



Policy

5-8081 Academic Freedom – Students

The Board of Trustees believes that students have the right to listen, the right to decide, the right to choose, the right to reject, the right to express and defend individual beliefs, and that the educational purpose of the District is best served by this freedom of expression. As members of an academic community, students are encouraged to develop the capacity for critical judgment and to engage in a sustained and independent search for truth. Institutional procedures for achieving these purposes may vary from campus to campus, but maintaining rigorous standards of academic freedom for students are essential to the purposes for which community colleges exist.

Students are free to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in any course of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled. Student performance will be evaluated on a broad academic basis, not on opinions or conduct in matters unrelated to academic standards.

References:

Education Code Sections [76067](#) and [76120](#)

Adopted: September 14, 2005

Revision Adopted: October 9, 2019

Last Reviewed: October 9, 2019