



Washtenaw Community College

Academic Forgiveness

Starting August 28, 2009, students who meet the criteria may apply for Academic Forgiveness.

Academic Forgiveness may help those students whose past performance has prevented them from graduating or being accepted into another school or program, if their grade point average has improved to a 2.0 or above in recent years. A brief summary precedes the full procedure described below.

Conditions

- Poor academic performance must be at least 3 years ago
- Student must have achieved at least 12 credit hours at 2.0 or above since the period of poor grades
- Available for a maximum of two semesters with a GPA under 2.0 (under a C average)
- Student may pick any two semesters within the time frame and specify which classes in those semesters
- No Academic Forgiveness will be granted for classes used for a WCC degree or certificate

Caveats

- Academic Forgiveness is not reversible
- Can be used only once in a lifetime
- Classes are forgiven only for the purposes of the WCC GPA
- Academic Forgiveness status is not recognized by the federal government when calculating Financial Aid: all previous conditions for aid remain
- Forgiven classes and grades remain on the transcript with Academic Forgiveness noted
- Forgiven classes cannot be applied toward graduation from WCC

Procedure as described in the Annual Programs and Services Bulletin:

Academic Forgiveness

Washtenaw Community College (WCC) acknowledges that not all students are equally prepared for a successful academic career. Academic Forgiveness is intended to provide an opportunity to remove a period of poor academic performance at WCC from the GPA calculation. WCC recommends that a student attempt to repair their transcript by repeating a course(s) first and utilize Academic Forgiveness as a last step.

Due to federal regulations, the Office of Financial Aid does not acknowledge Academic Forgiveness when calculating eligibility for aid. Transfer institutions may or may not acknowledge Academic Forgiveness and may recalculate the WCC GPA for their purposes. It is at the discretion of other institutions to determine how they will interpret Academic Forgiveness. Students seeking Academic Forgiveness must meet and understand the criteria below.



1. A minimum of three years must have elapsed between the poor academic performance and the Academic Forgiveness request. The student may continue to enroll during that three year period. Enrollment can be at WCC or another educational institution.
2. Only semesters with a semester GPA of less than 2.0 are eligible for Academic Forgiveness.
3. To apply for Academic Forgiveness, the student must have successfully completed at least 12 credit hours at WCC with a C grade or higher and the cumulative GPA of those 12 credits must be 2.0 or higher since the period of poor academic performance. For the purpose of calculating Academic Forgiveness, classes taken since the period of poor academic performance with a final grade of W, AU, N, IX, or I as a final grade will count as F (failures).
4. Academic Forgiveness applies to a maximum of two (2) semesters.
5. The two Academic Forgiveness semesters are not required to be contiguous.
6. In their request, the student will specify which classes taken during a semester in which Academic Forgiveness is applied for will be included. Courses included in Academic Forgiveness must have grades that affect a student's WCC grade point average. Courses with a grading format that does not impact GPA (such as Pass/No Pass, Auditor, Withdrawn, and Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory) are excluded from the Academic Forgiveness process.
7. If approved, the classes remain on the transcript with the original grade and a notation indicating that Academic Forgiveness has applied to them. The forgiven classes will be excluded from the WCC GPA.
8. Once granted, Academic Forgiveness is not reversible under any circumstance.
9. Academic Forgiveness may be granted only once even if the student did not take advantage of the full limit of Academic Forgiveness during their initial application.
10. Classes removed from the GPA under Academic Forgiveness will still count toward attempted classes for Financial Aid purposes.
11. Other institutions may interpret Academically Forgiven classes differently and use the original grades.
12. Courses that have applied toward a WCC degree or certificate will not be considered under Academic Forgiveness.



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In order to apply for Academic Forgiveness, the student will initiate the process by completing an application for Academic Forgiveness with a WCC counselor or advisor. The Registrar's office will provide the application form. The counselor or advisor will discuss the ramifications and alternatives of Academic Forgiveness with the student. The student will indicate their understanding by signing the application. If the counselor recommends and the student still wishes to pursue Academic Forgiveness, the student will then meet with one of the Deans in Student Services for a second review and discussion of the application and its impact. Upon approval by the Dean, the application is forwarded to the Registrar to verify the criteria has been met, disclosure to the student was performed, and then the changes will be posted to the student's transcript.