

College Policies, Rules, and Regulations



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This section of the SMC catalog offers a summary overview of selected Santa Monica College policies, rules, regulations, and related procedures. Information was current when this edition of the catalog was published. Santa Monica Community College District administration reserves the right to add, amend, or repeal any of its policies, rules, regulations, and procedures at any time. The information provided in this section is subject to change without notice. Please see the District's Administrative Regulations at www.smc.edu/Policies/Policies/AdminRegulations.htm for additional details, as well as information on topics not covered in this or other sections of the catalog.

Matriculation Rights & Responsibilities

MATRICULATION RIGHTS

SMC students are entitled to specific matriculation rights and are expected to meet certain matriculation responsibilities under the California Education Code and the policies of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Monica Community College District. Student matriculation rights include:

1. Admission to the College, subject to Federal, State of California, and SMC Board of Trustees policies and regulations, and the availability of classes;
2. Information about the SMC campus and its satellite locations, the enrollment process, the matriculation process, and the policies of the SMC Board of Trustees relating to students;
3. Access to a matriculation process that allows participation in all components;
4. An English, ESL, and math assessment using materials and techniques approved by the Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges;
5. An English, ESL, and math placement recommendation using information and counseling based upon multiple measures;
6. Counseling assistance for selecting and enrolling in approved student classes;
7. Information about special programs, prerequisites, corequisites, advisories, and procedures;
8. Information and referrals for Santa Monica College student support services, such as financial aid;
9. Follow-up counseling services to enhance academic and personal performance and identify skill deficiencies that affect the student's academic performance; and
10. Matriculation services appropriate to the needs of ethnic, language-minority students and students with disabilities, and where necessary, modifications in the matriculation process or the use of alternative methods and/or procedures to accommodate the needs of these students.

STUDENT MATRICULATION RESPONSIBILITIES

General student matriculation responsibilities include an obligation to:

1. Identify an education and career goal after completing the 15th unit of degree-applicable coursework, or before the end of the third semester, whichever comes first.
2. Engage diligently in course activities and complete assigned coursework; and;
3. Complete courses and maintain progress toward an education goal.

SPECIAL MATRICULATION RESPONSIBILITIES

Santa Monica College requires certain types of students to accept special responsibilities if they wish to achieve their education and personal goals.

Probationary Students: Students on academic and/or progress probation must develop contracts with counselors for returning to good standing.

Undeclared Students: Students who have not declared education goals must meet with a counselor to develop a career or academic plan no later than the semester before enrolling for a 16th unit of credit at SMC.

Students Enrolled in Pre-College Courses: Students taking remedial courses must plan with their instructors the next course(s) in the instructional sequence, and develop a program with their counselors for the following semester.

STUDENT MATRICULATION COMPLAINTS

Students may file formal written complaints about the matriculation process with the Matriculation Office. See the Student Complaints, Hearings, & Appeals section of this catalog for more information.

Policy on Fees

FEES

IMPORTANT: All fees are subject to change without notice. Fees published in this catalog were current at the time the catalog went to press.

Enrollment Fee

The state-mandated student enrollment fee is \$46 per unit. The fee is subject to change without notice.

Nonresident Tuition Fee

All students enrolled in a California Community College are classified either as residents or as nonresidents. Students classified as California residents do NOT pay tuition. Students classified as NONresidents (including students who are citizens of a foreign country and hold only temporary resident status in the United States) are REQUIRED to pay tuition *in addition to* enrollment and other fees. Tuition for nonresidents is \$289 per semester unit (with \$46 enrollment fee, total is \$335

per semester unit). Tuition for students who qualify for an Assembly Bill 947 exemption is \$265 per semester unit (with \$46 enrollment fee, total is \$311 per semester unit). The mandatory tuition is subject to change without notice. See the residency requirements at www.smc.edu/admissions (click on the “Residency” link under Policies & Programs) or contact the residence specialist in the Admissions Office for AB 947 exemption details.

Health Services Fee

The mandatory fee of \$19 during the Fall and Spring semesters (\$16 during Winter and Summer sessions) provides a variety of health services to students. See the “Health Services Center” listing in the Programs & Services section of this catalog for details. Students who are exempt from paying the Health Services fee are:

- Students enrolled exclusively in noncredit or not-for-credit courses, or enrolled exclusively in online courses, and
- Students who declare through a personally-signed statement that they depend exclusively on prayer for healing in accordance with the teachings of a bona fide religious sect (documentation of such an affiliation is required).

Students who are eligible for financial aid through the Financial Aid Office and who need assistance to pay this fee should contact the Financial Aid Office.

Student ID Card & Associated Students Fee

The optional \$32.50 fee includes a fee of \$13 that covers the cost of the SMC student ID card, and an Associated Students Activities fee of \$19.50 that funds activities and services (including the free “Any Line, Any Time” rides on the Big Blue Bus) for SMC’s entire student body. See the Programs & Services section of this catalog for details on the range of benefits provided by the SMC student ID card and AS Activities fee. Both fees are optional. Students who do not wish to pay one or both of these fees should contact the Admissions Office or Bursar’s Office at time of enrollment.

Materials & Supplies Fees

Some classes require additional fees for materials and supplies. Students should consult the class listings in the Schedule of Classes to determine whether any such fees are required. Fees for materials and supplies are not refundable.

On-Campus Parking Decal Fee

Students who wish to use the on-campus parking facilities at SMC’s main campus must purchase a parking decal. Parking is FREE at satellite campuses and the shuttle lot, but a decal is required (see www.smc.edu/transportation for details). Fees for main campus parking decals vary, and discounts are available for students who receive a BOG A Fee Waiver because they or their family receive benefits under CalWORKs/Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF), SSI/SSP (Supplemental Security Income), or General Assistance/General Relief. Parking decal fees are subject to change without notice. For current details, please see the information at www.smc.edu/transportation or consult the College Policies section of the Schedule of Classes.

Returned Payments & Outstanding Balances

Returned checks and rejected credit card payments are subject to a fee of up to \$25 and are taken care of at the Auxiliary Services Office, located at 1738 Pearl St. An administrative hold will be placed on a student’s records until the matter is resolved. A student who leaves SMC owing a balance and does not pay the amount owed will be responsible for paying all collection costs and/or attorney’s fees. This debt may also be reported to all three major credit bureaus.

WITHDRAWAL REFUND SCHEDULE

Enrollment Fee

No refunds of enrollment fees are available to students who withdraw after the posted refund deadlines. Each class has its own refund and drop deadlines, which are posted on each student’s class schedule at Corsair Connect. Students who withdraw prior to this deadline will receive a 100% refund of enrollment fees, minus a processing charge of \$10. See the Admissions Office webpage at www.smc.edu/admissions (click on the “Fees” link under Information) for more information on withdrawal refunds.

Nonresident Tuition

Nonresident students who withdraw from Santa Monica College before the published refund deadline will receive a 100% refund of their nonresident tuition, minus any relevant processing fees. Students should apply for tuition refunds at the Bursar’s Office.

Health Services, Student ID Card, & Activities Fees

Students who withdraw from Santa Monica College before the published refund deadline will receive a 100% refund of the \$19 Health Services fee for Fall or Spring semesters (\$16 for Winter or Summer sessions); however, the \$13 SMC student ID card fee and \$4.50 of the AS Activities fee are nonrefundable.

On-Campus Parking Decal Fee

Parking decal fees are not refundable after the first 10% of the term. To obtain the refund, a student must present the parking decal **and** the receipt for it at the Bursar’s Office.

BOOKS & MATERIALS

The Federal Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) requires Santa Monica College to provide students with the International Standard Book Number (ISBN), retail price, and/or other information (subject to change) about the required or recommended textbooks and supplemental materials for each course offered at SMC. Please go to bookstore.smc.edu and click on “Buy Textbooks” for details. For other book-related information—including dates for book buybacks—please visit the SMC Bookstore website (bookstore.smc.edu).

FEDERAL TAX CREDIT

Selected education expenses may be deducted from federal income taxes by qualifying students. As required by federal tax credit legislation, Santa Monica College will mail each registered student a copy of IRS verification form 1098T (Tuition Statement) each year. This information is also reported to the IRS. Students should be sure to have their correct Social Security number on file in the Admissions Office for the sake of accurate reporting to the IRS. Students should check with their tax preparer to determine whether they are eligible to take advantage of this tax credit and the amount they may deduct from their federal and/or state taxes.

Auditing Classes

Santa Monica College does not permit auditing of classes. All students attending credit or noncredit classes at Santa Monica College must be officially enrolled through SMC's Admissions Office. Seniors attending free, noncredit classes on topics of interest to older adults must be enrolled through Emeritus College. Students attending fee-based not-for-credit classes to explore personal interests or gain professional certification—or attending free English as a Second Language (ESL) and other noncredit adult education classes offered through SMC Community Education—must be enrolled through the SMC Community Education office.

Course Repetition

California Code of Regulations Title 5 limits the number of times a student may repeat a course in the California Community College system. These regulations also require all current and prior credit course enrollments, repetitions, and withdrawals in a student's enrollment record to be counted toward the maximum limit.

Students who wish or need to repeat a course in which they have previously earned an unsatisfactory grade or a W may re-enroll ONE TIME without the need to request prior permission from a counselor. Any subsequent attempts to re-enroll require authorization from a counselor BEFORE ENROLLING. In some cases, after meeting with a counselor, students will need to complete and file a Request for Special Consideration petition with the Counseling Department to repeat a course. The counselor will determine whether a petition is required. Depending on the circumstances, requests to enroll in a course a THIRD time may not be approved. Requests to enroll in a course a FOURTH time (or more) will NOT be approved, except under certain, very limited extenuating circumstances, which must be documented. **Please note: A student who is currently enrolled in a course will not be able to re-enroll in that same course for a subsequent term until the student receives a W or NP or a final substandard grade for the course.**

For complete details, please see "Credit Course Enrollment Limitation" (SMC AR 4340), available online (go to www.smc.edu/AR4000StudentServices). *The Credit Course Enrollment Limitation policy is subject to change, pending revisions to California Code of Regulations Title 5.*

Santa Monica College permits students to repeat (enroll again in) courses they have already completed, but *only* under special circumstances authorized by California Code of Regulations Title 5. The special circumstances include:

1. Courses that were originally completed with an unsatisfactory grade of D (1.0), F (0.0), NP (No Pass; formerly NC-No Credit) and/or W (Withdrawal), or MW (Military Withdrawal); or
2. Courses Santa Monica College has designated as repeatable; or
3. Courses in which a student received a satisfactory grade and one of the following conditions applies:
 - The original course was completed at least three (3) years prior to repeating it, and
 - The course is required by the District as a recency prerequisite, OR another educational institution to which a student seeks to transfer requires the course to be taken more recently than the student's last enrollment in the course [note that the significant-lapse-of-time exception cannot be used if the student earned a substandard grade when last enrolled in the course.]; or
 - The student's previous grade in the course was determined to be the result of extenuating circumstances (illness, accident, fire, etc.; documentation of circumstances is generally required); or
 - The student has one or more disabilities and the student's success in other classes is dependent upon additional repetition of a special class, the student needs to enroll again to be prepared for enrollment in other classes, or the student's education plan specifies a goal in which additional enrollments in the special class will help further that goal [note that the course repetition must be designated as part of the student's accommodation]; or
 - Courses that are required by statute or regulation as a condition of employment AND the student is seeking to be employed for a paid or volunteer job that requires the course; or
 - Courses that address a significant change in industry or licensure standards so that repetition is necessary for the student's employment or licensure [note that appropriate documentation will be requested]; or
 - A legally mandated training or cooperative/occupational work experience requirement; or
 - The classes are variable unit open entry/open exit credit courses, where a specific portion of the course needs to be repeated as permitted by Title 5 Regulations.

