

Academic Standing Policy

Middlesex Community College is committed to the academic success of its students. This Academic Standing Policy is designed to ensure that students make adequate progress toward a degree. Students are expected to be in Good Academic Standing to continue at the college. A student's academic standing is determined by the cumulative grade point average (GPA) required to meet academic standards based on the student's credit count of courses successfully completed at Middlesex Community College.

Credits Hours Toward GPA*	Good Standing Cumulative GPA (CGPA)	Academic Warning Cumulative GPA	Academic Probation Cumulative GPA
Fewer than 17 credits	2.0	Below 2.0	N/A
17-34 credits	2.0	1.8 or greater and below 2.0	Below 1.80
More than 34 credits	2.0	N/A	Below 2.0

*Credits Hours toward GPA include all letter grades ("A" through "F")

NOTE:

- The federal government has established regulations regarding satisfactory academic progress and eligibility for Financial Aid. These standards are separate from the college's policy on academic standing and probation. See [Financial Aid](#) for information about financial aid eligibility.
- Students in selective programs may need to meet additional program requirements to be considered in good academic standing. Refer to the program policies for specific information.

Good Standing

Students with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above are considered in Good Academic Standing.

Academic Warning

A student receives an Academic Warning when his/her cumulative GPA falls below a 2.0, but above the probationary level, as shown in the table above. Students who receive an Academic Warning will be notified in writing by the college and will be expected to take steps to improve their academic standing. Students are encouraged to meet with an academic advisor to determine appropriate course selections and resources available to develop strategies for a successful semester.

Academic Probation

A student is placed on Academic Probation if his/her cumulative GPA (CGPA) falls below the designated Probation threshold associated with the credit hours, as listed in the table above. Students have two consecutively enrolled (this is defined as NOT including summer) semesters of attendance to raise their CGPA to a level above Probation. A student who does not raise his/her CGPA above Probation after two consecutively enrolled semesters of attendance will be suspended for one semester. Students on Academic Probation will be notified in writing by the college and are required to participate in one or more college-mandated intervention programs designed to assist students in achieving academic success.

Academic Suspension

A student who does not raise his/her CGPA above the Academic Probation level after two semesters of attendance will be suspended for one semester. Students will be notified in writing by the college and may request that the college reconsider their suspension using the Academic Appeals procedure below. After one semester of not attending the college, or as a result of an approved appeal, a student may return and will be considered on Academic Probation. They will have an additional two semesters of attendance to bring their CGPA to Good Standing or they will be suspended.

Academic Appeals/Returning to MCC

Students who are suspended from MCC may appeal the suspension through the Office of the Provost/Vice President for Academic & Student Affairs; or, after not attending Middlesex for a minimum period of one semester (semesters are defined as Spring and Fall only), may be readmitted to the college. Students returning to the college after suspension, or as a result of their appeals being granted, will be considered on Academic Probation upon return and will therefore be required to bring their CGPA to Good Standing in the next two semesters of attendance. Students may also be required to participate in one or more college-mandated intervention programs designed to assist students in achieving academic success.

Fresh Start

Middlesex is committed to helping students meet their academic, career and personal goals. Toward this end, an MCC Fresh Start is available to students who have attended Middlesex Community College in the past and were not academically successful, but have demonstrated success upon return to MCC.

The MCC Fresh Start policy allows previously enrolled students an opportunity to establish a new academic record upon returning to the college. In such cases, a student's entire academic record for the semesters he/she previously attended MCC will be excluded from their grade point average calculation. All credit hours and grades will remain on the transcript. A notation of the MCC Fresh Start will also appear on the transcript.

Any student who attended MCC in the past and has not been enrolled at the college for a period of three (3) years or longer, may file a written request for a Fresh Start with the Office of the Provost. This request should include an explanation of the circumstances that led to the student's poor performance in the past, and a plan for how the student intends to be more successful going forward. A student may apply prior to completing any additional coursework, but the Fresh Start request will not be acted upon until a student has completed a minimum of 12 credits upon his or her return.

To be eligible for Fresh Start, a student must meet ALL of the following criteria:

- a. Be enrolled in a degree or certificate program at MCC;
- b. Has not been enrolled in academic courses at MCC for at least three (3) academic years prior to re-enrollment;
- c. Has a cumulative grade point average below 2.0 from MCC at the time of return;
- d. Has completed the Academic Fresh Start application prior to the completion of 24 credits upon their re-enrollment;
- e. Upon return, has completed a minimum of 12 credits, earning a grade of "C" or better in each subsequent course. If approved, based on the criteria, the student's transcript will reflect the Fresh Start;
- f. Has not previously been awarded a degree or certificate from MCC;
- g. A student is only eligible for "academic forgiveness" one time, and once approved, the decision cannot be reversed;
- h. If a student is granted an MCC Fresh Start his/her catalog term will be based on his/her date of re-enrollment.