



Policies and Regulations: Academic Honesty

Academic Honesty is a Joint Responsibility of the Individual Student and the College's Faculty and Staff

Coastline Community College's institutional integrity is built in part upon the individual student's commitment to academic honesty. The College's institutional integrity is also founded upon the effective administration of academic honesty issues by the College's faculty and staff.

Coastline Community College Faculty are responsible for ensuring that the student grades are truly indicative of the student's learned knowledge as exhibited in the classroom. Student acts of academic dishonesty cause disruption of the educational process, weaken our College's institutional integrity, and present challenges for our faculty to fairly assess the student's academic performance.

Coastline Community College Faculty holds primary responsibility for ensuring that academic honesty is maintained in their classes. Individual students also share in this responsibility. Coastline students are required to refrain from all acts of academic dishonesty. The Coast Community College District's Student Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (BP-3902) apply to students whose conduct violates this academic honesty procedure.

Procedures for Dealing with Violations of Academic Dishonesty

Actions Taken by Faculty Member

Any Coastline Faculty member who has evidence that a student has committed an act of academic dishonesty, shall, after speaking with the student, take one or more of the following disciplinary actions:

- Issue an oral reprimand.
- Give the student an "F" grade or zero points or a reduced number of points on all or part of a particular paper, project or examination;
- If the act of academic dishonesty results in a "F" grade or zero points being awarded to the student for that particular paper, project, or examination, and this result affects the student's overall grade in the class, then the student shall be issued the proper grade, as affected by the specific "F" or zero grade, by the faculty member.

For any incident of academic dishonesty resulting in the instructor's issuance of an "F" or zero points - the instructor shall assess the severity of the student's misconduct and determine whether the incident should be immediately reported to the College's Student Discipline Officer (presently the Dean of Counseling, Special Programs & Services) on the "Academic Dishonesty Report" form.

Actions by the College Administration

The sanction imposed for an act of academic dishonesty depends on the severity of the alleged improper conduct of the student. However, sanctions are generally imposed as follows:

Upon receipt of a faculty-member completed *first* "Academic Dishonesty Report" form concerning a student, (or) upon satisfactory investigation of allegations brought by other staff or students about academic misconduct by a student, the Student Discipline Officer shall respond in one of two ways:

1. By sending a Student Discipline Notification Letter to the student, inviting the student to present a response to the allegations of academic dishonesty. The Student Discipline Officer will inform the student that if a finding of academic dishonesty is sustained, the student will be placed on disciplinary probation for a minimum of one year, with other possible sanctions being imposed pursuant to the District's Student Code of Conduct.
2. The Student Discipline Officer may also create an Academic Dishonesty Report file and send no letter (the Student Discipline Officer will not take action, based on the request of the individual instructor, who will handle the disciplinary action individually with his/her own students). If the Student Discipline Officer notes that multiple Academic Dishonesty Reports have been filed for particular students, from multiple instructors, however, then the student will receive the Letter of Student Discipline Notification.

Upon receipt of a *second or more* "Academic Dishonesty Report" of academic misconduct committed by a student, the Student Discipline Officer shall seek the suspension of the student for one full calendar year.

If, upon this student's return from the one year suspension, the Student Discipline Officer receives any further reports of academic dishonesty concerning this student, the Student Discipline Officer shall recommend the student be expelled from the District for a period of no less than three years.



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Depending on the severity of the student's academic dishonesty, a student may be suspended from the College on a first offense or be recommended for expulsion by the CCCD Board of Trustees.

The Student Discipline Officer shall keep the faculty member and Division Dean reasonably informed of the status of the student discipline process and outcome.

Examples of Academic Dishonesty Conduct

Some examples of academic dishonesty conduct warranting the imposition of disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Taking an examination for another student or having someone else take an examination for one-self.
- Altering a graded examination/assignment and returning it for additional credit.
- Having another person or a company do research and/or writing of a report.
- Stealing or attempting to steal an examination or answer key.
- Printing an online exam without the express authorization of the instructor.
- Stealing or attempting to change official academic records.
- Forging or altering grades.
- Obtaining answers from another student before or during an examination.
- Falsely reporting or claiming to have experienced technical difficulties with online instructional tests, quizzes, or assignments.
- Knowingly allowing another student to copy one's work.
- Using unauthorized materials, such as notebooks, calculators, or other items, without the instructor's consent during an examination or placement test.
- Sharing answers for a take-home or on-line examination unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- Receiving help in creating a speech, essay, report, project or paper unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- Turning in a speech, essay, report, project or paper done for one class to another class unless specifically authorized by the instructor of the second class.
- Misreporting or altering the data in laboratory or research projects.
- Offering another person's work as one's own: copying a speech, essay, report, discussion board posting, project or paper from another person or from books, websites, or other sources.
- Using outside sources (books, or other written sources) without giving proper credit (by naming the person and putting any exact words in quotation marks).
- Intentionally impairing the performance of other students and/or a faculty member.
- Collusion - when any student knowingly or intentionally helps another student perform an act of academic dishonesty. Collusion in an act of academic dishonesty will be disciplined in the same manner as the act itself.