advising Center. Nashua Community College is an approved test center.

Work Based Learning (WBL)

WBL is defined as a clinical affiliation, fieldwork, laboratory experience, practicum or business and industry internship. Students in some programs spend a significant part of their program in a WBL experience. To ensure the safety and well being of others, the College must be certain that each student participating in a WBL experience possesses minimum skills, knowledge, personal maturity, and judgment. Through its judicial proceedings, the College deals with action of a disciplinary nature.

Before a student enters a WBL experience or during the experience, situations do occur which may be neither academic nor disciplinary in nature but which may actually or potentially jeopardize others safety and well being. These situations may arise from unethical behavior, immaturity, emotional instability, or other conditions. If it is determined that such behavior cannot be identified as either academically or disciplinary in nature, the instructional staff may recommend, in writing, to the Vice President of Academic Affairs that the student not initiate or continue in the WBL experience. This recommendation must specify the nature of the situation in question, and it must be documented thoroughly. The recommendation must be discussed with the student in conference. The recommendation is made to and reviewed by an ad hoc committee on WBL appointed by the President.

Its membership will include the Vice President of Academic Affairs, two faculty members from the technical or Arts, Humanities and Sciences department, and one professional employed in the work setting. The President will appoint a chairperson. The student and instructional staff member is encouraged to attend the committee meeting to present evidence.

Independent Study

Opportunities for credit-bearing Independent Study are available to matriculated students who wish to explore areas of a discipline not covered in the normal curriculum but related to the student's program. Independent Study is not available to non-matriculated students. Matriculated students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 to be eligible for an Independent Study. The intent of the Independent Study is to expand a student's learning experience beyond the normal program curriculum. Typically undertaken for 1-2 credits, an Independent Study may not be done in lieu of any courses existing in the Nashua Community College catalog. Independent Study Forms may be obtained from the Division of Continuing Education.

Directed Study

Under certain circumstances a matriculated student may take a course in a semester when the course is not offered either during the day or through the Division of Continuing Education. A Directed Study allows a matriculated student to pursue the published learning objectives/outcomes for a course independently under the guidance of a qualified faculty member. A matriculated student must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 to be eligible for a Directed Study.

The student must demonstrate compelling reasons why the course could not be taken in a subsequent semester or was not taken in the semester when it was originally offered in the curriculum. Barring exceptional circumstances, a Directed Study will not be granted for a course currently being offered in the day or DCE divisions. Directed Study Forms may be obtained from the Registrar's office.

Experiential Learning

Credit for prior learning offers students the opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge they have gained through life experiences and apply this knowledge towards credit in a degree/certificate program. To prepare for this option, students will develop a portfolio to be assessed by appropriate college personnel. A student must be matriculated at one of the CCSNH colleges to be eligible to apply for experiential credit. Not all programs provide the experiential credit option; students should consult with their respective colleges for eligible programs and the process used for application.

Students may be awarded a maximum of 24 credits for experiential learning.

Students will be assessed a fee based on 50% of the current tuition rate on the total credits awarded (e.g., for 12 credits awarded; $0.50 \times$ current tuition rate \times 12 credits).

COLLEGE WITHDRAWAL

Withdrawal From the College through Official Notification by the Student

The Registrar's Office is the official authority within the college designated to accept withdrawal notification. If a student communicates to a staff person in the Registrar's Office while that person is acting in an official capacity, that communication in whatever form (verbal or written), is considered official notification. Students are urged to submit a signed withdrawal form and/or Add/Drop form to the Registrar's Office to show their intent to withdraw. The date the form is submitted to the Registrar is the withdrawal date and the date of notification to the school. Students may also withdraw from the college by phone, fax, or mail. For phone withdrawal, the Registrar's Office will fill out the appropriate form with

a notation that it was a phone withdrawal; for a fax or mail withdrawal. The Registrar's Office will fill out the appropriate form with the mail/fax attached.

Withdrawal From the College or a Course Through Official Notification by the Faculty

A faculty member may process a withdrawal from the college or a course on behalf of a student who is unable to do so himself/herself because of circumstances beyond the student's control (e.g. hospitalization, military transfer, accident). The faculty member will submit the appropriate course/college withdrawal form to the Registrar's Office with all information filled out on the student's behalf. If not indicated on the form, a brief explanation must accompany the form indicating why the student is unable to complete the withdrawal him/herself. The date the form is submitted to the Registrar is the withdrawal date and the date of notification to the College.

Withdrawal From the College Without Notification to the College (Dropout)

If a student ceases attendance without providing official notification, the withdrawal date will be the midpoint of the semester, unless the Registrar is notified otherwise (see below).

Students who stop attending class after the add/drop period will receive an AF from the instructor at the end of the semester. An AF grade is computed into the student GPA as an F.

However, an instructor may also give an AF grade at any point during the semester for violation of the instructor's individual attendance policy, for disruptive classroom behavior, or for unsafe clinical practice (see AF grade definition). In this instance the instructor will submit the AF grade to the Registrar on a designated form. The date the form is submitted will be the date of notification.

Refunds for Tuition

Students who officially withdraw from the College or an individual course by the end of the eighth (8th) calendar day of the semester will receive a 100% refund of tuition, less-nonrefundable fees. This policy applies to all semester length and alternative semester formats. Students in classes which begin after the designated start of the semester (e.g., a mid-semester start) will have 8 calendar days from the start of the class to withdraw for a full refund. Exception: students in courses that meet for two weeks or fewer must drop by the end of the first day of the class in order to get a 100% refund.

All Federal Title IV funds (i.e. Pell, SEOG, Perkins Loans, Stafford Loans) are returned to the federal programs according to the rules and regulations mandated by the Department of Education.

Students registered for workshops through the Division of Continuing

Education or Business & Industry must withdraw in writing at least three days prior to the first workshop session to receive a full refund of tuition and fees. In extenuating circumstances, the President (or designee) is authorized to offer alternative compensation in the form of tuition credits to students on a case-by-case basis. Tuition credit on a student account must be used within one calendar year from the date of authorization. **All refunds require that students complete an official withdrawal form.** In accordance with Federal regulations, refunds for an amount less than \$1.00 (\$0.99 or less) will be forfeited.

Reporting of Student Achievement

The College utilizes the following grades:

Grade	Quality Points
A	4.00
A-	3.70
B+	3.30
B	3.00
B-	2.70
C+	2.30
C	2.00
C-	1.70
D+	1.30
D	1.00
D-	0.70
F	0.00

Auxiliary Grades Used:

W: Student initiated withdrawal from a course at any time prior to completion of the drop deadline (60% of the course). Does not affect GPA. Can be initiated by the instructor if the student, because of extenuating circumstances, is unable to initiate the process (e.g., catastrophic illness or injury, job transfer to another state).

WP: Student initiated withdrawal from a course after the drop deadline (60%) of the course; student has a passing grade at time of drop, as determined by the instructor. Does not affect GPA. Can be initiated by the instructor if the student, because of extenuating circumstances, is unable to initiate the process (e.g., catastrophic illness or injury, job transfer to another state)

WF: Student initiated withdrawal from a course after the drop deadline (60%) of the course; student has a failing grade at time of drop, as determined by the instructor. Calculates in GPA as an “F.”

AF: Instructor or administrator initiated withdrawal at any time for reasons other than poor grade performance – e.g., failure to meet attendance requirements, as published in the instructor’s syllabus, violation of the Student Code of Conduct, disruptive behavior, etc. The grade may also be issued if a student registered in a

clinic, practicum, internship or lab is deemed unsafe or performing in an unsatisfactory manner as determined by an evaluation by a faculty member/agency supervisor in accordance with department criteria and procedure. The AF grade is calculated in GPA as an “F.”

AU: A course taken as an audit does not earn credit and cannot be used to meet graduation requirements. Admission by permission of the instructor. **Not all courses can be taken for audit.** See full Audit Policy elsewhere in the college catalog.

I: Incomplete grade. Indicates that a student has not completed a major course assignment due to extraordinary circumstances. It is not used to give an extension of time for a student delinquent in meeting course responsibilities. The I grade is not calculated into the GPA. However, all work must be completed by the end of the third week of the subsequent semester, including summer, or the grade defaults to an F. (See next page.)

P: Pass (*not* calculated into GPA)

PP: Provisional Pass; warning (not calculated into GPA)

NP: No Pass; unsatisfactory (not calculated into GPA)

CS: Continuing Study. Allows student to re-register for developmental course if competencies have not been met by end of the course. Intended for students who have not demonstrated progress and a commitment to succeeding in the course but who need more time to achieve competencies. The CS grade does not affect GPA.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

Semester and cumulative grade point averages are calculated for all students. The GPA is calculated by multiplying quality points by credit hours for each course, totaling these products, and dividing the sum by the total credit hours attempted in a given semester.

Example:

	Grade	Points	x	Credit Hours	=	Point Credits
Course 1	A	4.00	x	4	=	16.00
Course 2	B+	3.30	x	3	=	9.90
Course 3	C+	2.30	x	3	=	6.90
Course 4	C-	1.70	x	3	=	5.10
Course 5	D	1.00	x	3	=	3.00
				---		-----
				16		40.90

Total point credits, 40.900, divided by total credit hours, 16, equals the Grade Point Average, 2.556.

Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)

The CGPA takes into account all course work taken at NCC, **including developmental or remedial courses.** The CGPA is obtained in the same way as the GPA, except that the calculations are based on all courses that

the student has taken at NCC. When a student repeats a course, the most recent grade earned is used in the GPA computation. The original grade, however, remains on the transcript along with the grade of the repeated course.

Incomplete Grade

An Incomplete Grade (I) indicates that a student has not completed a major course assignment (usually a final exam or culminating final assessment) due to extraordinary circumstances, such as serious illness, death in the family, etc. The grade is applied only in those instances where the student has a reasonable chance of passing. It is not used to give an extension of time for a student delinquent in meeting course responsibilities.

The work must be completed by the student through formal arrangement with the instructor no later than:

- the end of the third week in the Spring semester for a grade issued in the Fall semester;
- the end of the third week in the Fall semester for a grade issued in the Summer term;
- three weeks from the earliest start date of the Summer term for a grade issued in the Spring semester.

Should the student fail to complete the work within the designated period, the grade will automatically become an F. Exceptions to the above deadlines may be made by the Vice President of Academic Affairs. “I” grades will not be included in the computation of Grade Point Average. An “I” grade may affect a student’s financial aid. Students should contact the Financial Aid office on their campus for further information.

Grade Appeal Process

Any appeal of a grade must be initiated by the student with the instructor before an ensuing semester has elapsed. Students should be advised that in most instances a grade may be changed only by the instructor. Only in a case of obvious computational error or blatant abuse of the grading prerogative, can the VPAA, the only other individual on campus empowered to change a grade, alter a student’s grade.

Students who believe they have a valid ground for a grade appeal will use the following process to resolve the issue:

1. MEET WITH THE INSTRUCTOR
The student shall contact the faculty member and schedule a meeting to discuss the grade appeal and attempt to resolve the conflict. The faculty member and student shall meet within the next five (5) work days.
2. MEET WITH THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR/DEPARTMENT HEAD
If the issue was not resolved in Step 1 above, the student has

three work days from the date of the faculty member’s decision to file a written appeal with the faculty member’s Program or Department Head, or with the Vice President of Academic Affairs if the faculty member is also the Department Head or Program Coordinator. Within three work days the Department Head (VPAA) will mediate the dispute either through discussion with the instructor, or with the student in the company of the faculty member. If no resolution is reached, proceed to Step 3.

3. MEET WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS (VPAA)
If the issue is not resolved in Step 2 above, the student has three work days to file a written appeal with the Vice President of Academic Affairs. The VPAA will meet with all parties concerned within the next three work days to attempt to resolve the dispute. The VPAA will have three work days from the last meeting to render a decision on the grade appeal. The decision of the VPAA is final.

NOTE: During the summer, when faculty are not on campus, students may begin the grade appeal process with the Office of Academic Affairs. Every attempt will be made to have the faculty member contact and meet with the student within the specified time. On occasion, however, these times may need to be adjusted.