In cases where a student has earned more than two substandard grades (or, in the case of Withdrawals, the first two Ws) in a single course can be disregarded when calculating a student's grade point average (GPA) if the course is subsequently repeated. The NEW grade earned must be an A, B, C, D, F, or P (Pass), or NP (No Pass) for this to occur. A W, MW, or I cannot be used to disregard any previous grades or notations on transcripts. All of the original grades always remain in the student's permanent record, as required by Title 5, but will have a notation to indicate that the course was repeated.

For example, if a student takes English 1 for the first time and earns a D (1.0), then repeats the course and earns another D (1.0) the second time, and then, on a counselor-authorized third attempt, earns a C (2.0), the previous two D grades will be disregarded (although the grades will still appear on the student's transcript, noted to show the course repetition), and the C (2.0) will be used to recalculate the student's GPA.

Please note that the *only* grades that may be recalculated for improvement of a student's GPA are the first two unsatisfactory grades that the student earns in the course, and **ONLY** if both attempts at taking the course were made at Santa Monica College. Even if the student receives special permission to enroll in the same course for a fourth time, the GPA recalculation is limited to the first two unsatisfactory grades earned in the course. Note that any grades earned in courses taken at other colleges or universities cannot be used to recalculate a student's GPA at SMC.

Repeating a course that a student originally completed with a grade of A (4.0), B (3.0), C (2.0), or P (Pass) will have **NO effect** on the student's GPA or units completed, and is only permitted after the student files a written request and receives approval to repeat the course, *and only* if the student is repeating the course under one of the special circumstances listed above.

Santa Monica College has designated selected courses as being repeatable per California Code of Regulations Title 5 §55041. In some cases, courses are grouped together because they are related in content. These courses may include several levels, but also have a *cumulative* course repeatability of three (i.e., a total of four course completions is permitted). For example, Dance 43, 44, 45, and 46 are grouped together because they are all different levels of contemporary modern dance for the major. A student who repeats Dance 43 (two course enrollments: taking the course initially, and repeating the course), and then completes Dance 44 and Dance 45, has accumulated four enrollments in a group of courses. As a result, that student may not enroll in Dance 46, because doing so would exceed the maximum number of course repetitions that are permitted. In addition, any Dance course enrollments in which the student earned a grade of D (1.0), F (0.0), NP (No Pass; formerly NC-No Credit), and/or W (Withdrawal) or MW (Military Withdrawal) will count toward the maximum number of enrollments allowed in the course grouping.

Prerequisites & Corequisites

A prerequisite is a class that a student is required to complete (or a skill that a student is required to have) as a condition for enrolling in a class where current familiarity with the subject matter or possession of a particular skill is essential for the student to succeed in the class. For example, Chemistry 10, a prerequisite for enrolling in Chemistry 11, provides a basic introduction to the principles, laws, and nomenclature of chemistry, all of which a student needs to be familiar with in order to understand the subject matter covered in Chemistry 11.

A corequisite is a class a student is required to take simultaneously with another class as a condition for enrolling in the other class because the two classes are so interrelated that a student cannot pass one without the other.

ESTABLISHMENT OF PREREQUISITES & COREQUISITES

All prerequisites and corequisites for SMC classes are established by Santa Monica Community College District administration under the standards set out in California Code of Regulations Title 5 §55003. Prerequisite(s) or corequisite(s) for a class are established whenever:

1. The prerequisite or corequisite is expressly required or authorized by statute or regulation; and/or
2. Students are highly unlikely to succeed in the class if they have not met the prerequisite or enrolled in the corequisite course; and/or
3. The prerequisite or corequisite is necessary to protect the health and safety of students or others involved in the class.

Prerequisites and corequisites for all classes at Santa Monica College must be satisfied with a grade of C (2.0) or better, regardless of whether they are completed at SMC or at another college or university.

Students who believe they already possess the knowledge or skills to succeed in a class may challenge its prerequisite(s) or corequisite(s) by following the Prerequisites and Corequisites Challenge Procedure established by District administration.

PROCEDURE FOR CHALLENGING PREREQUISITES & COREQUISITES

Please note: In the procedure outlined below, every reference to prerequisites also refers to corequisites.

Students who have not completed a prerequisite or corequisite course at Santa Monica College (or at another college or university) and believe they should be exempted from the course may submit a Prerequisite Challenge Petition to the appropriate academic department. Prerequisites may be challenged under one or more of the following grounds, and the student bears the initial burden of proof to show that grounds exist for the challenge.

1. The prerequisite has not been established in accordance with the District's process for establishing prerequisites.
2. The prerequisite is in violation of California Code of Regulations Title 5 §55003.
3. The prerequisite is either unlawfully discriminatory or is being applied in an unlawfully discriminatory manner.
4. The student will be subject to undue delay in attaining the goal of his/her education plan because the prerequisite course has not been made reasonably available.
5. The student has the ability or knowledge to succeed in the course despite not meeting the prerequisite.
6. The course has specific limitations on enrollment due to being a course that involves intercollegiate competition or public performance, or a course limited to a cohort of students who meet specific qualifications (for example, the qualifications required for participation in the Nursing Program), if no equivalent section is offered, the student would be delayed by a semester or more in attaining the degree or certificate specified in his or her student educa-

tion plan, and the course in question is required to complete the degree or certificate.

- The student seeks to enroll in a course that has a prerequisite established to protect health and safety, and the student demonstrates that he/she does not pose a threat to himself/herself or others.

If space is available, a student will be permitted to enroll in the course in question. Each prerequisite challenge will be investigated and resolved by a designated committee no later than five (5) working days from the day that the challenge is filed. If the designated committee fails to resolve the challenge in five (5) days, the student will be permitted to enroll in the course. If no space is available, and the challenge is upheld, the student will be permitted to enroll for the course in the subsequent term.

Attendance Policies

Please note: The attendance and withdrawal policies listed in this section do not apply to noncredit and not-for-credit classes at Santa Monica College.

ATTENDANCE & INSTRUCTOR REQUEST TO DROP A STUDENT

A student enrolled in any class at SMC who does not attend ALL of the sessions for that class that meet during the FIRST WEEK of the class RISKS BEING DROPPED from the class by the instructor, or may receive an F (0.0) for nonattendance.

A student may also be dropped from a class when, in the instructor's judgment, the student's number of absences has become excessive or the student is no longer participating in the course. Such judgment is to be based exclusively on the student's prospect for successfully completing the course. Faculty will determine the consequences of absences and late arrivals.

A student who drops a class between the refund deadline and the 75% mark of the class (listed as the deadline for a Guaranteed "W" on the class schedule at the student's Corsair Connect account) will receive a grade of W (Withdrawal), and units for the class will be included in the student's enrolled units.

Instructors will assign students who have not officially withdrawn from a class by the deadline a grade of A (4.0), B (3.0), C (2.0), D (1.0), F (0.0), or—if they are enrolled in courses offered on a pass/no pass basis or have petitioned to take a course on a pass/no pass basis—a grade of P (Pass) or NP (No Pass).

Go to www.smc.edu, click on the "Corsair Connect" link, then click on the class schedule for details.

ATTENDANCE & STUDENT REQUEST TO WITHDRAW FROM CLASSES

A student enrolled in any SMC class MUST ATTEND ALL of the sessions of that class that meet DURING THE FIRST WEEK of the class or RISK BEING DROPPED from the class by the instructor. A student may be dropped from a class when,

in the instructor's judgment, the student's number of absences has become excessive or the student is no longer participating in the course. Since attendance is essential for normal progress in a class, a student is expected to be in class regularly and on time. Faculty will determine the consequences of absences and late arrivals.

The last official day to drop will be at the 75th percentile of the term. Students should review their Corsair Connect account for their specific dates and deadlines. All students who have NOT withdrawn by this deadline will receive a grade of A (4.0), B (3.0), C (2.0), D (1.0), F (0.0), or—if they are enrolled in courses offered on a pass/no pass basis or have petitioned to take a course on a pass/no pass basis—a grade of P (Pass) or NP (No Pass). Specific drop dates are noted next to each enrolled class listed in the student's Corsair Connect account.

A student may petition for late withdrawal after the 75th percentile of the semester or session if in the instructor's judgment there are extenuating circumstances, such as verified cases of an accident, illness, military obligation, or other circumstances beyond the control of the student. The student must file a Petition for Late Withdrawal in the Admissions Office, and obtain the approval of the faculty members involved and the Dean of Enrollment Services. Students who have completed the course including taking the final or submitting final projects are NOT eligible for a late withdrawal. In those cases the student should meet with the instructor if they wish to contest their grade, as a Withdrawal is no longer an option.

For specific information about these dates and deadlines, please go to www.smc.edu, click on the "Corsair Connect" link, and click on the class schedule.

Requests for Retroactive Withdrawal: Retroactive withdrawals from classes are normally not permitted. However, these may be granted under certain limited circumstances. To be eligible for a retroactive withdrawal, the student must have extenuating, documented, and verifiable circumstances to justify withdrawal from a class—and to justify requesting such a withdrawal retroactively—in order for a retroactive withdrawal request to be considered. *A retroactive withdrawal cannot be used as a way to remedy poor academic performance in a class.* Students must file a petition for retroactive withdrawal in the Admissions Office no more than 90 calendar days after the end of the term in which they were enrolled in the course.

Grades, Units, & Transcripts

GRADES

The grades used (and their value) to indicate scholarship at Santa Monica College are: A (Excellent; 4.0), B (Good; 3.0), C (Satisfactory; 2.0), D (Less than satisfactory; 1.0), F (Failing; 0.0), P (Pass; at least satisfactory; units awarded, but not counted in GPA), NP (No Pass; less than satisfactory; no units awarded or counted in GPA), W (Withdrawal), MW (Military Withdrawal), and I (Incomplete).

"Pass/No Pass" ("P/NP") Grade Policies (Formerly "Credit/No Credit")

California Code of Regulations Title 5 §55752 allows a grade of P (Pass) or NP (No Pass) to be given under two circumstances:

- 1 Courses offered by the College on a pass/no pass basis, where a single standard of satisfactory performance is used to evaluate students; and
- 2 Courses that a student individually petitions to enroll in on a pass/no pass basis, and receives approval to do so.

Courses that Santa Monica College designates as pass/no pass courses will use the P/NP grading system exclusively. Students who enroll in these courses will be evaluated on a single standard of satisfactory performance. Course units will be credited only when students meet this standard. Units will not be credited for a performance that is less than satisfactory.

Courses that a student individually petitions to take on a pass/no pass basis require the student to take all of the course's tests and do all assignments. The standards of evaluation in such courses are identical for all students. Students who enroll on a pass/no pass basis are subject to all attendance and withdrawal policies, and must meet the criteria listed below.

