**Proposal for establishment of an undergraduate academic amnesty policy for academically dismissed students**

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| Source of the Proposal | The Course and Standing Committee of the Faculty Senate |
| Level of degree | Associate and Baccalaureate |
| Consultations | Academic Affairs, Curriculum Coordinator, Registrar’s Office |
| Date Effective | Fall 2022 |
| Proposal | The College of Staten Island implements an academic amnesty policy for undergraduate students who have been academically dismissed (due to not meeting the GPA standards for maintenance of matriculation and enrollment). |
| Rationale for change | Students who have been academically dismissed from the College must file an appeal for readmission. Even when such appeals are granted, the students can have a difficult time regaining good academic standing because their past grades continue to have a negative impact on their GPA. This can be frustrating for students upon their return, because there may not be a mathematically feasible way for them to earn enough credits of A and B grades to bring their overall GPA to at least a 2.0 (the minimum required for good academic standing, although certain majors require a higher minimum of 2.5-3.0).  Removing all previously-earned letter grades of A-F from the GPA calculation (while designating them with coding available in CUNYfirst to still show the original grade earned) would have the result of recognizing the coursework completed successfully and maintaining those credits, while also providing the amnesty recipients an opportunity to complete their degrees at CSI. |
| Objectives | * Permit academically dismissed undergraduate students who have had a break in attendance from CSI of at least three (3) consecutive academic years to pursue a fresh start at CSI; * Facilitate the attainment of an associate’s and/or bachelor’s degree. |
| Assessment plans | Based on the submission of an official academic amnesty form to the Course and Standing Committee, provided in tandem with the official readmission appeal request, the College would be able to collect numerical, demographic, and academic data on the actual number of students who utilize the policy. |
| Expected impacts on enrollment | There may be a positive impact on enrollment, since students who are readmitted with academic amnesty may now have a more reasonable expectation of being able to complete their studies and earn their undergraduate associate’s and/or bachelor’s degrees, due to the academic reset resulting from no longer calculating past letter grades into the cumulative GPA. |
| Expected impacts on classwork/registration | None are anticipated. Students who receive amnesty for courses that are pre-requisites for others would still remain eligible to register: the original grade earned will still show on the transcript, which will correctly prevent students not meeting a specific minimum grade standard for a pre-requisite course from enrolling. |
| Proposed policy | * Undergraduate students who were academically dismissed from the College may request academic amnesty and have all previously-awarded letter grades from CSI (A-F) coded in CUNYfirst to designate that the courses are no longer being calculated in the overall GPA. F grades would receive the same coding, but no credit will be awarded for those courses. * Only courses completed in residence at CSI are eligible for academic amnesty. * WU, WN, and FIN grades are not eligible for conversion and will remain part of the student’s permanent academic record. * F grades received as a result of disciplinary sanctions (e.g. academic dishonesty) are not eligible for amnesty. * Academically dismissed students applying for amnesty must have a break of attendance from CSI for a minimum of three (3) consecutive academic years, and upon their approved readmission, they must fulfill the graduation requirements in effect when they are readmitted. * Academic amnesty and the resulting conversion of all eligible letter grades must be requested at the time of submitting the official readmission appeal, and cannot be granted retroactively. * Students who are approved for readmission under the academic amnesty policy will be restricted to taking no more than 12 equated credits in their first semester of return. Their academic standing will automatically be reviewed at the end of the semester and, if they have met the minimum standard for good academic standing (i.e., cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher), they will be eligible to enroll for up to the established credit limits for subsequent semesters. * All courses for which academic amnesty is granted will continue to count in all calculations and determinations of future federal and New York State financial aid eligibility. * The standards for maintenance of good academic standing, continuation of probation status, and placement on academic dismissal supersede academic amnesty. * Students who apply for and receive amnesty must still meet all academic standards related to graduation, including (but not limited to) minimum GPA requirements for their major and satisfaction of credits completed in residency. * Some programs may have additional requirements for re-entry and graduation. Students who receive academic amnesty are strongly encouraged to consult with an advisor from that area at their earliest opportunity upon readmission to the College. * Students who receive academic amnesty will not be eligible for graduation with Latin honors. * Amnesty for academically dismissed students can only be received once at CSI. |