Course Repeat Policy

For purposes of calculating the cumulative GPA (CGPA), when a student repeats a course at the same CCSNH institution the grade achieved in the most recent course will be the grade used in the CGPA calculation. All previous grades will remain on the transcript but not used in the calculation. Only those repeated courses completed at the student’s college of matriculation will be used in the calculation of the CGPA; repeated courses completed at an institution outside of the CCSNH system and transferred into the student’s college of matriculation will not be used in the calculation of the CGPA. They will, however, be counted toward degree requirements.

Third and subsequent attempts to repeat a course will require the approval of the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

A failed course may not be passed via Credit by Exam.

Academic Honors

Academic honors is based on all courses taken in a given semester. A full-time, matriculated student in good standing with a grade point average of at least 3.7 is entitled to honors on the President’s List. A full-time, matriculated student earning a grade point average of 3.0 to 3.69 is entitled to honors on the Vice President’s List.

GRADUATION

Graduation Requirements

To graduate, a student must complete all courses and attain a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of at least 2.0. Specific requirements for all degree, and certificate programs are available from the Registrar. Credits earned in developmental courses are not counted toward graduation requirements. Matriculated students must earn a minimum number of academic credits as follows at Nashua Community College:

1. Degree students must earn 16 credits, eight of these credits must be in advanced courses in the student's major.
2. Professional Certificate students must earn 9 credits or 25% of the credits, whichever is higher.
3. Certificate students must earn 6 credits or 25% of the credits, whichever is higher.

Additional Associate Degrees

Students may earn additional associate degrees either by concurrent completion of the requirements of the several degrees or by subsequent study after the first degree is received. The requirements for earning additional degrees are as follows:

1. Complete all requirements of each program of study, including general education requirements; and,
2. Earn a minimum of 15 additional credits at the College, beyond those required for the first and subsequent degrees.

Graduation

Commencement is held once a year in May. Students, who expect to complete requirements for a degree or certificate, must file an INTENT TO GRADUATE form with the Registrar no later than **the last working day of November**. Failure to file an INTENT TO GRADUATE form by the deadline may mean the student cannot participate in graduation exercises. All graduating students will be billed a Graduation Fee of \$80.00 when the INTENT TO GRADUATE form is processed regardless of participation in graduation ceremony.

The following students are eligible to participate in graduation exercises:

1. Students who have completed all requirements by the end of Spring Semester.
2. Students who have completed all but six semester hours of required credits for the degree, diploma, or certificate by the end of Spring Semester. Students in this category must present a plan showing how the remaining credits will be earned by the end of the summer semester, and the Vice President of Academic Affairs must approve this plan.

3. Exceptions to the above are made by the President.
4. No credentials are issued to students until they have completed all requirements for the degree or certificate.
5. Students with outstanding balances or overdue library materials will not receive the credentials.

Graduation Honors - College CGPA

CGPA 3.20 - 3.59 = Cum Laude

CGPA 3.60 - 3.89 = Magna Cum Laude

CGPA 3.90 - 4.00 = Summa Cum Laude

Graduates in associate degree programs and certificates with more than 32 credits earning a CGPA of 3.20 or higher are entitled to wear a gold tassel. August graduates will not receive honors at graduation since their academic work has not yet been completed.

GRADES

Good Standing: The status of a student maintaining grade averages above those requiring institutional academic review. Good standing for degree students is defined as follows:

CGPA of 1.50 or higher with 0 to 13 credits attained

CGPA of 1.70 or higher with 14 to 27 credits attained

CGPA of 1.80 or higher with 28 to 40 credits attained

CGPA of 2.00 or higher with 41+ credits attained

Certificate Students (For academic purposes only):

CGPA of 1.80 with 0-20 credits attained

CGPA of 2.00 with 21+ credits attained

Academic Warning: A student who is failing or in danger of failing a course may at any time be given an academic warning by the instructor.

Academic Standards: Students falling below the following standards will be designated as not meeting satisfactory progress. Failure to meet satisfactory progress will result in either Academic Probation or Academic Suspension.

Academic Probation: A warning which indicates the student may not be on track to graduate because of poor academic performance. The student may remain in the program, but his/her academic progress will be monitored.

Students meeting the criteria below will be placed on Academic Probation:

0 – 13 Credits Accumulated:

below 1.50 CGPA

14 – 27 Credits Accumulated:

below 1.70 CGPA

28 – 40 Credits Accumulated:

below 1.80 CGPA

41+ Credits Accumulated:

below 2.00 CGPA

Academic Suspension: The student may no longer remain in the program

and may not reapply for admission or take major field courses in the program for a minimum of one semester.

Students meeting the criteria below will be put on Academic Suspension:

0 – 13 Credits Accumulated:	below 0.50 CGPA
14 – 27 Credits Accumulated:	below 1.10 CGPA
28 – 40 Credits Accumulated:	below 1.25 CGPA
41+ Credits Accumulated:	below 1.50 CGPA

OR

A student who does not meet satisfactory progress for Academic Probation for three consecutive semesters may be placed on Academic Suspension.

Academic Standing Committee

The purpose of the Campus Academic Standing Committee is to review the appeals of matriculated students. The Committee may recommend any of the following actions:

1. Academic suspension
2. Academic probation
3. Academic warning
4. Letter of encouragement
5. Removal from academic suspension or academic probation

Appeal Procedure

Students may appeal any decision regarding their academic status by filing a written appeal with the Vice President of Academic Affairs within seven (7) workdays of the date indicated in their notification letter. The appeal must clearly state the basis for the student's request. Students will have an opportunity to present their case in person to the committee. A written decision of the committee will be sent to the student within 48 hours (excluding weekends and holidays) of the meeting of the Academic Standing Committee.

Financial aid may be in jeopardy if a student fails to achieve satisfactory academic progress as defined above.

The student will receive written notification. The suspended student must wait one full semester before reapplying for matriculation into their program of study. The suspended student must show evidence of having successfully completed at least two three-credit courses with a "C" or better prior to reapplying. Suspended students may take these courses at NCC as a non-matriculated student in the day or evening .

Students who have a GPA of 1.0 or below at the end of their first semester of attendance will be placed on Academic Probation-I for one semester. In order for students to be placed on AP-I standing, in lieu of suspension, they must repeat College Success Strategies if they have not successfully completed this course. If they have successfully completed

College Success Strategies or the requirement was waived, they must enroll in, attend, successfully complete College Success Seminar and meet with their advisor to develop a plan of action for academic success. Students must by the end of their AP-I semester earn a GPA of 1.5 or greater or they may be suspended.

Academic Amnesty

A student who has previously attended a college within the Community College System of New Hampshire and is admitted at a later time may be eligible for Academic Amnesty, which provides for the following:

1. All grades taken during the student's previous time at the college will no longer be used to calculate the student's new cumulative GPA. However, grades C- and above taken during the student's previous time at the Institute/College will be used to meet course requirements (where appropriate), subject to the approval of the Vice President of Academic Affairs.
2. Even though previous grades will not be used to calculate the new cumulative GPA, all previous grades will remain on the student's transcript.

In order to be eligible for Academic Amnesty, a student must meet all of the following conditions:

1. The student has not taken any courses at original college of enrollment for a period of at least 3 years from the last semester of attendance.
2. The student applies for Academic Amnesty before the start of his/her second semester after readmission.
3. The student has never before received Academic Amnesty.
4. The student achieved a cumulative GPA below 1.7 during previous attendance.

ATTENDANCE

Class attendance is considered essential to academic success of students at this College. Since there are constant learning opportunities between faculty members and students and between students and other students within the classroom or lab, it is expected that students will attend each meeting of each course in which they are enrolled.

Specific attendance policies for each course are determined by the instructor and will be stated in writing in the course syllabus. These policies will reflect the instructor's authority to determine whether a student is permitted to make up work missed through absence or lateness and on what terms.

If a student is absent more than the number of hours the course meets

during a two-week period, the faculty may withdraw a student from the course with an AF grade any time during the semester. An “AF” grade is calculated in the GPA as an “F”. All students who stop attending class after the drop/add period and have not officially withdrawn shall receive an AF from the instructor at the end of the semester or at any point during the semester that the instructor informs the Registrar’s office that the student has been suspended from class.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM OF NEW HAMPSHIRE MEDICAL LEAVE POLICY

A matriculated student who, due to a serious medical condition that requires extended in-patient treatment in a medical facility and/or ongoing outpatient medical treatment, becomes unable to complete his/her academic requirements and/or who becomes unable to meet the program’s technical standards and/or requirements of the Student Code of Conduct, may apply for a formal Medical Leave of Absence for up to two consecutive semesters.

Students considering a Medical Leave of Absence should be aware that granting of such leave does not relieve a student from financial responsibility to the College. A student who is seeking a Medical Leave of Absence who is also a financial aid recipient should contact the Financial Aid Office to discuss the leave and any potential implications for changes in financial aid eligibility. Students who have concerns about continuing health insurance coverage may also wish to consult <http://www.michelleslaw.com> for important information.

Students requesting Medical Leave of Absence must:

1. Provide a letter to the Vice President of Academic Affairs identifying their program of study, the medical reason for the request, the proposed date on which the leave would begin, and the proposed date of readmission, and;
2. Provide the Vice President of Academic Affairs documentation of the medical condition from a licensed health care professional directly involved in the treatment of the student’s particular condition that is sufficiently comprehensive to facilitate the decision-making process.

The Vice President of Academic Affairs (or designee) will make a determination regarding the appropriateness of the leave request and notify the student in writing whether the request for Medical Leave of Absence was granted and what conditions for readmission may apply. Students whose Medical Leave requests are granted will be required to re-apply for admission at the end of the leave period provided that all conditions for readmission have been met.

Conditions for readmission may include, but are not limited to, submission of documentation from a licensed health care professional directly involved in the treatment of the student’s particular condition that is sufficiently comprehensive to provide reasonable assurance that the returning student will be able to meet all college and program academic, technical, and behavioral requirements. Other conditions for readmission may include a required in-person meeting with the Vice President of Academic Affairs and/or the student’s program Department Head; compliance with any new admission criteria implemented in the student’s absence; following a new curriculum plan that may have been implemented in the student’s absence; and/or repeating courses and/or clinical experiences to ensure clinical competence following an extended absence.

Students who choose to seek Medical Leave under the provisions of this policy should be aware that information they voluntarily disclose during the application and readmission processes will be handled under confidentiality guidelines of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and disclosed only to those persons with a direct academic need to know.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP) FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

The Financial Aid office is required by federal regulations to periodically review financial aid recipients to ensure that they are making satisfactory academic progress towards the completion of his/her program of study. Satisfactory academic progress (SAP) for financial recipients is measured by both qualitative and quantitative standards and is an assessment of a student’s cumulative academic record while in attendance at the College.

Qualitative Standard

Cumulative CGPA Component- Must have earned the minimum published CGPA at the published intervals.

Completion Rate Component- Must complete more than 2/3 of the credits attempted.

Maximum Timeframe Component- Can receive financial aid for up to 150% of the number of credits.

Academic Periods Included in the Review

The qualitative and quantitative standards of the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy will be used to review the academic progress for all periods of the student’s enrollment. Even periods during which the student did not receive FSA funds will be included in the review. Additionally, periods for which the student was granted academic amnesty are included in the review.

Coursework Included in SAP

In general, coursework that is taken while in attendance at a CCSNH college and applies to the student's academic program is taken into account when reviewing his/her academic record for satisfactory academic progress. However, there are some exceptions. Please refer to the table below for a breakdown of how each type of course or credit is treated in the review.

	Cumulative CGPA Component	Completion Rate Component	Maximum Timeframe Component
Regular Courses in Your Program of Study	Y	Y	Y
Repeat Courses	Y	Y	Y
Transfer Credits	N	Y	Y
Consortium Credits	N	Y	Y
Developmental/Remedial/ESOL	Y	Y	Y
Incompletes	Y	Y	Y
Audit Courses	N	N	N
Credit by Examination	N	N	Y

Repeat Courses

Only the most recent grade for a course that has been repeated will count towards a student's CGPA. Therefore, grades from prior attempts will be excluded from the student's CGPA. However, all attempts, including the most current will be included in the calculation for the completion rate and maximum timeframe components. Financial Aid will cover a repeat course only when it is repeated to replace an unacceptable grade as determined by a specific course and/or major.

Transfer Credits

Credits that are transferred in from another institution and apply to the most current major will be excluded from the student's CGPA. However, they will be included in the calculation for the maximum timeframe component and completion rate component.