1. Part-time students (those enrolled in fewer than 12 units) are limited to 5 units of pass/no pass enrollment per semester. Full-time students (those enrolled in 12 or more units) are limited to 6 units of pass/no pass enrollment per semester. Exceptions for enrollment in a single course that awards more than 5 units may be authorized by the Dean of Enrollment Services or designee.
2. Course units taken under the option of pass/no pass may not exceed a total of 12 units at Santa Monica College.
3. Students who have already received a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree from an accredited college or university may take an unlimited number of units on a pass/no pass basis.

Students who wish to take courses on a pass/no pass basis must file a request in the Admissions Office before the 30th percentile of the course length. For specific information, please go to www.smc.edu, click on the "Corsair Connect" link, and see your class schedule. Courses that are 2 weeks or less in length may not be taken on a P/NP basis. **Once the deadline has passed, the decision to take a course on a pass/no pass basis is irrevocable.**

"Pass" will be indicated on a student's permanent record as P, with units awarded, but no grade points. Students receive a grade of P when their performance is equivalent to a C (2.0) or higher. "No Pass" will be indicated on a student's record as NP, with no units completed and no grade points. Students receive a grade of NP when their performance is equivalent to a D (1.0), or F (0.0). In either case, a student's grade point average is not affected, and units are not included in a student's units attempted for purposes of determining academic probation or academic disqualification. Units awarded for courses taken on a pass/no pass basis will, however, be included in a student's units enrolled for purposes of determining progress probation or progress disqualification. See Academic & Progress Probation & Disqualification Policies, below, for details.

"Incomplete" ("I") Grade Policies

"Incomplete" is a temporary grade status available to a student who has participated in the course and is doing C (2.0) or better work prior to the final exam or final project, but who is unable to complete the final requirements of a class because of illness, accident, emergency, or other circumstances beyond the student's control. An Incomplete may NOT be used for a student who should have been dropped earlier in the term for nonattendance.

An Incomplete can be given only upon the approval of the instructor. However, the instructor is not required to grant an Incomplete to a student, and such decisions by an instructor are final and may not be appealed by the student. If the instructor approves, an "I" is temporarily entered on the student's record.

An Incomplete for a class may be requested during the final week of the class or the final test period. Appropriate documentation may be required. Only an instructor may give approval for an Incomplete.

To receive an Incomplete for a course, a student must request the Incomplete from the instructor of the course BEFORE the instructor submits final grades for that course OR before the College's official deadline for submission of final grades, whichever comes first.

The conditions necessary for removing an Incomplete will be stated in writing by the instructor and recorded in the Admissions Office, and a copy will be provided to the student. The statement will also list the grade (A through F, or 4.0 through 0.0) that will be assigned if the conditions are not met. The instructor will fill out and submit the Incomplete form online when submitting grades for the course.

An Incomplete must be made up no later than one year from the end of the semester it was assigned, and the actual date by which the student must complete the required coursework will be determined by the course instructor.

Units for classes in which a student receives an Incomplete will be counted as part of a student's units enrolled, but will not be included in the student's units attempted or units completed, and no grade points will be assigned. Once a student completes the requirements for the "Incomplete," the instructor will submit a "Request Correction of Course Grade" to the Admissions Office. An Incomplete, when properly made up, will give the student the appropriate grade points for the grade finally earned.

Students may NOT repeat a class in which they currently have an "I". If they enroll into the class again before receiving the final grade, they will be dropped by the Admissions office.

"Withdrawal" ("W") Grade Policies

See the Attendance Policies section, above, for information regarding withdrawal from classes and policies affecting W (Withdrawal) grades.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

A grade point average (GPA) is the sum of a student's grade points divided by the number of "all units attempted." California Code of Regulations Title 5 §55757 defines "all units attempted" as "all units of credit for which the student

is enrolled in the current community college of attendance," but leaves it up to the governing board of each community college district—in this case, the Board of Trustees of the Santa Monica Community College District—to establish regulations regarding whether "all units attempted" includes or excludes units for classes in which a notation of P (Pass), NP (No Pass), I (Incomplete), IP (In Progress), W (Withdrawal), or MW (Military Withdrawal) is assigned.

At Santa Monica College, units for classes in which a student is assigned a notation of W (Withdrawal), MW (Military Withdrawal), I (Incomplete), or IP (In Progress) are specifically excluded from "all units attempted." Units for classes taken on a pass/no pass basis are also excluded from "all units attempted," and are disregarded when calculating a student's grade point average. In addition, grades earned in courses that may not be applied toward earning a degree are excluded from a student's grade point average. In other words, only the units of credit for classes in which a student received a grade of A (4.0), B (3.0), C (2.0), D (1.0), or F (0.0) are included in "all units attempted" and used when calculating the student's grade point average.

Grade Changes

With the exceptions of academic renewal, progress renewal, and approved course repetition, grades assigned by the faculty are considered to be final and will generally only be changed in cases of clerical error. *Students who wish to appeal a grade should be aware that they must file a formal grade appeal by October 30 for Spring semester grades, November 30 for Summer session grades, April 30 for Fall semester grades, and May 30 for Winter session grades. As soon as possible after receiving the grade, the student should consult with the instructor, and must also see the College Ombudsperson, who will outline the procedure to be followed. Students may schedule an appointment with the Ombudsperson by sending email to ombuds@smc.edu or by calling (310) 434-3986. Additional details on the procedure for appealing a grade can be found in the Student Complaints, Hearings, & Appeals section of this catalog.*

UNITS

Units Enrolled

Santa Monica College defines "units enrolled" (or "enrolled units") as being all the units of credit for all the classes in which a student was officially enrolled on or after the first census date of an academic term. In other words, "units enrolled" means all the classes a student enrolled in and received a grade of A (4.0), B (3.0), C (2.0), D (1.0), F (0.0), P (Pass), or NP (No Pass), or a notation of I (Incomplete), W (Withdrawal), or MW (Military Withdrawal). Enrolled units are used for purposes of determining progress probation and progress disqualification, and for calculating a student's grade point average.

Units Attempted

Santa Monica College defines "units attempted" (or "attempted units") as being all the units of credit for all the classes a student was officially enrolled in on or after the first census date of an academic term, in which the student received a grade of A (4.0), B (3.0), C (2.0), D (1.0), or F (0.0). Units for classes in which a student received a grade of P (Pass) or NP

(No Pass), or a notation of I (Incomplete), W (Withdrawal), or MW (Military Withdrawal) are excluded from units attempted. Attempted units—sometimes referred to as "graded units"—are used for purposes of determining academic probation and academic disqualification, and for calculating a student's grade point average.

Graded Units

"Graded units" are the units of credit for classes in which a student received a grade of A (4.0), B (3.0), C (2.0), D (1.0), or F (0.0). See Units Attempted, above, for details.

Units Completed

Santa Monica College defines "units completed" (or "completed units") as being the units of credit for classes in which the student received a grade of A (4.0), B (3.0), C (2.0), D (1.0), or P (Pass). Units for classes in which a student was assigned a grade of F (0.0) or NP (No Pass), or a notation of W (Withdrawal), MW (Military Withdrawal), or I (Incomplete) are specifically excluded from completed units.

CREDIT UNITS

At Santa Monica College, each unit of credit is considered a semester unit that is generally equivalent to a minimum of three hours of student work per week for the duration of a course. One semester unit of credit can equal one hour of lecture and two hours of study, OR two hours of activity and one hour of study, OR three hours of laboratory, OR three hours of independent study under the supervision of a faculty member.

TRANSCRIPTS

Students may obtain an official transcript of their permanent record by placing an order online at a secure site on the Admissions webpage or by filing an application for transcripts in person in the Admissions Office. In both cases, a student's signed authorization to release records is required by law, and students who request transcripts through the Admissions Office must present a photo ID.

A nominal service fee is added to the cost of transcripts ordered online, which are delivered by mail within approximately 10 business days of receipt of a student's signed authorization. RUSH service is also available for transcripts ordered online, which are mailed within 72 hours of receipt of signed authorization. Students may arrange to pick up transcripts ordered on a RUSH basis if they wish. FedEx shipping options are also available.

Transcripts requested through the Admissions Office take two to four weeks to process and are delivered by mail only. The Admissions Office provides a student's first two transcripts at no cost to the student. Each subsequent transcript costs \$5 (subject to change).

Please see www.smc.edu/admissions/transcripts for specific details on how to order transcripts.

While enrolled at SMC, students may download an *unofficial* copy of transcripts by going to www.smc.edu/admissions, clicking on the "Corsair Connect" link, and following the instructions provided there.

Academic & Progress Probation & Disqualification Policies

Santa Monica College is committed to providing a broad range of academic courses, student services, and specialized programs to help students succeed and meet their goals. Students are expected to take responsibility for meeting the SMC Student Success Standards of "Academic Achievement" and "Timely Progress."

Academic Achievement is defined as maintaining a cumulative grade point average of C (2.0) or better in all classes taken at Santa Monica College. The cumulative SMC GPA does NOT include grades earned at other colleges or universities. However, please note that grades earned at other institutions WILL be used in calculating your grade point average for the purpose of graduation.

Timely Progress is defined as not exceeding the allowed percentage of I (Incomplete), W (Withdrawal), and NP (No Pass; formerly NC-No Credit) notations within the specified amount of enrolled units. A student who meets the standards of timely progress has either:

1. Enrolled in at least 12 and not more than 30 recorded units and received less than 50% of I, W, or NP notations; or
2. Enrolled in 31 or more recorded units and received less than 40% of I, W, or NP notations.

Failure to meet the Student Success Standards can lead to academic probation, progress probation, academic disqualification, or progress disqualification. Please note: Per AR 4111.8 (Enrollment Priorities), students will be subject to lower enrollment priority after two consecutive semesters of probationary, disqualified, or readmitted status.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

To remain in good academic standing at Santa Monica College, students must maintain a C (2.0) or better cumulative grade point average.

Students will be placed on academic probation if they:

- Fall below a C (2.0) cumulative grade point average in 12 or more SMC units attempted; or
- Transfer to SMC while on disqualification status at another college or university; or
- Are readmitted after disqualification from SMC.

Students on academic probation are limited to enrolling in a maximum of nine (9) units in a Spring or Fall semester and five (5) units in a Winter or Summer session. Students who have been readmitted under probationary status after disqualification from SMC, or who have transferred to SMC after disqualification from another institution, are limited to a maximum of six (6) units in a Spring or Fall semester and five (5) units in a Winter or Summer session.

Students will remain on academic probation until they raise their cumulative SMC grade point average to a 2.0 or better, or are disqualified from attending SMC due to unsatisfactory academic performance.

As a preventive measure, students are urged to review the Attendance Policies section. Failure to properly withdraw from classes causes many students to be placed on academic and/or progress probation—situations that can be avoided by timely and appropriate withdrawal. **It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from a course. Informing the instructor is NOT sufficient. Failure to withdraw from a course can lead to receiving a grade of F (0.0).**

F-1 VISA STUDENTS PLEASE NOTE: Federal law *requires* students with an F-1 visa to complete 12 units during each Fall and Spring semester, *regardless of academic status*. If there is ANY possibility that you may be placed on academic probation or disqualified from attending SMC due to poor academic performance, IMMEDIATELY arrange to discuss your situation with a counselor from the International Education Center.