Consortium Credits

All courses taken at an institution other than the student's home institution through an official consortium are included in the calculation for completion rate and maximum timeframe components, but excluded from the student's cumulative CGPA component.

Developmental/Remedial/ESOL Courses

These courses will be included in the calculations for all three components of the satisfactory academic progress review. You are only eligible for federal financial aid for up to 24 credit hours of this type of coursework.

Incompletes

All incompletes must be resolved by the end of the third week of the semester following the receipt of the incomplete grade. If it is not, the grade is either automatically changed to an "F" or is considered to be an "F" for all components of the satisfactory academic progress review. Financial Aid can be withheld until incompletes are resolved.

Audit Courses

Financial Aid does not cover any courses a student audits. Further, audit courses are not included for any of the calculated components.

Credit by Examination

Financial Aid does not cover courses in which a student earns credit through Credit by Examination. Credit by Examinations count toward the maximum timeframe component but are excluded from the student's cumulative CGPA component and completion rate components.

Qualitative Standard

Cumulative CGPA Component

A student must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average as noted below to be considered as making satisfactory academic progress.

Total Credits Earned Toward Program	Minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average Required for the Program	
	Certificate	Associate
0-13	1.50	1.50
14-27	2.00	1.70
28-40		1.80
41+		2.00

Quantitative Standard

Completion Rate Component

A student must successfully complete more than two-thirds (66.66%) of the total credits he/she attempts through his/her academic career at the College. All attempted credits resulting in either an academic grade or administrative transcript notation will be included in the quantitative calculation.

For example, a student who is enrolled in 36 credits throughout his/her academic career at the College must pass more than 24 credits in order to be making satisfactory academic progress.

Maximum Timeframe Component

A student may receive student federal aid for any attempted credits towards his/her program of study as long as those credits do not exceed 150% of the published length of the student's program of study.

For example, a student enrolled in an eligible 24 credit certificate

program can receive financial aid for up to 36 credits attempted. Likewise, a student enrolled in a program of study that requires 64 credits to earn the degree can receive student federal aid for a maximum of 96 credits attempted.

If a student changes curriculum programs or graduates and requests a second degree, a degree audit will be completed and evaluated to determine what portion of the requirements for that curriculum has been satisfied. Students who seek a dual degree may appeal for an extension of the maximum timeframe provision of the policy. Appeals will be evaluated on an individual, case-by-case basis.

The Review Process

The qualitative and quantitative components of the SAP policy will be reviewed at the end of each semester within the regular academic year of the student's program of study.

Students who meet SAP standards will be coded as making satisfactory academic progress and will retain eligibility for Student Federal Aid for the following semester.

Students who do not meet SAP standards will be placed on SAP probation for one semester. Students placed on SAP probation will retain eligibility for Student Federal Aid for the following semester.

STUDENTS PLACED ON SAP PROBATION:

At the end of the probationary period, SAP standards will be reviewed. If the student meets SAP standards, he/she will once again be coded as making satisfactory academic progress and will retain eligibility for Student Federal Aid for the following semester.

If the student is unable to meet SAP standards, he/she may be placed on SAP final probation unless otherwise determined by the FAO. Students placed on SAP final probation will retain eligibility for Student Federal Aid for the following semester.

STUDENTS PLACED ON SAP FINAL PROBATION:

At the end of the final probationary period, SAP standards will be reviewed again. If the student meets SAP standards, he/she will once again be coded as making satisfactory academic progress and will retain eligibility for Student Federal Aid for the following semester.

If the student is still unable to meet the standards for SAP, he/she will no longer be eligible to receive FSA at the institution until such time that he/she is able to meet the standards of SAP.

Appeal Process

A student who becomes ineligible for federal student aid as a result of unsatisfactory academic progress may appeal for a review of that determination. A student who believes he/she has extenuating circumstances that affected his/her ability to progress satisfactorily should appeal in writing within 30 days of the date of the letter indicating a loss

of financial aid eligibility. The letter should be addressed to the Financial Aid Appeals Committee and be submitted to the Financial Aid Office. A successful appeal may preserve the student's eligibility for federal student aid in the following semester.

Change of Program

A student who changes his/her academic program may request an appeal in that determination if he/she has changed programs while enrolled in his/her current college. If this appeal is taken up, then only those courses applicable to the new program will be evaluated for the Completion Rate and CGPA components. However, all courses attempted will be evaluated for the Maximum Timeframe component. If under these circumstances the student is making satisfactory academic progress, the student will regain eligibility for student aid. If under these circumstances the student is not making satisfactory academic progress, the student will not regain eligibility for student aid at this time.

Regaining Eligibility

Students who are denied financial aid for failure to maintain satisfactory academic progress, must regain their eligibility during future semesters at their own expense. Aid can be reinstated only after a student has met the required standards listed above. Withdrawal and readmission do not necessarily change the student's satisfactory academic progress status. For further information about the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress policy, please contact the Financial Aid Office.

STUDENT SERVICES

Vice President of Student Services

The Vice President of Student Services has responsibility for much of what sets the tone for students outside the classroom at the College. Admissions, counseling, placement, orientation, and student activities are some of the services for which the Vice President of Student Services is responsible. As an advocate for students, the Vice President of Student Services and his/her staff are available to respond to student's questions, concerns, or problems and to help facilitate their resolution.

Financial Aid Office

Students in need of financial assistance may obtain information and applications from the Financial Aid Office. The Financial Aid Office administers federal assistance programs and several state and campus based programs. Students already enrolled at the College must re-apply each year if they wish assistance for their senior year. It is a good idea to begin re-application in January for the following year. Additional financial information is listed in the Financial Aid Handbook, which is updated annually.

Scholarships

A variety of scholarships are available each year to assist students in meeting their educational expenses. Scholarships may be specific to programs of study or general in nature. Most scholarships require that students are matriculated and have successfully completed one semester or more. Information on scholarships and applications can be obtained from the Student Services Office, Admissions Office or Financial Aid Office.

College Counseling

College Counselors are available to assist you in addressing career, financial and academic concerns. You may schedule an appointment with a College Counselor by contacting the Students Services Office. The College Counselors offer counseling to students who would like assistance in making the adjustment to college. The Counselors are available to assist students whose problems involve difficulty in studying, academic concerns, uncertainty about career choice, financial or emotional problems. Also, they will be happy to offer information on other community agencies which could be of assistance in finding solutions to your problems.

Transfer Advising

Many students decide to continue their education after graduating from the College. Any student who wants information about four-year colleges can come to the Student Services Office or the Advising Center. Also, representatives from four-year colleges visit the College to recruit our graduates. The Student Services staff or the Advising Center staff can answer questions from students about the transfer process.

Placement And Follow-up

Placement services are available at the College to all students and alumni. Career guidance is available. In addition, representatives from area employers visit the College during the spring to interview prospective graduates. Throughout the year, current job openings are posted on the Virtual Job Fair. Formal follow-up research is undertaken annually and overseen by the Community College System of NH. Survey results are used as a reference tool when talking to employers interested in hiring college graduates. This placement report is published and available upon request. For students seeking job information on the Internet, a list of helpful web sites is available. Students may also sign up for the Virtual Job Fair where they may post their resume and view job openings. For more information, contact the Student Services Office.

CAMPUS SERVICES

Bookstore

The Bookstore serves as a center for the purchase of textbooks and equipment necessary for study at the College. The store is a contract service with Follett Bookstore at the College and the hours of operation are posted on the door. Questions regarding the Bookstore services should be directed to the Student Services Office. Bookstore number is 880-7083. Information is also available from the Nashua website *www.nashuacc.edu*.

Food Service

A variety of hot and cold food items are offered through contracted cafeteria services and a variety of drinks and snacks are available from vending machines. Students may also bring their own food. Note: Cafeteria services are not available during the summer session.

Insurance

All students are requested to carry medical insurance while attending the College. Students enrolled in Allied Health/Nursing programs and/or engaged in interscholastic sports **must have** medical insurance. Students working in laboratories or shops that require the operation of machinery or equipment that could cause injury in case of malfunction or student error should be covered by medical insurance. Accident/sickness plans are available through the College. Information and application for the student medical plan can be obtained from the Student Services Office.

Personal professional liability insurance is mandatory for all students in Allied Health and Nursing programs which include clinical requirements. The rate is approximately \$15.00 per year. If you already have your own professional liability insurance, you will need to show valid proof of such coverage before you go on affiliation.

Health Services

Although Health Services are not provided on the campus, there are many health service resources in the vicinity. Costs and eligibility requirements vary. Please contact area agencies for this information in advance whenever possible.

Students are responsible for any costs incurred for medical transportation and medical/surgical services. The college is not liable for these expenses.

Health Forms

Health forms must be completed by all matriculated students and submitted to the Admissions Office prior to the first day of enrollment. Specific proof of immunity may be required depending on the

your program of study. Additional immunization, laboratory work and/or written documentation may be required based on individual circumstances.

Lockers

Nashua no longer assigns lockers. There are a few lockers available to students who provide their own locks on a first come, first serve basis. The lockers in the locker rooms are designated for use by all current students and faculty. In the event articles are left in the lockers overnight or a lock is left on a locker the items will be removed and thrown away. The College can not guarantee the safety of personal items. All lockers will be cleaned out at the end of the summer semester. The College will not be responsible for any items left after summer semester.

Student ID's (jagCARD)

Students are issued a student ID at the beginning of their first term free of charge. Students requesting a replacement ID card will be assessed a fee of \$10. A valid NCC ID is required when using the facilities in the Wellness Center or when checking out materials from the College library. Contact the Student Services Office for more information.

Parking

Students must park in designated areas only. All student vehicles must have an NCC parking tag displayed. Violators will be fined in accordance with the following schedule:

First Offense	\$5.00
Second Offense	\$10.00
Third Offense	\$20.00

When necessary, towing at the student's expense may be authorized by the President or his/her designee. Any offenses in excess of three shall be charged a fine of \$50.00 and may result in permanent car restriction from campus. Transcripts, diplomas, and grade reports will not be issued until all parking fines are paid.

Unless specific permission is given, vehicles are not to be left on the premises overnight. Any vehicle on campus should have a parking sticker in an area where it can be easily seen.

GENERAL POLICIES AND SERVICES

Internet Access

The Community College System of New Hampshire reserves the right to monitor and restrict user activity on the network. Failure to comply with policies will result in a loss of account privileges. Student must comply with all computer policies and the Computer Code of Ethics.

Unattended Children on Campus Policy: Students/Guests/Visitors

It is the policy of the CCSNH to provide a friendly and safe campus while maintaining a learning environment for students and a disruption-free workplace for employees. Children are welcome to accompany adults to their appointments at NCC; however, children should not be left unattended anywhere on the college campus, including the grounds and parking facilities. Individuals under the age of 16 who are not registered in a class must at all times be under the supervision of an adult who is at least 18 years old. The college faculty and staff are not responsible for the care and supervision of unattended children.

In addition, children who are not registered for classes are not permitted in classrooms and/or laboratories, even if the parent/guardian is registered in class. Parents/guardians are advised that students under the age of 16 who are enrolled in a class are not the responsibility of college employees, other than during designated classtime or while doing class-related activities on the campus.

If a child is left unattended, the college will attempt to locate the parent/guardian and return the unattended child. If the parent/guardian cannot be located, the college may contact local law enforcement.

The only exceptions to the above policy are prearranged tours, field trips, and college coordinated or sponsored programs for children.

Animals on Campus

This policy is intended to control the nuisance and potential health and safety hazard created by domestic animals (e.g. dogs, cats, livestock) and wild animals (e.g. raccoons, skunks, opossums) on campus. Dogs, except for service dogs used by individuals with disabilities, and dogs registered by faculty and staff with Campus Security, are not permitted on college property, in college buildings, or on college sponsored events.

Messages

A personal message cannot be delivered to a student in class except in the case of extreme emergency.

Cell Phone Usage

The College requests that students carrying cell phones have an inaudible signal on calls during class time. If it is necessary to respond to a call, please leave the classroom environment. The faculty members have the right to require all cell phones to be turned off in their classroom except in extreme cases of emergency.

Posters, Signs and Notices

All posters, signs and notices should be legible and receive prior approval from the Student Services Office or club/organization advisor before posting on appropriate bulletin boards.

Use of College Name

No student, group of students, club, or any organization may use the name of the College in any form of printing, including letterheads, or any form of publicity without obtaining written permission from the President. All publicity should be cleared through the President or his/her designee.

Yellow Emergency Boxes/Phones

Located throughout the college are bright yellow 911 emergency notification boxes. These devices are connected directly to the statewide 911 system and are to be used whenever normal emergency reporting opportunities are not available; for example, after hours at the College when there is no access to a regular telephone. Phones located in classrooms and labs can be used by dialing 9-911 in an emergency. Individuals who make a 911 call should also notify the main office by dialing "0".

Safety and Fire Regulations

In all science and mechanics laboratories where eye injuries may occur, proper safety glasses must be worn at all times. Safety must be kept in mind. In the event of an accident, please contact Campus Security. If accidents do occur, an accident form must be completed.

Fire drills will be held periodically, and students should become familiar with procedures for evacuating the building. Fire alarm pull boxes are located near each exit and other locations throughout the college buildings. When discovering a fire:

1. Immediately pull a fire alarm box
2. Notify the Director of Facilities or his designee as to the location of the fire

When the fire alarm sounds:

1. Students should secure all machinery, turn off power and gas.
2. Leave the room and proceed promptly but calmly out of the building via the nearest exit.
3. The instructor will be the last person to leave the room.

Fire and safety rules are posted in each shop and laboratory. Please become familiar with them.

Campus Security

Students need to report emergencies, crimes or acts of violation of rules, regulations or laws to the Student Services Office. An incident report must be completed by the student regarding any emergency, crime or violation of law occurring on campus. Annually, through a campus safety and security brochure, the Student Handbook, and other college publications and resources, the Student Services Office distributes

information regarding crime prevention tips and existing counseling, mental health, and other services to students, both on campus and within the local community.

Students will have access to campus buildings during regularly scheduled hours while classes are in session. Maintenance staff and campus security routinely inspect campus grounds and facilities for possible security concerns. Students and employees of the College are encouraged to be responsible for their security and the security of others. Students may report any campus maintenance/security concerns to the Student Services Office. College grounds are monitored by surveillance cameras.

Annual Crime Statistics at Nashua Community College

Category	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	4
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0
Alcohol Arrest	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons Possession Arrest	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Hate Crimes*	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Arrest	0	0	0	0	0

* Crimes in which victims are selected because of actual or perceived race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, or disability.

Student Property - Lost and Found

The College is not responsible for property left by students who have graduated or left the College. Lost and found items should be brought to the Continuing Education Office. After 30 days, property will be removed from the College.

TUITION AND FEES

Tuition

Tuition is due two weeks prior to the start of the semester. Failure to make payment in full or arrangements for payment will result in the cancellation of the student's registration. It may be paid online through the use of the e-cashier link on our website, in the Business Office, or by mail. If tuition is paid in installments, it must be paid in full 10 days prior to the beginning of final exams or two weeks prior to the end of the term, whichever is applicable.

A fee of \$50.00 per semester will be charged to all students who fail to make arrangements to pay tuition and fees prior to the start of classes.

Monthly Payment Plan

In an effort to assist students with tuition charges, the College offers an interest free monthly or annual payment plan administered by Nelnet Business Solutions. The plan allows the student to fulfill their financial obligation to the College by automatic electronic processing of installment payments. There is a per semester or annual enrollment fee for this program. More information can be obtained from the Business Office or on the NCC website by accessing the NBS e-cashier link.

Comprehensive Student Services Fee

The mandatory \$3.00 per credit hour fee is charged to all students enrolled in credit courses for the fall, spring and summer semesters. It entitles students to attend Student Senate sponsored events for little or no cost. In addition, Nashua has a \$13.00 per credit fee to support the Wellness Center.

Academic Instruction Fee

A fee will be charged for all Laboratory/Practicum or other similar experiences. This fee will be calculated by subtracting the number of lecture hours from the number of credit hours and multiplying the remainder by \$60 for each course. This will be added to the normal tuition charge for that course.

		CL	LAB	CR	
Example:	SCIN 201	A&P I	3	3	4
			$4-3 = 1 \times 60 = \$60$		

This fee will be charged to all students with no exceptions. No other lab fees are permitted without the written authorization of the Commissioner of the Community College System of New Hampshire. See the College Catalog for more specific information on tuition and fees.

Nursing Clinical Fee

All nursing students taking clinical courses will be charged a nursing clinical surcharge of \$350.00 per semester. This surcharge is designed to assist in covering the increased expenses associated with clinical classes. This fee is in addition to the lab fee.

Collection Clause

By registering for courses at NCC, the student is financially obligated for ALL costs related to the registered course(s). Upon a drop or withdrawal, the student is responsible for all charges as noted in the student catalog and handbook. If students do not make payment in full, the student's account may be reported to the credit bureau and/or turned over to an outside collection agency. The student will be held responsible for the costs of the outside collection agency, any legal fees, and any bounced check fees under RSA 6:11, which will add significant costs to the student's account balance.

Fee for Protested Checks

"Whenever any check, draft or money order issued in payment of any fee or for any purpose is returned to any State department... as uncollectible, the department...shall charge a fee of \$25.00 or 5% of the face value of the check, whichever is greater...in addition to the amount of the check, draft or money order to the department...to cover the cost of collection." (Ref. RSA 1985, 6:11a)

STUDENT ACTIVITIES/ORGANIZATIONS

Student Senate

The Student Senate is the student government at the College. It exists to promote student unity through creating and supporting student interest in extracurricular activities and to exercise general policy-making authority over student activities and affairs.

The Nashua Student Senate consists of an Executive Board made up of senators from the student body. The Student Senate promotes student activities, allocates and disburses Student Activity Funds, and represents the student voice to the Administration.

Each student at the College has the right and responsibility to participate in student government. There are many options including: running for elective office; sharing your concerns with Senators; and, participating in Senate sponsored activities. Students must be matriculated and in good standing to hold an office. (See Senate Bylaws.) The Senate usually meets bi-monthly during free periods and all students are welcome to come in and voice their opinions. Your Senators want to hear from You!

Activities

Activities are promoted by the Student Senate. They are open to all students and interest levels. The activities are offered at low cost or no cost to current students. Students interested in helping to plan or participate in activities should consider joining. For more information, contact a Student Senate member or Student Senate Advisor.

Establishing New Organizations

Student organizations are reflective of student interests. Any student or group of students can establish a new club or organization. To do so, consult the Student Senate Bylaws for starting new clubs on campus. The Senate will vote to officially recognize the organization. Organizations must be open to all students and should not discriminate based on race, national origin, gender, age or disability. A club's request for recognition by the Senate will indicate its willingness to comply with the Senate's guidelines for the expenditure of club funds.

Student Functions

Any recognized organization can sponsor a function with Senate approval. Approval forms are available from the Student Services Office. The group's faculty advisor must sign the form and can answer questions a group might have. The approval form must be returned to the Student Senate Advisor for approval by the Vice President of Student Services. **Students should consult the Student Senate Bylaws and Operating Rules for specific guidelines on all Senate activities.**

Phi Theta Kappa - Alpha Chi Kappa Chapter

Phi Theta Kappa is an international fraternity devoted to recognizing and encouraging scholarship, leadership, and service in two-year colleges. Invitations for membership are extended to associate degree students who have met all of the requirements of the chapter of their home campus, have demonstrated leadership and service, and who are entitled to the full rights of citizenship of his/her native country. The organization offers a myriad of opportunities for scholarships, intellectual enrichment, and occasions for fellowship with other members in community-based service projects.

Athletics

Intercollegiate Athletics

Nashua Community College will begin to participate in the Yankee Small College Conference (YSCC) as a club athletics program in the Fall 2009 school year in the following sports: Men's and Women's Cross Country, Women's Volleyball, and Men's and Women's Basketball. In the fall of 2010, NCC will be granted full membership with the YSCC and will be eligible to compete in the YSCC conference championship events, as well as the United States Collegiate Athletic Association (USCAA) national competition.

All registered NCC students will be able to participate in club athletics beginning in the fall of 2009. Registration for fall sports (Men's and Women's Cross Country and Women's Volleyball) will occur in August, and registration for winter sports (Men's and Women's Basketball) will occur in October.

NCC students must pay their student activities fee and register for at least 12 hours of coursework per semester in order to participate in intercollegiate athletics, provided that other College/Conference eligibility guidelines are met. A student will lose his/her eligibility to participate in any category described above if:

1. The student does not register for and maintain a minimum of 12 hours of coursework in the current semester; or
2. The student does not pay the required student activities fee; or
3. More than one course is failed at the end of the preceding semester; or

4. The student does not maintain the minimum standards of academic progress as noted below:

Total Earned Hours	Minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average
0-13	1.5
14-27	1.7
28-40	1.8
41 or more	2.0

Note: In the event that a student seeks eligibility to participate in intercollegiate athletics, conference rules, if more stringent, will take precedence over College regulations.

Students participating in athletics must have insurance coverage either through their own policies, through a parent's plan, or through the group plan offered by NCC. Information on the group plan is available in Student Services. Each student must submit proof of accident and health insurance with a copy of the insurance card. A yearly update of insurance coverage is required from all students participating in athletics.

Intramural Athletics

The intramural sports program is for all Nashua Community College students, faculty, and staff who would like to participate in competition against each other. Intramural competitors will only compete against other NCC students, faculty, and staff, not against other collegiate institutions. Competition is offered in men's, women's, and co-ed leagues, depending on the sport. Competition is provided in the form of league tournaments and special events each semester. The programs offered are based upon student interest and the availability of resources and facilities.

NCC students, faculty, and staff members are welcome to develop their own teams through a team captain, or enter the league as a Free Agent by registering with the Athletic Director. The Athletic Director will place Free Agents on teams in need. The number of games and scheduled game times will be based on the number of teams registered for each league. The earliest game time will be 5:30pm.

Contact Rick Wilhelmi, Director of Athletics, for further information about intercollegiate or intramural athletics: RWilhelmi@ccsnh.edu, or 882-6923 x1515.

Wellness Center

The 40,000 square foot Wellness Center houses a full-size gymnasium, suspended walking track, multi-purpose exercise room, fitness center, fully equipped locker rooms, dining hall, conference room, and lounge space. This facility is open to all NCC students, faculty, and staff. A valid Nashua Community College ID is required for admittance into any athletic activities and facilities (gymnasium, fitness center, walking track, group exercise classes, and intramural sports).

The fitness center is equipped with state-of-the-art cardio and strength

equipment, including two Cybex Arc Trainers, three Expresso Fitness virtual reality bikes, three Star Trac treadmills with iPod capabilities, a nine piece Cybex VR3 strength circuit, Cybex smith machine, and Cybex free weights and dumbbells. All members of the fitness center staff are trained to assist with strength and cardio equipment. Appointments can be made for Individual Fitness Plans (IFP). The fitness center staff is made up of a welcoming and helpful group of individuals who are committed to meeting the workout needs of NCC students, faculty, and staff. They will meet each fitness center user at his/her level of personal fitness and assist in working toward each user's wellness goals.

The staff kindly asks that all users adhere to the following rules in the fitness center, walking track, multi-purpose exercise room, and gymnasium areas:

1. Please wear clean, non-marking athletic shoes when using the facilities. No boots or dress shoes are allowed.
2. Do not bring any food or beverages into the facilities (water is permitted).
3. A valid Nashua Community College ID is required for entrance into any of the facilities.
4. Please sign in and out when entering and exiting the fitness center.
5. Do not leave personal belongings in the lockers overnight.
6. Students, faculty, and staff are allowed to bring their own locks for use in the locker room. The fitness center staff will not provide locks.
7. All personal belongings must be kept in lockers and should not be kept on the floor in the locker room or any other fitness center facility.
8. Do not leave trash in any of the facilities.
9. Use appropriate language at all times.
10. Please respect the fitness center staff at all times, and remember that staff members have the final decision on all fitness center matters.

The multi-purpose exercise room is a 30'x 25' space designed for group exercise classes, including Yoga, Zumba, Kickboxing, and Physioball.

These programs are fee-based for students, faculty, and staff. These classes will be offered based on demand.

The fitness center, gymnasium, and walking track are open Mon-Fri from 7:00am-8:00pm. Summer hours will be posted by mid-April of each year.