STUDENT ATHLETES IN SEASON OF COMPETITION (Spring/Fall) PLEASE NOTE: To compete in a given sport at SMC, you must be enrolled in and actively attending 12 units (a maximum of 3 of those units can be for KIN PE courses) during the season of competition, regardless of academic status. If there is ANY possibility that you may be placed on academic probation or disqualified from attending SMC due to poor academic performance, IMMEDIATELY arrange to discuss your situation with an athletic counselor by calling (310) 434-8017.

PROGRESS PROBATION

To remain in good standing at Santa Monica College, students must not exceed the allowed percentage of I (Incomplete), W (Withdrawal), and NP (No Pass; formerly NC-No Credit) notations within the specified number of enrolled units.

A student enrolled in at least twelve (12) semester units will be placed on progress probation if the percentage of units in which the student receives a notation of W (Withdrawal), I (Incomplete), or NP (No Pass) reaches or exceeds:

- 50% of units enrolled, after enrolling in 12-30 units;
- 40% of units enrolled, after enrolling in 31 or more units.

Students on progress probation are limited to enrolling in a maximum of nine (9) semester units in a Spring or Fall semester and five (5) semester units in a Winter or Summer session.

Students will remain on progress probation until they increase their number of completed units to meet the required percentage of their enrolled units, or until they are disqualified from attending SMC due to their continuing unsatisfactory progress.

F-1 VISA STUDENTS PLEASE NOTE: Federal law *requires* students with an F-1 visa to complete 12 units during each Fall and Spring semester, *regardless of academic status*. If there is ANY possibility that you may be placed on progress probation or disqualified from attending SMC due to unsatisfactory progress, IMMEDIATELY arrange to discuss your situation with a counselor from the International Education Center.

STUDENT ATHLETES IN SEASON OF COMPETITION (Spring/Fall) PLEASE NOTE: To compete in a given sport at SMC, you must be enrolled in and actively attending 12 units (a maximum of 3 of those units can be for KIN PE courses) during the season of competition, regardless of academic status. If there is ANY possibility that you may be placed on

progress probation or disqualified from attending SMC due to unsatisfactory progress, IMMEDIATELY make arrangements to discuss your situation with an athletic counselor by calling (310) 434-8017.

ACADEMIC DISQUALIFICATION

Academic disqualification will result if a student who begins the Fall or Spring semester on academic probation fails to achieve a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher by the end of the semester. However, any student on academic probation whose most recent semester GPA equals or exceeds a 2.0 GPA will not be disqualified, but continue on academic probation. Students on "readmitted disqualified" status will be initially limited to a maximum of six (6) units when pre-enrolling for the next Fall or Spring semester, and a maximum of three (3) units when pre-enrolling for the next Winter or Summer session. A student who becomes disqualified after pre-enrolling for the subsequent semester will be administratively dropped from all registered courses if the student is not reinstated by a counselor.

For further information, please see an SMC counselor.

PROGRESS DISQUALIFICATION

Students who have been placed on progress probation at the end of a Fall or Spring semester will be disqualified from Santa Monica College at the end of the subsequent semester when the cumulative percentage of units in which a student receives a notation of W (Withdrawal), I (Incomplete), or NP (No Pass; formerly NC-No Credit) reaches or exceeds:

- 50% of units enrolled, after enrolling in 12-30 units;
- 40% of units enrolled, after enrolling in 31 or more units.

Students who becomes disqualified after pre-enrolling for the subsequent semester will be administratively dropped from all registered courses if the student is not reinstated by a counselor.

Any student on progress probation, however, whose most recent semester work does not exceed the allowed percentage of W, I, or NP notations will not be disqualified, but continue on progress probation. Students on "readmitted disqualified" status will be initially limited to a maximum of six (6) units when pre-enrolling for the next Fall or Spring semester, and a maximum of three (3) units when pre-enrolling for the next Winter or Summer session. A student who becomes disqualified after pre-enrolling for the subsequent semester will be administratively dropped from all registered courses if the student is not reinstated by a counselor.

For further information, please go to www.smc.edu/DQProbationPolicies or see a counselor.

REINSTATEMENT OF DISQUALIFIED STUDENTS

Students who have been disqualified (dismissed) from Santa Monica College due to poor academic performance and/or unsatisfactory progress, *and who have been away from SMC for one semester or less*, must complete and submit a 'Disqualified Student Petition for Reinstatement to Probationary Status.' Students who petition for reinstatement to SMC may or may not be allowed to return, depending on reinstatement guide-

lines. To complete the reinstatement petition, students must go to www.smc.edu and log in to Corsair Connect, then go to 'SMC Quick Links,' click on 'DQ Student Petition,' and follow the instructions. Once the petition is successfully submitted, a confirmation message will appear, and the petition will be saved in the Corsair Connect account. To have a reinstatement petition reviewed and processed, a student **MUST** meet in person with a counselor. The counselor will determine whether reinstatement is possible, what conditions the student must meet in order to enroll at SMC, and how many units the student may enroll in, up to a maximum of 6 units per academic term.

If a student is denied reinstatement, the counselor may require the student to successfully complete a specific number of units at another college or university, with a specific minimum GPA, before being allowed reinstatement to SMC.

Other policies regarding reinstatement at SMC include:

- After a 1st disqualification, if a student is allowed to reinstate, the counselor will specify a maximum number of units the student can enroll in, up to a maximum of six (6) units for a Fall or Spring semester, and up to a maximum of three (3) units for a Winter or Summer session;
- After a 2nd disqualification, a student must wait for one semester and possibly one intersession before requesting to be reinstated; and
- After a 3rd disqualification, and each disqualification after that, a student must wait for one year before requesting to be reinstated.

Please see www.smc.edu/DQProbationPolicies for information on other requirements for disqualified students seeking reinstatement to SMC.

ADMISSION/READMISSION OF DISQUALIFIED STUDENTS

A disqualified student who wishes to be readmitted *after being away from Santa Monica for two consecutive semesters (one year) or longer* or who is attending SMC for the first time after being disqualified from another institution is required to file BOTH an SMC Admission Application AND a 'Disqualified Student Petition for Reinstatement.' The student must take the following steps IN THE ORDER PRESENTED.

- The student must file an application for admission to SMC by going to www.smc.edu/apply and clicking on the 'Launch Application Online' link.
- After submitting the application, the student will receive an email that provides an SMC Student ID number, which will be used to log in to Corsair Connect. Returning students will have their previous SMC ID number reactivated in the system.
- The student must log in to Corsair Connect, look under 'SMC Quick Links' for the 'DQ Student Petition' link, click on that link, and complete and submit the petition.
- Once the completed DQ Petition is submitted, a message will appear with further instructions for the student to follow. The Readmission Committee will determine whether reinstatement is possible and what conditions the student must meet in order to enroll at SMC, and will email its

decision, along with any further instructions, to the student's SMC email address.

- **IMPORTANT:** Students who have been disqualified from another college (not SMC) must also fax a copy of their unofficial transcripts (or arrange for official transcripts to be sent to SMC) from ALL colleges attended. Fax transcripts to (310) 434-4007, or mail to the Transfer/Counseling Center, ATTN: Readmission Committee, Santa Monica College, 1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405. PLEASE NOTE: The reinstatement process will NOT continue OR be complete until all transcripts are received. After a student's transcripts are received, an SMC counselor will review the petition and email the decision—along with any further instructions—to the student's SMC email address. Once readmitted to SMC, the student MUST arrange for an official copy of all transcripts to be sent *directly by the previous college(s)* to Santa Monica College, ATTN: Admissions, 1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405-1628. When the transcripts are received, an SMC counselor will review the student's DQ Petition and email a response to the student's SMC email address.

Academic & Progress Renewal

Santa Monica College will disregard a selected number of units for classes a student previously completed at SMC in which the student's performance was substandard. Students who wish to have previous coursework disregarded must meet the requirements for academic renewal or progress renewal.

ACADEMIC RENEWAL

Academic Renewal is a process designed to facilitate a student's completion of a degree or certificate program—and/or the student's removal from academic probation—by disregarding up to 30 semester units of the student's previous coursework. The student must discuss his or her situation with a counselor and file a petition for academic renewal. Final approval of the petition will be granted by the Admissions Office.

To qualify for academic renewal, the student must meet the following criteria:

1. The student has not previously used petitioned coursework for a degree or certificate from SMC or for CSU GE certification; and
2. The coursework to be disregarded is limited to classes where the student received a grade of D (1.0) or F (0.0); and
3. The student has completed a minimum of:
 - 36 consecutive semester units with a 2.0 GPA, or
 - 24 consecutive semester units with a 2.5 GPA, or
 - 15 consecutive semester units with a 3.0 GPA

at an accredited college or university *after* having completed the coursework to be disregarded; and

4. There must be a lapse of at least two years since the student's completion of the most recent coursework to be disregarded.

All disregarded coursework will remain in the student's permanent record, and the student's transcripts will be annotated to make it readily evident that any disregarded course(s) may not be used to satisfy certificate, degree, or general education requirements.

PROGRESS RENEWAL

Progress Renewal is a process designed to facilitate a student's completion of a degree or certificate program—and/or the student's removal from progress probation—by disregarding up to a maximum of 30 semester units of the student's previous coursework. The student must discuss his or her situation with a counselor and file a petition for progress renewal. Final approval of the petition will be granted by the Admissions Office.

To qualify for progress renewal, the student must meet the following criteria:

1. The coursework to be disregarded is limited to classes where the student received a notation of W (Withdrawal), MW (Military Withdrawal), or NP (No Pass; formerly NC-No Credit); and
2. The student has completed—without receiving a notation of NP (No Pass), NC (No Credit), W (Withdrawal), or I (Incomplete)—a minimum of:
 - 36 consecutive semester units with a 2.0 GPA, or
 - 24 consecutive semester units with a 2.5 GPA, or
 - 15 consecutive semester units with a 3.0 GPA,
 at an accredited college or university after having completed the coursework to be disregarded.
3. There must be a lapse of at least two years since the student's completion of the most recent coursework to be disregarded.

All disregarded coursework will remain in the student's permanent record, and the student's transcripts will be annotated to make it readily evident that any disregarded course(s) may not be used to satisfy certificate, degree, or general education requirements.

Graduation Requirements

Santa Monica College grants the Associate degree to students who have successfully completed sixty (60) degree-applicable units—consisting of courses that meet State and local general education (GE) requirements, courses that fulfill requirements for a major, and elective courses—with a cumulative degree-applicable grade point average of C (2.0) or higher. In order to graduate from Santa Monica College, students who have studied elsewhere must enroll in and successfully complete a minimum of twelve (12) units at SMC, and have official transcripts from all other institutions attended on file at SMC. Official transcripts must be mailed directly to the SMC Admissions Office by the other institutions. All college-level work (except basic skills and some religion courses) taken at regionally accredited two-year colleges (including Santa Monica College) and in the lower division of regionally accredited four-year colleges is counted when calculating the cumulative

degree-applicable GPA and the sixty (60) degree-applicable units. At least 50% of the required major units must be completed at Santa Monica College. Upper division, graduate, and professional courses from regionally accredited colleges will be applied toward the Associate degree as needed. Please see www.smc.edu/articulation for details.

Students planning to graduate should first make an appointment to meet with a counselor to verify that they are eligible for graduation. Students **must** file a Petition for Graduation with the Admissions Office during the academic term in which they plan to complete requirements for graduation. Filing periods are:

- For Spring semester graduation—Start of Spring semester through April 30
- For Summer session graduation—Start of Summer session through July 31
- For Fall semester graduation—Start of Fall semester through December 1

Students who will complete their requirements for graduation during a Winter session will graduate the following Spring. The Petition for Graduation form is available online at www.smc.edu/forms (click on the “Graduation Petition” link). Petitions are also available in the Admissions Office during the filing periods.

Students may petition for any number of degrees or certificates for which they are eligible.

Please note: Santa Monica College policies authorize the College to confer a degree or certificate upon a student without requiring the student to first petition for the degree or certificate. The Admissions Office will notify potential awardees of its intent to confer the degree or certificate and give them the opportunity to postpone the degree or certificate by a specific deadline.

Honors at graduation will be awarded to students who have a cumulative degree-applicable grade point average of 3.0 or higher (including degree-applicable coursework completed at other regionally accredited colleges), who have completed a minimum of 12 units of coursework at SMC, and who are in good standing at the time they graduate. See “Honors & Awards” in the Special Programs and Support Services section of this catalog for details.

Student Right-to-Know Statement

To comply with the Student Right-to-Know and Campus Security Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-542)—also known as the Jean Clery Disclosure Act—Santa Monica College makes available the completion and transfer rates of first-time, full-time students seeking certificates, degrees, or transfer, as well as statistical information about the types and number of crimes committed on SMC’s main and satellite campuses. The College provides this data to inform all current and prospective students—as “consumers” of higher education—on how well Santa Monica College compares with other postsecondary institutions.

COMPLETION & TRANSFER RATES

Santa Monica College is Number One in transferring students to University of California (UC) campuses (including UCLA), the California State University (CSU) system, the University of Southern California (USC), Loyola Marymount University (LMU), and a variety of other top-ranked colleges and universities across the nation.

The completion and transfer rates presented here are derived from the most current data available at the time this catalog went to press. Completion rates are calculated by tracking a cohort (group) of first-time students seeking a certificate, degree, or transfer. For the cohort of first-time freshmen entering SMC in Fall 2010, 30.22% earned a certificate or degree, transferred to a four-year institution, and/or became transfer-prepared (earned 60 or more transferable units with a GPA of 2.0 or higher) within three years of beginning coursework at SMC.

Transfer rates are calculated by tracking a cohort (group) of first-time students intending to transfer to a four-year institution. For the cohort of first-time freshmen entering SMC in Fall 2010, 16.39% transferred to a four-year institution within three years of beginning coursework at SMC.

CRIME STATISTICS FOR THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY

Campus crime statistics are compiled and reported according to the guidelines specified in the Clery Act (20 USC 1092F), as defined under the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting procedures. SMC’s crime statistics are available online at the US Department of Education website (ope.ed.gov/security) and at the SMC Campus Police website (www.smc.edu/police). Campus crime statistics—along with safety and crime prevention information—can also be found at many locations at SMC, and are available to the public upon request. Contact the SMC Campus Police Office (434-4608) for details.

College Conduct

Santa Monica College has a code of Academic Conduct and a Student Conduct Code, and may discipline students in accordance with code provisions. The College also has the authority to remove students from a class or program if they are disruptive of the instructional process, they do not respect the rights of others, they cannot benefit from instruction, or they present health and/or safety hazards. To protect the interests of both the College and its students, SMC has an established “due process” through which its disciplinary and removal powers are exercised. As a further safeguard of student rights, an appeal procedure exists for these policies, as well as for appeals of grades, matriculation, and disqualification. The Student Conduct Appeals Committee will hear student appeals.

HONOR CODE/HONOR COUNCIL

Santa Monica College is committed to the academic, social, and ethical development of our students. We strive to create a learning environment that is challenging and supportive of the community at large. We are committed to upholding

fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility, civility, and community.

The College has instituted an Honor Code that students are expected to uphold, and has established an Honor Council responsible for promoting, addressing, and resolving issues pertaining to academic integrity.

General principles that guide the Honor Code and Honor Council include the following:

- **Honesty:** means fairness and straightforwardness of conduct, and implies a refusal to lie, steal, or deceive in any way;
- **Integrity:** implies that one is true to a trust and adheres to a code of moral values;
- **Social Responsibility:** demonstrated by adherence to policies of the institution, departments, labs, libraries, and individual classes; and
- **Respect and Civility:** implies that one will conduct oneself in a courteous and respectful manner in communications and actions toward members of the campus community.

All students are expected to uphold the Honor Code as testament to their commitment and readiness to join the Santa Monica College academic community. At the time students enroll, they are expected to certify the following statement:

In the pursuit of the high ideals and rigorous standards of academic life, I commit myself to respect and uphold the Santa Monica College Honor Code, Code of Academic Conduct, and Student Conduct Code. I will conduct myself honorably as a responsible member of the SMC community in all endeavors I pursue.

A complete copy of the text for the “Honor Code/Honor Council” (SMC AR 4412)—which spells out the details of the Honor Code and the structure and responsibilities of the Honor Council—is available online (see www.smc.edu/Policies/Polices/AdminRegulations.htm).

ACADEMIC CONDUCT

Code of Academic Conduct

Santa Monica College is a community-oriented, open-door educational institution whose purpose is to educate and enlighten members of the community who seek knowledge. In order to uphold the academic integrity of the institution, all members of the academic community—students and faculty alike—must assume responsibility for providing an educational environment of the highest standards, characterized by a spirit of academic honesty.

Under no circumstances will academic dishonesty be tolerated at Santa Monica College.

Academic Dishonesty Defined

Santa Monica College defines academic dishonesty as the act of or assistance in deceiving, including fraud or deception in any academic exercise. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, certain actions not authorized by the instructor or testing officer, such as:

1. Using notes or testing aids such as calculators, tape recorders, or other electronic devices during any examination;
2. Allowing another individual to assume one’s identity for the purpose of enhancing one’s grade in any of the following: testing, field trips, or attendance;
3. Falsifying or attempting to falsify grade and/or attendance records;
4. Representing the words, ideas, or work of another (including materials from commercial term paper companies) as one’s own (plagiarism) in any academic exercise;
5. Changing answers on a previously scored test, assignment, or experiment, with the intent to defraud;
6. Copying or allowing another student to copy from one’s paper or answer sheet during an examination or for a graded assignment;
7. Inventing information for the purpose of completing a laboratory experiment, case study analysis, or field trip with the intent to defraud;
8. Giving and/or taking information during an examination by any means, including sign language, hand signals, secret codes, or electronic transmission; and
9. Accessing or reproducing exams in any form, without the prior authorization of the instructor, for the purpose of sharing, selling, or publishing them.

Consequences for Violating Academic Conduct

If a violation of academic honesty occurs, any or all of the following actions may be imposed:

1. The instructor may assign a failing grade to an examination or assignment in which cheating or plagiarism occurred;
2. In more serious instances, the instructor may refer the student to appear before the Honor Board;
3. The instructor may dismiss the student from the class or activity in progress for up to two class sessions; and/or
4. In more severe incidents of academic dishonesty—including, but not limited to, impersonation, stealing exams or research papers, or repeated violations of academic honesty—the College Disciplinarian may suspend the student or recommend expulsion of the student from the College.

Student Responsibilities

In order to maintain an environment of academic integrity, students at Santa Monica College are expected to:

1. Conduct themselves in a manner that encourages learning and upholds academic integrity; and
2. Act with fairness toward other students, which includes not seeking an unfair or undue advantage over other students in the classroom or when completing an assignment, taking an examination, or engaging in any other kind of academic activity; and
3. Make every attempt to prevent any unauthorized access to or use of their work by other students in the classroom, for

an assignment, in an examination, or when engaging in any other kind of academic activity.

Faculty Responsibilities

In order to maintain an environment of academic integrity, members of the faculty at Santa Monica College are expected to:

1. Make every attempt to conduct their classes in a manner that encourages honorable behavior and learning, supports student success, and discourages academic dishonesty;
2. Inform students of course requirements, grading procedures, and expectations for acceptable academic conduct and behavior;
3. Inform students of the College's Code of Academic Conduct and the consequences and disciplinary action(s) that will be implemented if any behavior counter to the Code of Academic Conduct occurs;
4. Inform students of their right to due process should they wish to contest an allegation of cheating or engaging in any other form of academic dishonesty; and
5. Ensure that the appropriate process for reporting a violation of the Code of Academic Conduct is followed.

Reporting a Violation

If an incident of academic dishonesty occurs, a faculty member should adhere to the following procedures:

1. Inform the student of the nature of the violation and the impending course of action; and
2. Complete and submit the Academic Dishonesty Report Form, along with any related evidence, the first copy of the form to the College Disciplinarian within ten (10) working days of the allegation. The College Disciplinarian will, in turn, notify the student, the College Ombudsperson, and the appropriate Department Chair, and place a copy in the student's disciplinary records as defined in the Code of Academic Conduct Appeal Procedures. This information will remain a part of the student's records for two years, provided there are no further acts of misconduct on the part of the student.

Appeal Procedure

If a violation of academic honesty is alleged to have occurred, a Santa Monica College student has the right to appeal the action taken by the faculty member through the appeal procedures established by the College. For details, please see the Student Complaints, Hearings, & Appeals section of this catalog.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Student Conduct Code

All students at Santa Monica College have an obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the College's function as an educational institution. A complete copy of the

"Rules for Student Conduct" (SMC AR 4410) is available online (go to www.smc.edu/AR4000StudentServices).

Some examples of offenses and misconduct that are considered "good cause" for imposing disciplinary sanctions on a student are:

1. Continued disruptive behavior, continued willful disobedience, habitual profanity or vulgarity, the open and persistent defiance of the authority of College personnel, or persistent abuse of College personnel;
2. Assault, battery, or any threat of force or violence upon anyone on the College campus;
3. Sexual harassment, sexual assault (including, but not limited to, rape, forced sodomy, forced oral copulation, rape by a foreign object, sexual battery), or threat of sexual assault;
4. Willful misconduct that results in the injury or death of a student or College personnel or visitors;
5. Theft or willful misconduct that results in cutting, defacing, or other injury or damage to property of the College or a member of the College community or a campus visitor;
6. Willful or blatant misuse of e-mail or other inappropriate forms of communication to faculty, staff, or students, including communication by written notes, phone, voice-mail, or any form of electronic communication;
7. Possession, use, sale, or being under the influence of any controlled substance or any poison classified as such by Schedule D in section 4160 of the California Business and Professions Code;
8. Smoking in any area where smoking has been prohibited by law or by regulation of the Board of Trustees;
9. Persistent, serious misconduct where other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct;
10. Dishonesty of any kind, including academic dishonesty;
11. Forgery, alteration, or misuse of College documents, records, or identification;
12. Obstruction or disruption of any teaching, research, administration, disciplinary procedures, or other College activities, including, but not limited to, community events or other authorized activities on College premises;
13. Unauthorized entry to or use of College facilities, supplies, and/or equipment;
14. Violation of College policies or of campus regulations, including, but not limited to, campus regulations concerning student organizations; the use of College facilities; the time, place, and manner of public expression; library procedures; College bills and debts; or residence;
15. Disorderly conduct or lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct or expression on property owned or controlled by the College or at activities or events sponsored or supervised by the College;
16. Failure to comply with directions from College officials performing their duties;
17. Possession or use of alcoholic beverages on campus property or at any College-sponsored event, or presence on

campus or at any College-sponsored event while under the influence of alcohol;

18. Illegal possession or use of firearms, explosives, dangerous chemicals, or other weapons on College property or at College-sponsored activities or events;
19. Stalking, hate crimes, or hate incidents; and
20. Any other offense set forth in the California Education Code that constitutes “good cause.”