The lounge area located on the second floor of the Wellness Center is for student and faculty enjoyment. The furniture is to be used in a proper manner. As numerous people use this facility, laying and sleeping on the couches is not considered acceptable behavior.

The fitness area, basketball court and locker rooms require that all students have a current and active ID to enter. The doors are equipped

with an ID reader which will admit only current students.

The Student Code of Conduct applies to students using the Wellness Center's facilities. Students found in violation of the Student Code of Conduct or doing anything which could cause injury to themselves or others will be subject to disciplinary action including, but not limited to access to the Wellness Center (Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct section in this Handbook).

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Family Education Rights and Privileges Act of 1974

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 was enacted to protect the privacy of educational records, to establish the right of the student to inspect and review their educational records, and to provide guidelines for the correction of inaccurate or misleading data through informal and formal hearings. The federal law includes provisions for disclosure of Directory Information by educational institutions.

Nashua Community College considers the following to be Directory Information: Student's name, address, telephone number, date of birth, major field of study, dates of attendance, degrees, awards, honors and most recent educational institution attended.

If you do not wish disclosure of any or all of the categories of identifiable directory information, you must notify the Registrar in writing.

If you chose to withhold "Directory Information", any future requests for such information from non-institutional persons or organizations will be refused, except as provided by law. The College will honor your request to withhold general Directory Information but will assume no responsibility to get permission to release information in the future or assume any liability regardless of the effect upon you by withholding this information.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. These rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the College receives a request for access. A student should submit to the registrar, a written request that identifies the records(s) the student wishes to inspect. The College official will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the College official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the student of the correct College official to whom the request should be addressed.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA. A student who wishes to ask the College to amend a record should write the College official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record the student wants changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the College decides not to amend the record as requested, the College will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student's right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to provide written consent before the College discloses personally identifiable information from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. The College discloses education records without a student's prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the College in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person or company with whom the College has contracted as its agent to provide a service instead of using College employees or officials (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent); a person serving on the Board of Trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities for the College.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the University to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-5901

Solomon Amendment

The Solomon Amendment requires institutions to provide directory-type information on students at least 17 years of age upon request of representatives of the Department of Defense for military recruiting purposes. For more information, please see the Registrar.

STUDENT CONDUCT/JUDICIAL POLICIES

I. PHILOSOPHY

A student's continuance at any Community College System of New Hampshire (CCSNH) college depends not only upon his or her academic performance but also on his or her conduct. The receipt of academic credit and the conferring of a degree or certificate are subject to the student's compliance with the academic and judicial standards of the individual CCSNH college. A broad range of sanctions, up to and including dismissal/expulsion from all CCSNH colleges, may be imposed at any time for conduct that would discredit or adversely reflect on the student and/or the CCSNH colleges.

The goals of the CCSNH colleges' judicial system are to:

- Develop, disseminate, interpret, and enforce campus regulations;
- Protect the relevant rights of all students;
- Adjudicate student behavioral problems in an effective, equitable, and educational manner;
- Facilitate and encourage respect for campus governance; and
- Provide learning experiences for students who participate in the operation of the judicial system.

The mission of CCSNH Colleges Judicial System shall be educational in emphasis. Its purpose is to foster self discipline and self-direction in the student. It's goal is to enable the student to learn from his/her experiences, to foresee consequences of behavior, and to avoid behaviors that would violate ethical and moral standards.

Discipline, if it is to be educational, depends upon the involvement of the entire campus. As such, it is properly the concern of the student body, the faculty, the staff, and the administration.

In the administration of discipline, however, it is imperative that a proper balance exists between concern for the individual involved in an infraction and concern for CCSNH college community. In doing so, one recognizes that the good of the CCSNH college community normally takes precedence.

II. STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The CCSNH college's jurisdiction and discipline shall be limited to conduct which adversely affects the CCSNH college community and/or the pursuit of its objectives, whether on or off the college premises or inside or outside of the classroom. Any student found to have violated this Student Code of Conduct, including but not limited to the following examples of misconduct, is subject to the disciplinary sanctions outlined in this document:

A. Examples of Misconduct: Rules and Regulations

1. Violation of published CCSNH college policies, rules, or regulations;

2. Acts of dishonesty including but not limited to the following;
 - a. Cheating, which includes, but is not limited to: 1) use of any unauthorized assistance from other persons or technologies in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations or in the preparation and completion of class assignments; 2) dependence upon the aid of resources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; 3) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the CCSNH college's faculty, staff, or students; or; 4) knowingly providing unauthorized assistance of any kind to another for the purpose of providing unfair advantage to the recipient in the completion of course assessments/assignments (sometimes known as facilitation);
 - b. Plagiarism, which includes, but is not limited to, the use (intentional or unintentional), by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in providing term papers or other academic materials via direct sale, barter or other means;
 - c. Furnishing false information to any CCSNH college official, faculty/staff member;
 - d. Forgery, alteration, or misuse of any CCSNH document, record, or instrument of identification;
 - e. Tampering with the election process or financial management of any CCSNH college recognized student organization;
3. Disruption or obstruction of any authorized CCSNH college activity or of any authorized non-CCSNH activity; or unauthorized occupancy of any college facility;
4. Physical abuse, verbal abuse, threats, intimidation, harassment, coercion, sexual assault, rape, stalking, and/or other conduct that threatens or endangers the health, well-being, or safety of any person;
5. Attempted or actual theft of and/or damage to property of the CCSNH college or property of a member of the CCSNH college community or other personal or public property;
6. Hazing, defined in NH RSA 631:7 as "any act directed toward a student, or any coercion or intimidation of a student to act or to participate in or submit to any act, when: (1) Such act is likely, or would be perceived by a reasonable person as likely to cause physical or psychological injury to any person; and (2) Such act is a condition of initiation into, admission into, continued membership in or association with any organization;" and for the purposes of this document includes acts that endanger the mental or physical health or safety of a student, or that destroy or remove public or private property, for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in, a group or organization;
7. Failure to comply with directions of CCSNH college officials, campus security personnel, or public law enforcement officers acting in performance of their duties, including failure to identify oneself to these persons when requested to do so;
8. Unauthorized possession, duplication, or use of keys to any CCSNH college premises or unauthorized entry to or use of CCSNH college premises;
9. Violation of federal, state, or local law on CCSNH college premises or at CCSNH college sponsored or supervised activities;
10. Use, possession, sale, or distribution of narcotics or other controlled substances or purported controlled substances except as expressly permitted by law;
11. Public intoxication or the use, possession, sale, or distribution of alcoholic beverages, except as expressly permitted by the law and CCSNH college regulations;
12. Possession of firearms, explosives, other weapons, or dangerous chemicals on CCSNH college premises (including in vehicles) except as authorized by the college for instructional, maintenance, or law enforcement purposes;
13. Participation in a campus demonstration that disrupts the normal operation of the institution and infringes on the rights of other members of the CCSNH college community; leading or inciting others to disrupt scheduled and/or normal activities within any campus building or area;
14. Obstruction of the free flow of pedestrian or vehicular traffic on CCSNH college premises or at CCSNH college-sponsored or supervised functions;
15. Conduct that is disorderly, lewd, or indecent; breach of peace; or aiding, abetting, or procuring another person to breach the peace on CCSNH college premises or at functions sponsored by or participated in by the CCSNH colleges;
16. Theft or other abuse of technological resources, including but not limited to:
 - a. Unauthorized entry into electronic files, to use, read, or change the contents, or for any other purpose;
 - b. Unauthorized transfer of electronic files or copyrighted software programs;
 - c. Unauthorized use of another individual's identification and password;
 - d. Use of technological resources that interferes with the work of

- another student, faculty member, or CCSNH college official;
 - e. Use of technological resources to send, publish, or display obscene, pornographic, threatening, or abusive messages;
 - f. Use of technological resources to receive, browse, store or view obscene or pornographic materials for other than college-approved research;
 - g. Use of technological resources for criminal activity;
 - h. Use of technological resources to interfere with normal operation of the CCSNH college computing system.
17. Abuse of the Judicial System, including but not limited to:
- a. Failure to obey the summons of a judicial body or CCSNH college official;
 - b. Falsification, distortion, or misrepresentation of information before a judicial body;
 - c. Disruption or interference with the orderly conduct of a judicial proceeding;
 - d. Attempting to discourage an individual's proper participation in or use of the judicial system;
 - e. Attempting to influence the impartiality of a member of the judicial body through threat, intimidation, or bribery prior to and/or during the course of the judicial proceeding;
 - f. Failure to comply with the sanction(s) imposed under the Student Code of Conduct;
 - g. Influencing or attempting to influence another person to commit an abuse of the judicial system.
18. Aiding or abetting in the violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

B. Violation of Civil/Criminal Law and CCSNH College Code of Conduct

1. If a student is charged with a violation of the Student Code that also constitutes a violation of a felony statute, that violation shall be reported to Civil authorities.
2. If a student is charged with a violation of the Student Code that also constitutes a violation of a misdemeanor or lesser offense statute, that violation may be reported to the Civil authorities.
3. Disciplinary proceedings may be instituted against a student charged with violation of a felony, misdemeanor, or lesser offense statute that is also a violation of this Student Code of Conduct. For example, if both violations result from the same factual situation, without regard to the pendency of civil litigation in court or criminal arrest and prosecution, proceedings under this Student Code of Conduct may be carried out prior to, simultaneously with, or following civil or criminal proceedings off campus.

4. When a student is charged by federal, state, or local authorities with a violation of law, the CCSNH College will not request or agree to special consideration for that individual because of his or her status as a student. If the alleged offense is also the subject of a proceeding before a judicial body under the Student Code of Conduct, however, the CCSNH college may advise off-campus authorities of the existence of the Student Code of Conduct and other internal handling of such matters within the CCSNH college community. The CCSNH college and members of the CCSNH college community will cooperate fully with law enforcement and other agencies in the enforcement of criminal law on campus and in the conditions imposed by criminal courts for the rehabilitation of student violators.

Student Conduct in Switzerland

As a condition of admission to the Restaurant Management Program, students agree to abide by the student conduct rules and regulations of both Nashua Community College and Les Roches International School of Hotel Management.

Student Discipline

The Board of Trustees of the Community College System of New Hampshire has vested in the President of Nashua Community College, full responsibility and authority for maintaining discipline to the Vice President of Academic Affairs/Vice President of Student Services, the Senate Judiciary Committee, and the College Judiciary Committee. However, the final authority resides in the President.

The following practices are considered violations of student discipline:

1. Malicious destruction or theft of state property shall cause a student to be subject to financial restitution and disciplinary action.
2. Any tobacco product is not permitted on campus.
3. The use, possession, or distribution of unprescribed drugs and narcotics, including marijuana, by students is not allowed and will result in suspension or dismissal from the institute or college. Any institute/college student trafficking in drugs shall be subject to disciplinary action. The policy of the institute/college will be to cooperate fully with law enforcement agents in their proper exercise of duty. This policy is based on Federal and State of New Hampshire laws pertaining to the use of controlled drugs.

Student Computer Conduct Code

Any student using any College owned computer, printer, scanner, network or related equipment must follow the following Computer Conduct Code. A Student, who violates any of the following policies or is deemed to be misusing computer equipment or lab, will be referred to the Student

Judicial System and/or VP of Academic Affairs for disciplinary action.

- No student will reprogram, reconfigure, install or change any software or configuration that is installed on any of the College computers or computer system without written approval from their instructor or the Network Administrator.
- No student will connect, disconnect or alter in any form how a computer or related equipment is cabled or connected to the College network system without written approval from their Instructor or the Network Administrator.
- No student will copy or download any computer program or software that is licensed to the College or use College computer equipment or network to copy or download any program or software or materials that they do not have the legal right to copy.
- No student will use any College computer or network to engage in any illegal activity to include but not limited to: engage in an illegal act, make threats or harass individuals or misrepresent themselves to others.
- No student will access or display any pornographic materials on any College computer or network equipment.
- No student will bring any food or drink into a College computer lab including classrooms or libraries where computers are located.
- No student will use any College computer or network equipment to run his/her own business

College Email System

Nashua Community College has established a college electronic mail (“email”) system as a means of the College sending official information to enrolled students, and for students to send communication to their instructors and College personnel. All students registered at NCC will be assigned a College email account/address to be used as the only email address for all email communication: 1) sent to the students from their instructors and from all College personnel; and, 2) sent by the students to their instructors and to all College personnel.