No student shall be removed, suspended, or expelled from SMC unless the conduct for which the student is disciplined is related to College activity or attendance.

Smoke Free Campus

Santa Monica College is committed to providing its students, faculty, and staff with a healthy, comfortable, productive environment that is free from the effects of second-hand smoke. SMC became a smoke-free campus in Fall 2007, following the example of many colleges, universities, and other public institutions throughout the US. Smoking—including the use of e-cigarettes or vaporizers—is not be permitted in any District building, vehicle, or facility, or on District grounds, with the exception of designated outdoor areas on the periphery of all campuses. These are temporarily designated as smoking areas, as a way for the College to transition into becoming entirely smoke free.

Alcohol & Drugs

The abuse of alcohol or other drugs causes serious risks to a person’s health.

California State law prohibits the use, sale, or possession on campus of alcohol, or presence on campus of students who are under the influence of any controlled substance. (Cal. Ed. Code §§76032-76033)

Students enrolling in the College assume an obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the College’s function as an educational institution. Santa Monica College will impose disciplinary sanctions for the use, sale, or possession of alcohol or presence of any prohibited controlled substance. Disciplinary sanctions include, but are not limited to, verbal or written reprimands, disciplinary probation, removal from classes, ineligibility to participate in extracurricular activities, suspension, expulsion, and possible referral to local, state, or federal law enforcement agencies.

The Santa Monica College Health and Psychological Services Center provides short-term psychological counseling, referral, and substance abuse/alcohol abuse information.

Sexual Harassment

Santa Monica College is committed to providing an educational community with an environment free of sexual harassment and other threatening behaviors. Sexual harassment—a form of discrimination against an individual on the basis of sex, gender, or sexual orientation—consists generally of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature that is intended to be or has the effect of being coercive, or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

Under no circumstances will the College tolerate any form of sexual harassment or retaliation against any individual for filing a complaint of sexual harassment or for participating in a sexual harassment investigation.

Sexual harassment and retaliation violate state and federal laws. In addition, sexual harassment is a violation of SMC’s Board Policies, Administrative Regulations, and Student Conduct Code, and can lead to suspension or dismissal from the College.

A description of activities that constitute sexual harassment, the procedures for filing or appealing a sexual harassment complaint, and a discussion of issues related to sexual harassment can be found in “Sexual Harassment Prevention” (SMC AR 3121), “Rules for Student Conduct” (SMC AR 4410), and the “Ethics Statement” (SMC AR 5220) adopted by the Academic Senate. See www.smc.edu/Policies/Polices/AdminRegulations.htm for the District’s Administrative Regulations.

Sexual Misconduct

Sexual Misconduct comprises a broad range of unwelcome behaviors focused on sex and/or gender that may or may not be sexual in nature. Sexual Misconduct encompasses sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, and gender-based harassment (harassment based on gender identity, gender expression, or non-conformity with gender stereotypes). Therefore, any intercourse or other intentional sexual touching or activity without the other person’s consent is sexual assault and is a form of sexual misconduct.

Sexual Misconduct also encompasses acts of a sexual nature, including acts of sexual stalking, domestic violence, dating violence, intimidation, or retaliation following an incident where an alleged sexual misconduct has occurred.

Any sexual violence or physical abuse, as defined by California law, whether committed by an employee, student, or member of the public, occurring on college-owned or controlled property, at college-sponsored or supervised functions, or related to or arising from college attendance or activity is a violation of District policies and regulations, and is subject to all applicable punishment, including criminal and/or civil prosecution and employee or student discipline procedures.

If you have been a victim of sexual assault, sexual harassment, or sexual misconduct, you have options on how you’d like to proceed.

The most important factor is that you are safe and are not in imminent danger. If you believe you are in danger, please call 911.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO?

Talk to Someone Confidentially

SMC Psychological Services.....	(310) 434-4503
SMC Student Health Services.....	(310) 434-4262
SMC Ombuds Office	(310) 434-3986
Santa Monica Rape Treatment Center	(310) 319-4000

Talk to Someone On-Campus

Title IX Coordinator, Sherri Lee- Lewis (310) 434-4415 or 4419
Title IX Deputy (Student Affairs),	
Deyna Hearn	(310) 434-4420

Talk to Someone Off-Campus

Santa Monica Rape Treatment Center (310) 319-4000

File a Police Report

On Campus (310) 434-4300

Off Campus 911

File a Report: The Incident Involved an SMC Student

Student Judicial Affairs (310) 434-4220

File a Report: The Incident Involved an SMC Employee

Human Resources (310) 434-4415 or 4419

Respondent: I've been Accused of Sexual Misconduct

Title IX Coordinator, Sherri Lee-Lewis

..... (310) 434-4415 or 4419

Student Judicial Affairs (310) 434-4220

www.smc.edu/StudentServices/SVPE/Pages/default.aspx

Sexual Violence – Prevention and Education (AB 1088: Sexual Violence)

Section 67385 of the Education Code requires that community college districts adopt and implement procedures to ensure prompt response to victims of sexual violence which occur on campus as well as providing them with information regarding treatment options and services. No community can be totally risk-free in today's society. However, by working together, students, faculty, staff, and visitors can all help to create an atmosphere which is as safe and crime free by reporting criminal behavior to:

- Santa Monica Police Department: 911
- Campus Police: (310) 434-4300
- Dean of Student Services: (310) 434-4655
- Psychological Services: (310) 434-4503
- Health Services Center: (310) 434-4262

Any sexual violence or physical abuse, as defined by California law—whether committed by an employee, student, or member of the public—occurring on College-owned or controlled property, at College-sponsored or supervised functions, or related to or arising from College attendance or activity is a violation of District policies and regulations, and is subject to all applicable punishment, including criminal and/or civil prosecution and employee or student discipline procedures. Please see the information available at www.smc.edu/SVPE for additional details.

Rape & Date Rape

Rape is forcible sexual activity without a person's consent and against a person's will. For the victim, rape is an emotionally and physically traumatic experience. Rape is a serious criminal offense, and accusations of rape can lead to possible referral to local, state, or federal law enforcement agencies. In addition, rape is a violation of SMC's Student Conduct Code and can result in the perpetrator's suspension or expulsion from the College.

DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

Disciplinary sanctions at Santa Monica College include, but are not limited to, verbal or written reprimands, probation,

a disciplinary hold, removal from class, ineligibility to participate in extracurricular activities, suspension, and expulsion. These are listed in order of severity, and repeated instances of lesser infractions may lead to a more severe disciplinary action. The College Disciplinarian is responsible for enforcement of these sanctions. If a written report is placed in a student's disciplinary file, the student has the right to inspect and appeal the information as specified in California Education Code §76232. Disciplinary sanctions are described in detail in the "Rules for Student Conduct" (SMC AR 4410), posted online (go to www.smc.edu/AR4000StudentServices).

Written Reprimand

A written reprimand issued by the College Disciplinarian serves to place a statement in a student's disciplinary records (not the student's academic records) that the student has not met the standards of conduct set forth above.

1. The student has an opportunity to write a response to the reprimand, and the response will be placed on record with the reprimand; and
2. With regard to written reprimands, there will be no hearing or appeal to the Student Conduct Appeals or Sexual Assault Committee.

Disciplinary Probation

A student who fails to meet the standards of conduct may be placed on disciplinary probation by the College Disciplinarian. The student will be notified in writing that continued conduct of the type described in a "notice of disciplinary probation" will result in a more severe disciplinary sanction. The notice of disciplinary probation must include:

1. The period of time the student is to be on probation (this period may not exceed one year), and
2. The disciplinary sanction to be imposed.

A student has the right to pursue the Hearing and Appeal Process before disciplinary probation is imposed.

Removal from Class

An instructor is authorized to remove a student from class for cause for the remainder of the class on the day of the removal and the next class meeting. The instructor will immediately report the removal to the College Disciplinarian. During the period of removal, a student will not be permitted to return to the class without the agreement of the instructor of the class. With regard to removal from class, there is no hearing or appeal to the Student Conduct Appeals Committee.

Removal from Extracurricular Activities

The College Disciplinarian may remove a student from extracurricular activities for "good cause." The period of removal may not exceed one year. Sanctions may include:

1. Removal from office in all College organizations;
2. Ineligibility to participate in all College-sponsored activities, including public performances; and/or

3. Ineligibility to participate in College extracurricular activities.

Nothing in this policy, however, restricts the College Disciplinarian from imposing lesser sanctions.

A student has the right to pursue the Hearing and Appeal Process before removal from extracurricular activities is imposed.

Suspension

The College Disciplinarian is authorized to suspend a student for “good cause.” The suspension may be:

1. From one or more classes for a period of up to ten days of instruction;
2. From one or more classes for the remainder of the school term; or
3. From all classes and College activities for one or more terms.

If a student who is suspended is a minor, the College Disciplinarian will notify the student’s parent or legal guardian of the suspension in writing.

Expulsion

A student may be expelled by the Board of Trustees for “good cause.” Expulsion is authorized when other means of correction fail to bring about proper conduct.

Student Complaints, Hearings, & Appeals

To protect the interests of both the College and its students, Santa Monica College has an established “due process” through which its disciplinary and removal powers are exercised. As a further safeguard of student rights, an appeal procedure exists for these policies, as well as for appeals of grades, matriculation, and academic or progress disqualification.

COLLEGE OMBUDSPERSON

Students with complaints, grievances, and personal concerns about Santa Monica College or any of its policies are encouraged to discuss them with the College Ombudsperson. The Ombudsperson provides support and encouragement to students, and attempts to present options and solutions. Complaints are handled with complete confidentiality on a case-by-case basis. *Students with complaints about a grade should be aware that they must file a formal appeal (Petition for Review of Grade) by October 30 for Spring semester grades, November 30 for Summer session grades, April 30 for Fall semester grades, and May 30 for Winter session grades.*

For further information, visit the Ombudsperson’s webpage (www.smc.edu/ombuds), send e-mail to ombuds@smc.edu, or call (310) 434-3986. The office of the Ombudsperson is located in Room 124 of the Letters and Science building. Office hours are posted on the door and available on the Ombudsperson’s webpage. If the times are inconvenient, a

special appointment can be arranged by leaving a voicemail message or sending e-mail to the Ombudsperson.

STUDENT JUDICIAL AFFAIRS

Santa Monica College students and faculty can turn to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs for due process in having problems solved, working out agreements, refuting false allegations, and resolving disputes fairly. The College Disciplinarian, counselors, and administrative support take a positive, comprehensive, and proactive approach to resolving problems, and provide a place for students and faculty to go for information and training in the areas of student conduct, academic honesty, behavior/anger management, and conflict resolution.

It is crucial for students to feel that their concerns are being addressed in a timely manner, before those concerns become disciplinary problems. It is just as crucial for members of the faculty to feel that they have support in dealing with extremely challenging and often disruptive students. The Office of Student Judicial Affairs works to strike a balance between the College’s community standards and individual behavior. When appropriate, the Office of Student Judicial Affairs provides referrals to other programs on the SMC campus.

The Office of Student Judicial Affairs interviews all parties named in police and referral reports. The College Disciplinarian—who has initial authority to suspend students for violations of the Student Conduct Code—conducts interviews, reviews all interview notes and information available, and makes final decisions regarding the outcome of disciplinary cases.

To find out more about the services and resources the Office of Student Judicial Affairs provides, see our website at www.smc.edu/disciplinarian or call (310) 434-4220.

MATRICULATION COMPLAINTS

Students may file formal written complaints about the matriculation process with the Vice President, Enrollment Development. The complaints will remain on file for at least three years after they have been resolved and are subject to review by the Chancellor’s Office as part of the statewide evaluation required under California Code of Regulations Title 5 §55512.

GRADE APPEALS

A student who wishes to appeal a grade must file a formal Petition for Review of Grade *no later than* October 30 for Spring semester grades, November 30 for Summer session grades, April 30 for Fall semester grades, and May 30 for Winter session grades.

According to State law, a formal grade appeal can only be pursued in cases where there has been instructor fraud, bad faith, incompetency, or a mistake. Before filing a formal grade appeal petition, a student should first discuss his or her situation with the College Ombudsperson. The Ombudsperson acts as a source of information, assistance, and referral, and encourages informal conciliation between students and instructors. The student assumes the burden of proof. Instructors are expected to cooperate with the Ombudsperson.

After discussing a grade appeal with the College Ombudsperson, if there is no informal resolution satisfactory to the student and the student wishes to continue the appeal, the Ombudsperson will outline the procedure to be followed.

To schedule an appointment with the Ombudsperson, please send email to ombuds@smc.edu or call (310) 434-3986.

APPEAL OF ACADEMIC & PROGRESS DISQUALIFICATION

Students who wish to be reinstated at Santa Monica College after being disqualified from attending the College because of substandard academic performance or unsatisfactory progress may make an appointment in the Transfer/Counseling Center to discuss their situation with a counselor, review the mitigating circumstances that may have led to their disqualification, determine whether reinstatement at SMC is possible, and find out about the steps they must take to be reinstated. For details on reinstatement procedures, see the Academic & Progress Probation & Disqualification Policies section of this catalog. To make an appointment to meet with a counselor, visit the Transfer/Counseling Center or call (310) 434-4210.

ACADEMIC CONDUCT APPEALS

A Santa Monica College student who has been accused of violating the SMC Honor Code has the right to appeal the action taken by the faculty member through the appeal procedures established by the College. Once notified of the alleged violation, the accused student has ten (10) business days to appeal the action to the Honor Council.

The student will be provided the opportunity for a conference with the campus Ombudsperson (or designee) in an effort to resolve the issue informally. The Ombudsperson (or designee) may confer with the faculty member, and if necessary, the department chair (or designee).

If no resolution is reached after an informal conference, the student may proceed with a formal appeal to the Honor Council. The petition (and any supportive documentation) must be filed with the Office of Student Judicial Affairs (or designee).

All instances of alleged SMC Honor Code violations are subject to review by the SMC Honor Council (SMC AR 4412). For details on the procedure for disputing a grade—for alleged instructor mistake, bad faith, fraud, or incompetence—see “Grade Appeals Committee” (SMC AR 4313), which is posted online (go to www.smc.edu/AR4000StudentServices). Please note: The Grade Appeals Committee does not handle appeals pertaining to accusations of academic dishonesty.

DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS & APPEALS

Before any disciplinary probation, removal from extracurricular activities or programs, or suspension is imposed on a student, the student has the right to pursue the Hearing and Appeal Process, unless an immediate suspension is required to protect lives or property, or to insure the maintenance of order pending a hearing. The Hearing and Appeal Process is described in detail in the “Rules for Student Conduct” (SMC AR 4410), posted online (go to www.smc.edu/AR4000StudentServices).

PROGRAM REMOVAL APPEALS

Due process procedures exist to assist faculty and departments in removing a student from a program in which the student is unable to profit and/or a program in which the student’s behavior is determined to be unsafe. In general, the overall process for determining whether a student meets the specific standards of a particular program may include up to three levels of intervention: the instructor level, the program or department level, and the College level (joint administration-faculty committee).

Any student who wishes to appeal dismissal from a program may file the appeal with the Chair of the Program Standards Appeals Committee. The student will be able to present his or her case within ten (10) school days of filing. The committee hearings will be closed to the public.

GENERAL SMC COMPLAINT PROCESS NOTICE

Listed below are resources available to persons who wish to file a complaint at SMC. If you have a complaint, please go to the website for the applicable resource below and follow the complaint processes of that area.

RESOURCES	AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY	CONTACT INFORMATION
Ombuds Office	The Ombudsperson acts as a listening ear, conciliator, mediator, and resource for students with problems involving SMC faculty, administrators/managers, staff, and other issues. The Ombuds Office can maintain confidentiality if requested. Please contact the Ombuds Office regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade disputes. • Student complaints regarding faculty, administrators/managers, staff, or other issues at SMC. • Sexual harassment or violence. 	www.smc.edu/ombuds (310) 434-3986
Student Judicial Affairs Office	The Student Judicial Affairs Office upholds the Student Conduct Code, the Academic Conduct Code, and the Honor Code to promote a safe learning environment at SMC. Please contact Student Judicial Affairs regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student discipline process or student discipline issues. 	www.smc.edu/judicialaffairs (310) 434-4220
Admissions & Records Office	The Admissions & Records Office oversees matriculation related processes, student records, and FERPA (the federal law mandating privacy of student information). Please contact the Admissions & Records Office regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints about the matriculation process. • Complaints about student records or FERPA-related concerns. 	www.smc.edu/admissions (310) 434-4380
Office of Student Life	The Office of Student Life oversees matters related to student life on campus. Please contact the Office of Student Life regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints about publicity materials posted around campus that are deemed offensive. 	www.smc.edu/welcomecenter (310) 434-8101
Campus Police Department	The SMC Campus Police Department provides law enforcement, crime prevention, investigation, security, and parking and traffic control services at SMC. Please contact Campus Police regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints about crimes (including sexual violence). Also, Campus Police can provide assistance with situations involving safety and emergencies. 	www.smc.edu/police (310) 434-4300
Office of Human Resources	The Office of Human Resources oversees H.R. related policies and procedures at SMC. Please contact the Office of Human Resources regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlawful discrimination or harassment, including sexual harassment. • Complaints about violations of the District's policy regarding workplace/campus violence and anti-bullying. • Employee grievances under the District's collective bargaining agreements. • Complaints concerning District personnel. • For general assistance about complaints, information about where to file a complaint, and information about whistleblower complaints. 	www.smc.edu/humanresources (310) 434-4415

Office of Risk Management	<p>The Office of Risk Management oversees environmental compliance, occupational health and safety, and the District's insurance coverage for property, liability, and workers' compensation. Please contact the Office of Risk Management regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work related injuries. • Student injuries. • Claims against SMC regarding injury or damage to persons or personal property. • Non-crime-related safety concerns. 	<p>www.smc.edu/riskmanagement (310) 434-4102</p>
Confidential Reporting Hotline	<p>Complaints can be made to confidentially to the Confidential Reporting Hotline. Please contact the Confidential Reporting Hotline regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints about unethical, illegal, or unsafe situations at SMC. 	<p>www.reportlineweb.com/smc (800) 566-8240</p>
California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office *Non-SMC agency	<p>The Chancellor's Office is the agency that oversees the community colleges in California. SMC employees, SMC students, and members of the public who wish to file unlawful discrimination and harassment complaints, including sexual harassment complaints, can do so directly with the Chancellor's Office.</p>	<p>extranet.cccco.edu/Divisions/Legal/Discrimination.aspx (916) 445-8752</p>
Accrediting Commission for Community & Junior Colleges (ACCJC) *Non-SMC organization	<p>5ACCJC is the agency that oversees SMC's accreditation. Complaints regarding SMC's compliance with academic program quality and accrediting standards can be filed with ACCJC.</p>	<p>www.accjc.org/complaint-process</p>
California State Auditor Whistleblower Hotline California State Attorney General's Whistleblower Hotline California State Personnel Board *Non-SMC agency	<p>Reports about suspected improper activities of employers or complaints of retaliation resulting from whistleblower activities may be reported to these state agencies.</p>	<p>www.calema.ca.gov/ChiefofStaff/Pages/CA-Whistleblower.aspx (800) 952-5665 oag.ca.gov/contact/whistleblower (800) 952-5225 spb.ca.gov/whistleblower/ (916) 653-1403</p>

Student Privacy Rights

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) gives 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. California law requires that records be provided within 15 working days.

A student should submit to the Dean of Enrollment Services or other appropriate official, a written request that identifies the record(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 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 College.

Upon request, the College also discloses education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

FERPA requires that the College, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your education records. However, the College may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the College to the contrary in accordance with College procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the College to include this type of information from your education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your role in a drama production;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without your prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, federal law requires the College to provide military recruiters, upon request, with certain directory information.

If you do not want College to disclose directory information from your education records without your prior written consent, you should file a written request with the Admissions Office.

The College has designated the following information as directory information: student name; city of residence; age; major field of study; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; dates of attendance; student photograph; degrees and awards received and most recent previous school attended.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the College 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

For a full explanation of FERPA and its implications for college students, please contact the Admissions Office.

Residency

The following is a summary of Santa Monica College's residency rules and their exceptions. For more detailed information, please visit the Residency webpage (go to www.smc.edu/admissions and click on the "Residency" link in the Policies & Programs section of the webpage), see the College Policies section of the Schedule of Classes, or contact a residence specialist in the Admissions Office.

- Each person applying for admission to, or enrolled in, a California Community College is classified for tuition pur-

poses as either a “resident” or a “nonresident” of the State of California.

- A “resident” is defined as a citizen of the United States or a person who holds a status that allows him or her to establish residency in the United States for a minimum of one year and one day, who has proof of physical presence in the State of California for one year and one day PRIOR TO the start of the semester for which California residency is being claimed, and who presents evidence of intention to make California his or her permanent home. Dates on any documentary evidence should correspond to dates of physical presence in California.
- A “nonresident” is a person who does not meet the residency requirements of the State of California or who is a citizen of a foreign country and holds only temporary status in the US.
- A student classified as a resident will be admitted to the College and be exempt from paying nonresident tuition. Enrollment fees (\$46 per unit; subject to change) still apply.
- A student classified as a nonresident is required to pay a tuition fee of \$289 or \$265 (with AB 947 exemption) per semester unit *in addition to the* enrollment fee of \$46 per unit (subject to change). A student classified as a nonresident, with an out of status citizenship, and/or a nonresident US citizen who attended three years and graduated from a California high school may apply for AB 540 exemption. An official, sealed transcript must be submitted with the exemption form.
- All nonresident students between the ages of 19 and 23 (inclusive) requesting reclassification to resident status must submit a petition for change of residency status (Reclassification Form, obtained from a residence specialist in the Admissions Office), show proof of financial independence, provide documents that show the students were not claimed as dependents for income tax purposes by their parents in the past year, and present evidence of intent to establish California as their place of residence. Please visit the Admissions Office website at www.smc.edu/admissions for helpful tips on establishing California residency.