In addition:

- Students should check their College email account regularly to ensure they are staying current with all official communications. Official communication includes, but is not limited to, policy announcements, registration and billing information, schedule changes, emergency notifications and other critical and time sensitive information.
- Students should also check their college email account to be sure that they are current with all email communication from their faculty.
- The student email account/address should be the only email address students use to send email to faculty and College personnel so that

student email is recognized and opened.

- This service is provided exclusively to the students of NCC. Accounts are for individual use only, and are not transferable or to be used by any other individual.

Health and Safety Standards

1. Shoes, shirts, and appropriate clothing must be worn at all times.
2. Pets are not allowed anywhere on the Nashua Community College campus.
3. Rollerblading and skateboarding are prohibited in the building.

Firearms and Dangerous Weapons

For the purpose of this policy, firearms and dangerous weapons shall include, but are not limited to, shotguns, rifles, pistols, BB guns, dart guns, starter pistols, blow guns, bows and arrows, martial arts weapons, including but not limited to nunchuks, throwing stars, knives over three inches in length, and any other device that could be or appear to be of danger to other persons. (Starter pistols may be utilized for specific events by qualified persons with prior approval). Students, staff and faculty are not allowed to have a weapon on campus. Any student found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to possible dismissal from the college.

Smoking Policy

To promote the health and well being of the students, faculty, staff and general public the campuses are SMOKE FREE and it is expected that all students will comply. The only exception -- smoking is allowed in personal vehicles on campus. However, disposing of tobacco products on College grounds is also considered a violation of the smoking policy. Students violating the SMOKE FREE policy may be fined as per Board policy; 1st offense \$25.00, 2nd offense \$50.00. The campuses are SMOKE AND TOBACCO FREE (including cigarette, cigar, and chewing tobacco).

When a fine is given, the individual has thirty days to pay the fined amount or their NCC account will be frozen until resolved.

III. SANCTIONS

Overview: The Vice President of Academic Affairs will oversee the adjudication of those disciplinary complaints and actions directly associated with a student’s participation in academic activities (e.g. complaints and actions related to completion of course assignments/assessments, continued course enrollment, continued program matriculation, behaviors that interfere with the instructional process, etc.). The Vice President of Student Affairs will oversee the adjudication of

those disciplinary complaints and actions primarily involving a student's continued participation in non-academic college activities, including residence life. Note that there may be circumstances under which a student's inappropriate behavior leads to recommended sanctions in both the academic and non-academic arenas.

Additionally, the Leadership Team of the CCSNH college will appoint a Judicial Advisor from among the faculty/staff ranks for a renewable two-year term to monitor and maintain records of the various judicial bodies and proceedings; to advise judicial bodies and students/individuals on appropriate or alternative courses of action; to review requests for judicial appeals (See Section IV.C below); and to ensure consistency in the application of sanctions.

A. Academic Affairs

The Vice President of Academic Affairs authorizes faculty, following consultation with a designated representative of the Academic Affairs Office and/or the Judicial Advisor, to issue sanctions pursuant to paragraph B (Academic Affairs Sanctions), where appropriate, numbered 1-4 below for violations if the Student Code of Conduct related to the instructional process. Incidents leading to sanctions listed in numbers 5-9 will be investigated and sanctions issued, where appropriate, by the Vice President of Academic Affairs (or his/her designee, which may include the Academic Standards/Standing Committee). [Note that a student's failure to meet academic progress (cumulative GPA) standards is managed separately from violations about acceptable academic progress.]

B. Academic Affairs Sanctions

1. WARNING - a notice in writing to the student that the student is violating or has violated academic regulations;
2. TEMPORARY EXPULSION FROM CLASS - an immediate expulsion from a class for a designated period of time, usually one class, for behavior detrimental to or disruptive of instruction;
3. PERMANENT EXPULSION FROM CLASS - through administration of an AF grade, permanent expulsion from a class for consistent or blatant behavior detrimental to or disruptive of the instructional process;
4. AWARDED A PUNITIVE GRADE - awarding of a punitive grade on an assignment or in a course for any violation of the Student Code of Conduct, including Cheating or Plagiarism (See also Section II for specific examples and definitions);
5. SUSPENSION FROM A DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM - suspension from an academic department/program for a designated period of time for consistent or blatant behavior detrimental to or disruptive of the instructional process. Student may reapply to program at conclusion of suspension period; conditions for readmission will be specified;

6. DISMISSAL FROM A DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM - permanent dismissal from an academic department/program for consistent or blatant behavior detrimental to or disruptive of the instructional process. Student may not reapply to program;
7. CCSNH COLLEGE SUSPENSION - suspension from a CCSNH college for a designated period of time for consistent or blatant behavior detrimental to or disruptive of the instructional process. Student may reapply to the college at conclusion of the suspension period; conditions for readmission will be specified;
8. CCSNH COLLEGE DISMISSAL/EXPULSION - permanent separation from all CCSNH colleges for consistent or blatant behavior that is detrimental to or disruptive of the instructional process;
9. OTHER SANCTIONS - imposed in addition to or in lieu of the above sanctions to address the specific circumstances of violations at issue; examples of such sanctions include but are not limited to work assignments, service to the college, written letter of apology, mandatory meetings with a college counselor. Such sanctions require the approval of the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the consent of any persons, other than the student, whose participation is required for the completion of the sanction(s).

C. Student Affairs

The Vice President of Student Affairs authorizes designated members of his/her staff, following consultation with a designated representative of the Student Affairs Office and/or the Judicial Advisor, to investigate incidents and issue sanctions, where appropriate, for numbers 1-6 below. Incidents leading to sanctions listed in numbers 7-10 will be investigated and sanctions issued, where appropriate, by the Vice President of Student Affairs (or his/her designee). In either situation, cases may be referred by the designated staff member in consultation with and approval of the Vice President of Student Affairs to the Judicial Committee for investigation and/or issuance of sanctions. In addition, an attempt will be made to resolve complaints informally before these sanctions are issued.

D. Student Affairs Sanctions

The following sanctions may be imposed upon any student, group, or organization found to have violated the Student Code outside of the classroom:

1. WARNING - a notice in writing to the student that the student is violating or has violated institutional regulations;
2. PROBATION - a written reprimand for violation of specified regulations. Probation is for a designated period of time and includes the probability of more severe disciplinary sanctions if the student is found to be violating any institutional regulations;
3. LOSS OF PRIVILEGES - denial of specified privileges for a designated

period of time (e.g. social probation, vehicular privileges, deactivation of a group, limited access to facilities, *Persona Non Grata*);

4. FINES - previously established and published fines may be imposed;
5. RESTITUTION - compensation for loss, damage, or injury. This may take the form of appropriate service and/or monetary or material replacement;
6. RESIDENCE HALL SUSPENSION - separation from the residence halls for a definite period of time, after which the student, group, or organization is eligible to return. Conditions for readmission will be specified;
7. RESIDENCE HALL EXPULSION - permanent separation from the residence halls;
8. CCSNH COLLEGE SUSPENSION - separation from the CCSNH college for a definite period of time, after which the student, group, or organization is eligible to return. Conditions for readmission will be specified;
9. CCSNH COLLEGE DISMISSAL/EXPULSION - permanent separation from all CCSNH colleges;
10. OTHER SANCTIONS - imposed in addition to or in lieu of the above sanctions; examples of such sanctions include but are not limited to work assignments, service to the college, written letter of apology, mandatory meetings with a college counselor. Such sanctions require the approval of the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the consent of any persons whose participation is required for the completion of the sanction(s).
11. INTERIM SANCTIONS- in certain circumstances, the President or Vice President of a CCSNH college, or a designee, may impose a sanction prior to the hearing before a judicial body. Interim sanctions may be imposed only a) to ensure the safety and well-being of members of the college community or preservation of college property; b) to ensure the student's own physical or emotional safety and well-being; or c) to ensure the normal operations of the college. Notification of the imposition of Interim Sanctions must be communicated to the Judicial Advisor as soon as is practical, as well as to the appropriate Vice President (if the Vice President did not originate the imposition of sanctions).

IV. Disciplinary Proceedings-Academic Affairs & Student Affairs

Violations of the Student Code of Conduct related to academic activities are overseen by the Vice President of Academic Affairs, who may appoint a designee to investigate individual complaints; academic complaints may be referred to the Academic Standards/Standing Committee for resolution.

Violations of the Student Code of Conduct related to non-academic activities are overseen by the Vice President of Student Affairs, who may appoint a designee to investigate individual complaints; non-academic complaints may be referred to the Judicial Committee for resolution.

A. Membership of Academic Standards/Standing Committee

The voting membership of the Academic Standards/Standing Committee will be appointed annually by the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

B. Charges- Academic Affairs and Student Affairs

1. Any person who witnesses a violation of the Student Code of Conduct may bring a charge forward to the authorized designated staff member (as outlined in Section III.A or III.C above).
2. Charges brought against a student must be in writing. Incident report forms may be obtained from the Academic or Student Affairs Offices, as well as from the Judicial Advisor. In addition, forms may be made available through Campus Security (where available) or on the college web site at the discretion of the College.

Information in the charge should include but not be limited to the following:

- a. Reporting person's name, address, phone, and student identification number (contact and ID number shall not be released to the accused without written permission of the person reporting the incident);
- b. Date, time, and location of incident;
- c. Person(s) involved in the incident;
- d. Victim(s) or damages involved in the incident;
- e. Complete narrative description of the incident;
- f. Names of witnesses to the incident;
- g. Any other information deemed appropriate

Copies of the form should be submitted to the Judicial Advisor and to the Vice President of Academic or Student Affairs (or designee), as appropriate.

3. The Vice President of Academic Affairs/Student Affairs (or designee, which may include the Academic Standards/Standing Committee or the Judicial Committee) will investigate and hear all complaints and may a) dispose of the complaint as unfounded; b) mediate an informal resolution; c) issue (or authorize to be issued) sanctions as described in Section II above; or d) forward to the Academic Standards Committee or the Judicial Committee for resolution.

A time shall be set for an initial hearing between the accused and the authorized investigating individual/committee, not less than one (1)

nor more than five (5) class days after the student has been notified. Maximum time limits for scheduling of hearings may be extended at the discretion of the Vice President of Academic Affairs/Student Affairs (or designee) (See Section III.A and III.C on page 59).

C. Hearings of the Academic Standards/Standing Committee

1. A simple majority of voting members (including the Chair) must be present to conduct a hearing;
2. During the summer or vacations, a meeting may be called and members will be selected as follows:
 - a. Regular members will serve, or
 - b. In the event regular voting members cannot be reached or are not available, members may consist of: (1) Selected members of steering committee or volunteers; (2) Should this fail, the Vice President of Academic Affairs will attempt to appoint members in such a manner as to reflect the original representation of the committee.
3. If the charges have been brought by a member of the Academic Standards/Standing Committee or the Vice President of Academic Affairs, he/she shall rescue himself/herself from the Committee's deliberations and voting.
4. Hearings shall be conducted by the Academic Standards/Standing Committee according to the following guidelines:
 - a. Hearings normally shall be conducted in private.
 - b. Admission to the hearing of any person not directly involved with the proceedings, shall be at the discretion of the chairperson of the Academic Standards/Standing Committee.
 - c. In hearings involving more than one accused student, the chairperson of the Academic Standards/Standing Committee, at his or her discretion, may permit the hearings concerning each student be conducted separately.
 - d. The complainant and the accused have the right to be assisted by any advocate they choose from among the college community. In addition, a student may choose to engage (at his/her own expense) an outside advocate. The complainant and/or the accused are each responsible for presenting his or her own case, however, and, therefore, advocates are not permitted to speak or to participate directly in any hearing before the Academic Standards/Standing Committee.
 - e. The complainant, the accused and the judicial body shall have the right to call witnesses. They also have the right to present pertinent records, exhibits, and written statements for consideration by the Academic Standards/Standing Committee. Questioning of the complainant, the accused, and

the witnesses will be conducted by the Academic Standards/Standing Committee.