RESIDENCE OF AN ADULT

A student who is 19 years of age or older and who has lived in California continuously for the last two years shall be presumed to have the intent to make California his or her home.

A student under 19 years of age shall be presumed to have the intent to make California his or her home if both the student and his or her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) have lived in California continuously for the last two years.

A student who is 19 years of age or older applying for admission who has less than two years, but more than one year, of residence in California should be prepared to show proof of residence. Examples of evidence that aid the College admissions officer in identifying intent include, but are not limited to, the following documents:

- California (540) tax returns evidencing California residency/address (with acceptable dates);

- Paycheck stub OR letter of employment verification on company letterhead (signed by a manager of the personnel department);
- California bank account (checking or savings account statements);
- Marriage license or divorce decree issued in California (with acceptable dates);
- License or certificate issued by the State (with acceptable issue and expiration dates);
- California utility bill (one ONLY of the following: DWP, gas, telephone, cable, or other utility);
- California State aid or social welfare;
- Vehicle registration and/or vehicle insurance (California company);
- California-based health insurance OR Medi-Cal ID;
- Military discharge papers (DD214) OR Leave and Earnings statement indicating California as State of Record;
- California property taxes (in student’s name ONLY);
- Union membership in a California local; and
- California public library membership (verified by letter or printout with letterhead or branch stamp).

Any two or more of the above items will give some indication of a student’s intent to make California his or her permanent residence. Dates on documents must correspond with physical presence of one year and one day prior to the start of the semester/session being attended. Bring documentation to the Admissions Office. Restrictions apply. Please go to www.smc.edu/admissions and click on the “Residency” link in the Policies & Programs section of the webpage for further details.

RESIDENCE OF A MINOR

Unmarried minors (those younger than 18 years of age) are, by law, incapable of establishing their own residences, notwithstanding their physical presence within California. The Admissions Office will use the following guidelines for determining a minor’s residence:

- A minor’s residence is the residence of the parent or legal guardian with whom the minor is living;
- If the minor is not living with a parent or legal guardian, then the residence of the parent or legal guardian with whom the minor last lived will be the residence of the minor.

When the residence of a minor student is derived from the parent or legal guardian, the durational requirement (one year in California) must be met by the parent or guardian, but is not required of the student.

A minor whose parents are not living and who does not have a legal guardian may establish his or her own residence.

EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to the above guidelines will be made under certain circumstances. If a student would otherwise be classified as a nonresident, but fits within one of the following exceptions, he or she may be granted resident classification, provided he

or she has resided in California for one year with the intent of establishing residence (documentation required):

- A student who was not an adult for more than one year before the start of the semester may add the amount of time lived in California prior to his or her eighteenth birthday (provided the student's parent or legal guardian was a California resident during the period), if any, to the length of residence in California since that date to obtain the durational requirement of one year;
- An adult alien who is in the process of adjusting his or her status to permanent resident or who has been lawfully admitted as a permanent resident for one year and one day prior to the beginning date of the semester (documentation required) and who has resided in California for one year;
- A student 19 years of age or older who can document refugee or asylee status (dated one year and one day prior to the beginning date of the semester) with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and who has resided in California for one year (students younger than 19 years of age should review the first item above);
- An adult alien who is in the process of adjusting visa status to, or possesses one of the following visas dated at least one year and one day prior to the beginning date of the semester: A, E, G, H-1, H-4 (if dependent of H-1 visa holder), I, K, L, N, O-1, O-3, R, T (but **NOT** TN or TD), or V, and who meets California residence criteria;
- A student who is a minor (under the age of 18) and who, immediately before enrolling at a California educational institution, has lived with and was under the continuous direct care and control for at least two years of any adult or adults (other than a parent) who had established residence in California at least one year and one day prior to beginning date of the semester (documentation required). Students who are minors must complete a Care and Control Form, obtained from the Residence Specialist.

For more information regarding residence classification, exceptions, and examples of evidence showing intent, please contact the residence specialist in the Admissions Office.

ASSEMBLY BILL 540 (CAL. ED. CODE § 68130.5 EXEMPTION)

Assembly Bill 540 created an exemption from payment of nonresident tuition for certain nonresident students who have attended high school in California and received a high school diploma or its equivalent in California. You will qualify for this tuition exemption if you meet ALL of the following conditions:

1. Attended a California high school for three or more years;
2. Graduated from a California high school or attained the equivalent thereof (e.g., passed the GED in California or the California High School Proficiency exam); and
3. **If you do not have lawful immigration status**, file an affidavit with the College that indicates you have applied for legalization, or will do so as soon as you are eligible to do so. The affidavit form is available online and may be downloaded at www.smc.edu/forms (requires Acrobat Reader).

In order to qualify, you must submit ALL of the following documentation:

- A signed affidavit indicating you have either applied for lawful immigration status or intend to apply as soon as you are eligible; and
- Your "official" California high school transcript (in a sealed envelope) showing your attendance for three or more years and date of graduation. NOTE: Adult School does *not* count toward years of attendance.
- If you did not graduate from a California high school, but obtained instead a GED or California High School Proficiency Certificate, you must also submit your official GED certificate or California High School Proficiency certificate with the score report.

This benefit is available to all US citizens, permanent residents of the US, and aliens (including those who are undocumented) who are not categorized as nonimmigrants, who meet all of the above criteria. AB 540 does **NOT** grant residency; however, it does allow students to pay the same fees as California residents.

For more details or to obtain an application, please contact the Admissions Office.

ASSEMBLY BILL 947 (CAL. ED. CODE 76141 EXEMPTION)

Students classified as nonresidents are required to pay a tuition fee of \$289 per semester unit (plus \$46 enrollment fee, for a total of \$335 per semester unit). However, Assembly Bill 947 creates a partial exemption from payment of nonresident tuition for certain nonresident students who can demonstrate economic hardship, or who are victims of persecution or discrimination in the country in which the students are a citizen and resident. The amount of the partial exemption is limited to that portion of the nonresident tuition fee allowed under Section 76141, which provides for a fee for capital outlay, maintenance, and equipment. Students qualifying for this exemption may pay a nonresident tuition fee of \$265 per semester unit (plus \$46 enrollment fee, for a total of \$311 per semester unit).

For purposes of this exemption, economic hardship encompasses the financial circumstances of a person who is a recipient of benefits under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program described in Part A of Title IV of the Social Security Act (42 USC §§601 et seq.), the Supplemental Income/State Supplementary Program, or a general assistance program.

For more details, please contact the Admissions Office.

SELECTIVE SERVICE NOTICE TO MALE STUDENTS

Federal law requires men age 18-25 to be registered with the Selective Service System (SSS) if they are US citizens or immigrant aliens (international students who hold valid student visas are exempt from this requirement). Men must be registered before they can receive federal or state financial aid (including loans and grants) for their education. Registration forms are available online at www.sss.gov and at any post office.

Campus & Community Safety

The Board of Trustees of the Santa Monica Community College District has established a “Community College Police Department”—known as the SMC Police Department, and generally referred to as Campus Police—to protect the members of the College community and the property of the District.

Santa Monica College is committed to providing a safe and secure campus environment for students, faculty, staff, and visitors. College facilities are regularly patrolled 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by members of the SMC Police Department. SMC students are employed to work as Police Aides and, during evening hours, to accompany students and staff who request an escort to and from on-campus facilities. Abundant lighting is provided at all Santa Monica College campuses and parking lots.

The College also employs parking enforcement officers with training specific to parking enforcement and emergencies. Parking enforcement officers are not Peace Officers.

If you spot anyone suspicious, call Campus Police at (310) 434-4300, (or dial ext. 4300 from campus phones), or use a campus emergency phone to seek help.

Santa Monica College works closely with local law enforcement agencies having dual jurisdiction for criminal matters. The College can request assistance for incidents that require resources not available to the SMC Police Department.

SMC POLICE DEPARTMENT (CAMPUS POLICE)

Under the general direction of the Chief of Police, the SMC Police Department ensures that reasonable protection is provided to members of the College community and the property of the Santa Monica Community College District by using methods that fit within and contribute to the educational philosophy and process of the College.

The SMC Police Department and its officers comply with the selection and training requirements of California Penal Code §13522. Campus Police officers receive the same training as municipal police officers or county deputy sheriffs, and they have Peace Officer authority under California Penal Code §830.32a and California Education Code §72330.

The SMC Police Department receives reports for all incidents occurring on SMC campuses and is responsible for investigating all campus crime. For services the SMC Police Department provides, see the Campus Police listing in the Programs & Services section of this catalog, or visit the SMC Police Department website (www.smc.edu/police).

Campus Police would like to remind all students, faculty, staff, and visitors at Santa Monica College that—*no matter where you are*—common sense goes a long way in preventing the possibility of becoming a crime victim. The following safety tips should be kept in mind at all times:

Protecting Your Personal Property

- Always secure your purse or backpack; never leave belongings unattended.

- Park in well-lighted areas away from shrubbery and other obstructions. Lock your vehicle, and take your keys with you. Make sure your car’s window vents are secure. Put valuables in the trunk or out of sight.
- Always have your keys ready before reaching your car. Before you enter your car, check the back seat. If you spot anyone suspicious, call Campus Police at (310) 434-4300, or use a campus emergency phone to seek help.
- To prevent car theft, consider using an ignition bypass switch or a steering wheel locking device. Car alarms are not recommended because they are often activated accidentally. If an unattended alarm goes off while your car is in a campus parking area, your car can be towed and impounded immediately. On the city streets, your car can be towed within 15 minutes. If your car is towed, you will have to pay a fee to reclaim it.

Making Yourself Less Vulnerable

- Attackers prefer passive victims. Project a positive, assertive body language. Know where you are going, and walk confidently. Take a good look at people around you and passing alongside you. Be alert.
- At night, walk with a friend or in a group, or use the campus escort service. To request an escort, call Campus Police.
- Choose well-lighted, well-traveled streets and walkways. If followed, walk or run to a safe place. Avoid isolated and poorly lighted areas. If you must walk alone, be alert and aware of your surroundings. If you sense a dangerous situation, avoid it or leave it.
- Never hitchhike or accept a ride from a stranger. Never give a ride to a stranger or casual acquaintance. If you use a bus, sit near the driver. Know your schedule in advance. Use well-lighted and well-used bus stops.
- If you walk or bike regularly to campus, choose well-lighted and populated areas. Vary your routes so that you are not predictable. Be aware of businesses that are open and other potentially safe places.

BICYCLES, MOTORCYCLES, MOPEDS, SKATEBOARDS, & SKATES

In the interests of campus security, safety, and noise control:

1. Bicycles, motorcycles, and mopeds must be parked in designated areas.
2. Bicycles parked outside the designated areas may not be parked in any area that would interfere with pedestrian safety, handicapped access, or the performance of duties by the College’s gardeners and/or custodians.
3. Bicycles, motorcycles, and mopeds may not be taken inside of buildings. Bicycles secured improperly are subject to impound by Campus Police.
4. Riding motorcycles, mopeds, and bicycles on pedestrian walkways is strictly prohibited.
5. The use of skateboards, roller skates, and roller blades is prohibited on campus.