- f. All procedural questions are subject to final decision by the chairperson of the Academic Standards/Standing Committee.
 - g. After the hearing, the Academic Standards/Standing Committee shall determine (by majority vote) whether the student has violated the Student Code of Conduct. The chairperson will vote only in the event of a tie.
 - h. The Academic Standards/Standing Committee's determination shall be made on the basis of whether it is more likely than not that the accused student violated the Student Code of Conduct.
 - i. The Academic Standards/Standing Committee will recommend sanctions and will issue a report of its findings and recommendations regarding sanctions to the Judicial Advisor and the Vice President of Academic Affairs within three (3) class days of the completion of its hearings on the matter.
 - j. The Vice President of Academic Affairs will provide written notification of findings and sanctions to the grievant, the accused, and the administrative offices on a need-to-know basis. The original will be given to the Judicial Advisor for the permanent judicial record.
5. There shall be a single record of all hearings before the Academic Standards/Standing Committee. The record shall be the property of the CCSNH colleges and shall be maintained by the Judicial Advisor. Parties directly involved in the hearing may view this record upon making a written request to the Judicial Advisor.
 6. Except in the case of a student charged with failing to obey the summons of a judicial body or CCSNH college official, no student may be found to have violated the Student Code of Conduct solely because the student failed to appear before the Academic Standards/Standing Committee. In all cases, the evidence in support of the charges shall be presented and considered.
 7. The Academic Standards/Standing Committee's decision will be based on evidence that would lead a reasonable person to believe that it was more likely than not that the student committed the alleged offense.

D. Appeals-Academic Affairs

A student may appeal the issuance of a punitive grade in accordance with the Grade Appeal/Grade Change Policy as published in the college catalog. The punitive grade remains in effect during the appeal process, and the student is barred from participating in any other academic activities dependent upon the assignment or course in question as long as the sanction is in effect.

A student may appeal all other disciplinary actions as defined in Section III.B above by filling a written appeal with the Judicial Advisor within five (5) class days of being informed of the sanction being applied. The imposed sanction remains in effect during the appeal process. The written appeal should indicate the grounds for reversing the sanction. Grounds for appeal include:

1. The original hearing was not conducted fairly and in conformity with prescribed procedures (see Sections III and IV);
2. New and relevant evidence, sufficient to alter the decision, has been revealed that was not brought out in the original hearing, because such evidence and/or facts were not known to the person appealing at the time of the original hearing.

The Judicial Advisor has three (3) class days from the receipt of the appeal to make a decision on the validity of the appeal and to inform the student in writing.

If, in the opinion of the Judicial Advisor, the case does not warrant appeal, then the previous adjudication stands.

If, in the opinion of the Judicial Advisor, the case does warrant appeal based on condition #1 above (i.e., procedural issues), the case will be forwarded to the next judicial level or to the Academic Standards/Standing Committee. In the appeal of sanctions (other than punitive grade) issued by a faculty member, the next judicial level is the Vice President of Academic Affairs or his/her designee (which may be the Academic Standards/Standing Committee). In the appeal of cases heard by the Academic Standards/Standing Committee, the next judicial level is the President of the college. Appeals of cases involving suspension or dismissal/expulsion shall be heard by the President of the college.

If, in the opinion of the Judicial Advisor, the case does warrant appeal based on condition #2 above (i.e., new evidence), the case will be remanded to the original judicial level for re-hearing.

All appeals will be concluded within five (5) class days unless in the opinion of the Judicial Advisor extenuating circumstances (e.g., absence of key parties) require an extension.

Appellate bodies may 1) uphold the sanctions; 2) overturn the sanctions; or 3) modify the sanctions imposed by the original (or any previous) judicial body. The Vice President of Academic Affairs will provide notification of the outcome of the appeal in writing within three (3) class days of the decision to the grievant, the accused, and administrative offices on a need-to-know basis.

E. Membership of the Judicial Committee

1. A chairperson and an alternate chairperson who will be appointed by the Institute/College President or his/her designee.
2. A total of eight (8) voting members, elected as follows:
 - a. Four (4) will be faculty or staff elected by faculty/staff at large.
 - b. Four (4) will be students elected by the Student Senate. If the institution has residence halls, two of the students will be from the residence halls.
3. A total of five (5) alternate voting members will be elected as follows:
 - a. Two (2) faculty elected at large.
 - b. Three (3) students elected, one (1) from residence halls (if applicable) and two (2) commuter students elected from the Student Senate.
4. The advisor will be the Judicial Advisor who will be appointed by the Vice President of Student Services
5. During the summer or vacation, a meeting may be called and members will be selected as follows:
 - a. A minimum of four (4) members will be present.
 - b. Regular appointed or elected members will serve, or
 - c. In the event regular voting members cannot be reached or are not available, members may consist of:
 - (1) Selected members of steering committees or volunteers.
 - (2) Should this fail, the Vice President of Student Services will attempt to appoint members in such a manner as to reflect the original representation of the committee.

F. Hearings of the Judicial Committee-Student Affairs

1. A minimum of five (5) members (including the Chair) will be present to conduct a hearing. If five appointed members are not available due to recusals or for other reasons, additional members shall be selected by the Vice President of Student Affairs pursuant to the methodology set forth in paragraph 2 b below.
2. During the summer or vacations, a meeting may be called and members will be selected as follows:
 - a. Regular members will serve, or
 - b. In the event regular voting members cannot be reached or are not available, members may consist of:
 - (1) Selected members of steering committees or volunteers;
 - (2) Should this fail, the Vice President of Student Affairs will attempt to appoint members in such a manner as to reflect the original representation of the committee.
3. If the charges have been brought by a member of the Judicial

- Committee or the Vice President of Student Affairs, he/she shall recuse him/herself from the Committee's deliberations and voting.
4. Hearings shall be conducted by the Judicial Committee according to the following guidelines:
 - a. Hearings normally shall be conducted in private.
 - b. Admission to the hearing or any person not directly involved with the proceedings, shall be at the discretion of the chairperson of the Judicial Committee.
 - c. In hearings involving more than one accused student, the chairperson of the Judicial Committee, at his or her discretion, may permit the hearings concerning each student to be conducted separately.
 - d. The complainant and the accused have the right to be assisted by any advocate they choose from among the college community. In addition, a student may choose to engage (at his/her own expense) an outside advocate. The complainant and/or the accused are each responsible for presenting his or her own case and, therefore, advocates are not permitted to speak or to participate directly in any hearing before the Judicial Committee.
 - e. The complainant, the accused, and the Judicial Committee shall have the right to call witnesses. They also have the right to present pertinent records, exhibits, and written statements for consideration by the Judicial Committee. Questioning of the complainant, the accused, and witnesses will be conducted by the Judicial Committee.
 - f. All procedural questions are subject to final decision by the chairperson of the Judicial Committee.
 - g. After the hearing, the Judicial Committee shall determine (by majority vote) whether the student has violated the Student Code of Conduct. The chairperson will vote only in the event of a tie.
 - h. The Judicial Committee's determination shall be made on the basis of whether it is more likely than not that the accused student violated the Student Code of Conduct.
 - i. The Judicial Committee will recommend sanctions and will issue a report of its findings and recommendations regarding sanctions to the Judicial Advisor and the Vice President of Academic Affairs within three (3) class days of the completion of its hearings on the matter.
 - j. The Vice President of Student Affairs will provide written notification of findings and sanctions to the grievant, the accused, and administrative offices on a need-to-know basis. The original will be given to the Judicial Advisor for the permanent judicial record.

5. There shall be a single record (e.g., written, audiotape, etc.) of all hearings before the Judicial Committee. The record shall be the property of the CCSNH colleges, and may be reviewed by a written request, to the Judicial Advisor.
6. Except in the case of a student charged with failing to obey the summons of the Judicial Committee or CCSNH college official, no student may be found to have violated the Student Code of Conduct solely because the student failed to appear before the Judicial Committee. In all cases, the evidence in support of the charges shall be presented and considered.
7. The Judicial Committee's decision will be based on evidence that would lead a reasonable person to believe that it was more likely than not that the student committed the alleged offense.

G. Appeals-Student Affairs

A student may appeal a disciplinary action as defined in Section III. D above by filing a written appeal with the Judicial Advisor within five (5) class days of being informed of the sanction applied. The imposed sanction remains in effect during the appeal process. The written appeal should indicate the grounds for reversing the sanction. Grounds for appeal include:

1. the original hearing was not conducted fairly and in conformity with prescribed procedures (See Sections III and IV above);
2. new and relevant evidence, sufficient to alter the decision, has been revealed that was not brought out in the original hearing, because such evidence and/or facts were not known to the person appealing at the time of the original hearing.

The Judicial Advisor has three (3) class days from the receipt of the appeal to make a decision on the validity of the appeal and to inform the student in writing.

If, in the opinion of the Judicial Advisor, the case does not warrant appeal, not including the date of receipt, then the previous adjudication stands.

If, in the opinion of the Judicial Advisor, the case does warrant appeal based on condition #1 above (i.e., procedural issues), the case will be forwarded to the next judicial level. For sanctions issued by a staff member, the next judicial level is the Vice President of Student Affairs of his/her designee (which may be the Judicial Committee). In the appeal of cases heard by the Judicial Committee, the next judicial level is the President. The determination by the Vice President or President shall be final.

If, in the opinion of the Judicial Advisor, the case does warrant appeal based on the condition #2 above (i.e., new evidence), the case will be remanded to the original judicial level for re-hearing. The decision on remand shall be final and not subject to appeal.

All appeals will be concluded within five (5) class days unless in the opinion of the Judicial Advisor extenuating circumstances (e.g., absence of key parties) require an extension.

An appeal may result in 1) upholding the sanctions; 2) overturning the sanctions; or 3) modifying the sanctions imposed by the original (or any previous) judicial body.

The Vice President of Student Affairs will provide notification of the outcome of the appeal in writing within three (3) class days of the decision to the grievant, the accused, and the administrative offices on a need-to-know basis.

V. Definitions

A. The term *CCSNH colleges* means all Community College System of New Hampshire and NHTI.

B. The term *student* includes all persons taking credit or non-credit courses at the CCSNH colleges. This includes both full-time or part-time, and those persons pursuing undergraduate, graduate, or professional studies; those who attend post-secondary educational institutions other than CCSNH colleges; those who are residing in CCSNH colleges residence halls; and those persons who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing relationship with the CCSNH colleges.

C. The term *faculty member* refers to any person hired by the CCSNH colleges to conduct educational activities.

D. The term *CCSNH college official* includes any person employed by any of the CCSNH colleges performing assigned administrative and/or other professional responsibilities.

E. The term *member of the CCSNH college community* includes any person who is a student, faculty member, CCSNH college official, or any other person employed by the CCSNH colleges. A person's status in a particular situation shall be determined by the President of the CCSNH college involved.

F. The term *CCSNH college premises* includes all land, buildings, facilities, and other property in the possession of, or owned, used or controlled by the CCSNH colleges (including adjacent streets and sidewalks).

G. The term *organization* refers to any number of persons who have complied with the formal requirements for CCSNH colleges (recognition/registration).

H. The term *judicial body* means any CCSNH college official or committee authorized by the Student Code of Conduct to determine whether a student has violated the Student Code of Conduct and to recommend or impose sanctions.

I. The term *Judicial Advisor* means a CCSNH college official authorized

by the CCSNH college's Leadership Team to coordinate and monitor the judicial process. The Judicial Advisor's role will include but not be limited to monitoring the judicial bodies and proceedings; advising judicial bodies and students/individuals on appropriate or alternative courses of action; reviewing requests for judicial appeals; and ensuring consistency with the application of sanctions.

J. The term *appellate body* means any person or persons authorized to consider an appeal arising from a judicial body's determination that a student has violated the Student Code of Conduct or arising from the sanctions imposed by the Judicial Body.

K. The term *shall* is used in the imperative sense.

L. The term *may* is used in the permissive sense.

M. The *Vice President of Student Affairs* or designee is the person designated by the CCSNH college's President to be responsible for the administration of the Student Code of Conduct.

N. The term *policy* is defined as the written regulations of the CCSNH colleges as found in, but not limited to, the Student Code of Conduct, Residence Life Handbook, Undergraduate Catalogs, Board of Trustees Policy Manual, Student Handbook, and Department Guidelines.

O. For the purpose of the Student Code of Conduct, a *class day* is defined as any day (Monday through Friday) that is part of the normal administrative workweek when the CCSNH colleges are in session.

P. *More likely than not*: Greater weight of evidence in terms of credibility; more convincing than an opposite point of view.

VI. STUDENT RIGHTS

A. Students in the Classroom

The classroom environment should encourage free discussion, inquiry and expression. Student performance must be evaluated on the basis of academic performance. At the same time, students are responsible for maintaining standards of academic performance established for each course in which they are enrolled.

Students are responsible for learning the content and maintaining academic standards for any course of study, but in so doing, they have the right to take substantiated exception to the data or views presented in class, and they are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled.

Information about student views, beliefs, and political associations which instructors, advisors and counselors learn in their course of work should be considered confidential. Student ability and character may be provided under appropriate circumstances.

B. Student Freedom Off-Campus

Students are both citizens and members of an academic community

with rights of freedom of speech, peaceful assembly and petition. Administrative officials and faculty members should not employ institutional powers to inhibit the intellectual and personal development of students as promoted through the exercise of citizenship rights on and off campus.

Where activities of students off-campus result in the violation of law and interrogation by investigators, the institution should:

1. Apprise students of their rights for legal counsel;
2. Not duplicate the function of general laws until the CCSNH college's interests as an academic community are distinctly and clearly involved;
3. Not subject the student to a greater penalty than would normally be imposed if the off-campus violation incidentally violates an institution regulation;
4. Take appropriate action independent of community pressure.

C. Freedom of Association

Students should be free to organize and join associations to promote their common interests. Affiliations with an external organization should not of itself disqualify a student organization from institutional recognition. Campus advisors are required, but they should not have the authority, to control the policy of such organizations. Student organizations must submit a statement of purpose, criteria for membership, rules of procedures, and a current list of officers. Campus organizations should be open to all students without respect to race, creed or origin, except for religious qualifications which may be required by organizations whose aims are primarily sectarian.

D. Freedom of Inquiry and Expression

Students and student organizations shall be free to examine and discuss all questions of interest to them and to express opinions publicly and privately. At the same time, it should be made clear that in their public expressions or demonstrations students or student organizations speak only for themselves.

Students should be allowed to invite and to hear any person of their own choosing. Those routine procedures required by an institution before a guest speaker is invited to appear on campus should be designed only to ensure that there is orderly scheduling of facilities and adequate preparation for the event, and that the occasion is conducted in a manner appropriate to an academic community. The institutional control of campus facilities should not be used as a device of censorship. It should be made clear to the academic and larger community that sponsorship of guest speakers does not necessarily imply approval or endorsement of the views expressed either by the sponsoring group or by the institution.

E. Student Participation in Institutional Government

The student body should have clearly defined means to participate in the formulation and application of institutional policy affecting academic and student affairs. The role of student government and both its general and specific responsibilities should be made explicit and the actions of student government within the areas of its jurisdiction should be reviewed only through orderly and prescribed procedures.

F. Student Publications

Institutional authorities, in consultation with students and faculty, have a responsibility to provide written clarification of the role of their student publications, the standards to be used in their evolution, and the limitations and external control of their operation. Editorial freedom entails corollary responsibilities to be governed by the canons of responsible journalism, such as the avoidance of libel, indecency, undocumented allegations, attacks on personal integrity, and the techniques of harassment and innuendo.

G. Student Disciplinary Standards

1. Conduct
In developing responsible student conduct, disciplinary procedures play a role and the institutions have a responsibility to:
 - a. Clarify, through publication, those standards of behavior which are considered essential to the educational objective and community life.
 - b. CCSNH colleges disciplinary proceedings only for violations of standards of conduct formulated or published.
 - c. Formulate and communicate disciplinary procedures, including the student's right to appeal a decision.
2. Investigation of Student Conduct
 - a. Search and Seizure
CCSNH regards the right of privacy as an essential freedom. Occupied premises, assigned lockers, privately owned automobiles or any other personal property owned or controlled by a student may not be searched without consent of the student except in the circumstances noted below. Before a search is conducted, school officials will have reasonable grounds to believe that the search will turn up evidence that the student has violated, or is violating, either the law or school rules. All searches will be reasonable and justified from their inception and reasonable in scope:
 - Residential Life health and safety inspections, Thanksgiving Break Closings, Winter Break Closings, and Spring Break closings to insure the health, cleanliness, safety and maintenance of the Residence Halls. During inspections,

if a policy violation comes to the attention of the staff (ex. candle), it may be addressed judicially.

- Routine inspections, emergency repairs, and/or routine maintenance. Such activities do not normally include searches, but are for the purpose of inspection, maintenance and repair.
- Entries authorized in advance by the President or Vice President of Student Affairs (or designee) in writing based upon reasonable information that such entry is necessary for the purpose of detecting and removing items, including but not limited to, weapons or other contraband which violate a law or a school rule or pose a threat to the health and safety of students, faculty, staff or guests. The scope of any search conducted pursuant to this authorization shall extend no further than is necessary to secure and remove the item(s).
- Entries and searches authorized by law. Entries and searches conducted by duly and authorized law enforcement officials under circumstances authorized by law.
- Entry may be made to ensure the health and safety of occupants. Examples include, but are not limited to, fire or alarm evacuations, smell of smoke or burning items, and concern for non-responsive occupants.
- Appropriate staff may enter if there is a reasonable belief that evidence exists that a violation of CCSNH policy is taking place. Efforts will be made to seek compliance from the residents of the space before this type of entry is made.

b. Violation Notification of Rights

Students detected or arrested in the course of serious violations of CCSNH college regulations, or infractions of laws, should be informed of their rights.

3. Status of Students Pending Action on Charges

Pending action on charges, the status of a student should not be altered, nor should the student's right to be present on the campus and to attend classes be suspended, except for reasons relating to his/her physical or emotional well-being, or for reasons relating to the safety and well-being of students, faculty, or institution property.

Student Rights Grievance Procedure

Any student who feels that his/her rights., as defined in Section VI, A-G, have been violated may file a grievance following the procedure below. However, in the case of a grievance alleging discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, or marital status, the student must consult with the college's Affirmative Action/Equity Officer first.

A. The student is encouraged to meet with the individual in question, e.g., instructor, staff member, or student, to resolve the issue informally within one week from the time the student could reasonably have known of the grievance.

B. If the issue cannot be resolved by pursuing the process in step A, of the individual elected not to resolve the matter informally as prescribed in step A, a formal grievance in writing must be submitted to:

- The Vice President of Academic Affairs for grievances related to the instructional process (see college catalog or Student Handbook for separate process for Grade Change/Grade Appeal), or:
- The Vice President of Student Affairs for grievances not related to the instructional process.

The grievances must be submitted within two weeks of the date the grievant knew, or reasonably should have known, of the alleged violation. The grievance shall specify the right claimed to have been violated and state briefly the underlying facts.

C. The Vice President of Academic Affairs (VPAA) or Student Affairs (VPSA), of their designee, will meet with the individual alleged to have violated the student's rights. The VPAA/VPSA of their designee may attempt to resolve the issue informally again at this stage. If resolution is not possible and the VPAA/VPSA, or their designee feels the grievance has merit, the matter will be forwarded to the Judicial Committee or Academic Standards/Standing Committee respectively within two weeks of the receipt of the formal grievance. If the VPAA/VPSA, or their designee feels that the grievance does not have merit, the matter is considered resolved at that point.

The Vice President of Academic Affairs/Student Affairs or their designee will determine the appropriate course of action.

For grievances against an individual in the performance of his/her duties as a college employee, the VPAA/VPSA or designee and the employee's supervisor will meet with the individual alleged to have violated the student's rights. The VPAA/VPSA or designee, in conjunction with the supervisor, will determine if the charge has merit and, if so, will proceed in accordance with State of New Hampshire personnel rules and regulations.

For grievances against students of other individuals not employed by the college, but working at the college (e.g., bookstore personnel, food service personnel) the VPAA/VPSA or designee will meet with the individual alleged to have violated the student's rights and may attempt an informal resolution at this meeting. If an informal resolution is not possible at

this meeting, and if the VPAA/VPASA in consultation with the Judicial Advisor, feels the grievance has merit, the matter will be forwarded to the employee's employer for resolution. If the VPAA/VPASA, in consultation with the Judicial Advisor, feels that the grievance does not have merit, the matter is considered resolved at that point.

D. If the grievance reaches the Academic Standards/Standing Committee or the Judicial Committee, protocols as outlined in Section IV will be followed.

IMMUNIZATION POLICY

Beginning July 1, 1986, as a prerequisite to matriculation, all newly entering students, less than 27 years of age, and all nursing students, will be required to present documented proof of immunity to measles. All newly entering students, regardless of age, shall present documented proof of immunization against rubella. According to the New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services, acceptable proof of immunity is as follows:

Measles

Students can be considered immune to measles only if they have documentation as follows:

1. Documentation of immunization with live measles virus vaccine on or after the first birthday. Persons vaccinated with killed or an unknown vaccine prior to 1968 should be revaccinated. Persons born before 1957 may be considered to have had natural infection and therefore do not need measles vaccine: or
2. Laboratory (serologic) evidence of measles immunity; or
3. A physician-signed statement that confirms the history and date of conclusive diagnosis of measles disease.

Rubella

Students can be considered immune to rubella only if they have documentation as follows:

1. Documentation of immunization with live rubella virus vaccine on or after the first birthday; or
2. Laboratory (serologic) evidence of rubella immunity.

In addition, all students are strongly urged to have within one year of entrance, a tuberculin skin test, the results of which were negative. Nursing students must have an annual Mantoux skin test, the results of which are negative.

The documented date of immunization for both measles and rubella should include the day, month and year. However, only month and year

will suffice as long as the month and year show that the immunization was given at least 13 months from month of birth. If only the year of immunization is provided, the date given must be 2 years from year of birth.

Also, since revaccination causes no adverse medical consequences, it is recommended that those students who present questionable immunization dates, or questionable diagnosis of measles, be vaccinated (revaccinated) prior to the time of matriculation/registration. Questionable immunization, dates/records, may be referred by college office for medical reverification. *Exceptions to this policy may be granted by the President in the event of medical contraindications or for religious or other reasons.*

Hepatitis B Vaccine Series

Vaccination against Hepatitis B is required for all students in the following programs:

- Associate Degree Nursing
- Speech-Language Pathology Assistant
- Massage Therapy
- Early Childhood Education
- Human Services

A student has the right to decline the above vaccine, but he/she must sign a release form. **Please Note: You will not be able to attend clinicals until you have either been vaccinated, or have signed a release form.**

Additional Immunization Recommendations

It is recommended that all registered students will have obtained, before college entrance, all immunizations against childhood diseases, including mumps, tetanus, diphtheria and polio, in accordance with the currently accepted immunization schedules of the New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services. Additionally, since up to 20% of women in childbearing age may be susceptible to rubella, it is recommended that female faculty, staff and other female employees of childbearing age obtain immunization against rubella, contingent upon rubella titer. *(This type of policy has been recommended by the New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services.)*

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Nashua Community College does not discriminate in the administration of its admissions and educational programs, activities, or employment practices on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, handicap, veteran status, sexual orientation, or marital status. This statement is a reflection of the mission of the Community College System of New Hampshire and Nashua Community College and refers

to, but is not limited to, the provisions of the following laws: Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, The Age Discrimination Act of 1967, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, and the NH Law Against Discrimination (RSA 354-A). Inquiries regarding discrimination may be directed to **Catherine Barry** or **Dan Jones**, Nashua Community College, (603) 882-6923; or to **Sara A. Sawyer**, Director of Human Resources Community College System of New Hampshire 26 College Drive, Concord, NH 03301, (603) 271-6300. Inquiries may also be directed to the Office for Civil Rights, Boston Office, US Department of Education, 33 Arch Street, Suite 900, Boston, MA 02110 Tel: (617) 289-0222 Fax: (617) 289-0150, TDD (617) 223-9695, email OCRBoston@ed.gov; the Equal Employment Commission. John F. Kennedy Federal Building, Government Center, 4th Floor, Room 475, Boston, MA 02203, (617) 565-3200, TTY (617) 565-3204. To be automatically connected with the nearest EEOC field office, call 1-800-669-6820, TTY 1-800-669-6820; and or the New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights, 2 Chennell Drive, Concord, NH 03301, (603)-271-2767.

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This handbook is a guide to Nashua Community College, and its contents are subject to revision at any time. The College reserves the right to change tuition, fees, courses, policies, programs, services, and personnel as required.