

Academic Appeals

Students are provided with a Student Handbook through the college website that outlines general academic policies. Students also receive a course syllabus that indicates expectations, grading system, and other pertinent data regarding a particular course. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the information from these sources.

If a student receives a grade that he or she feels is unfair and not in compliance with guidelines in the above listed sources he or she may appeal the grade using the following process.

The student shall appeal in writing to the instructor who issued the grade with copies going to the Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean for the Iola Campus, Dean for the Burlingame Campus or Dean for Online Learning. This shall be done within seven (7) calendar days from the day the grade was issued for an assignment or test and within thirty (30) calendar days from the end of the semester for a final grade. Included in the appeal shall be the student's name, the class in which the grade was received, and the basis for the appeal. The instructor shall respond to the student in writing within five (5) calendar days of receipt of the notice, regarding the disposition of the appeal. A copy of the appeal and the instructor's response shall be filed with the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Vice President for Student Affairs and with the appropriate Dean.

If the student feels that the instructor's decision is not fair, he or she may appeal the matter to the Vice President for Academic Affairs with a copy going to the Vice President for Student Affairs. This appeal shall be in writing and shall be submitted within five (5) calendar days of the date of the instructor's written response. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall confer with both the student and the instructor and may review any other information relevant to the situation. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall respond to the student in writing within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of the appeal regarding its disposition with a copy going to the Vice President for Student Affairs.

If the student feels the Vice President for Academic Affairs decision is not fair, he or she may, within five (5) calendar days of receipt of the Vice President for Academic Affairs decision, appeal the matter to an Academic Appeals Task Force. This task force shall be composed of the Vice President for Student Affairs, the Dean for the Iola Campus, Dean for the Burlingame Campus or Dean for Online Learning, an instructor of the student's choice, and an instructor appointed by the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The instructor whose grade is being appealed shall not serve on the task force. The Academic Appeals Task Force shall confer with the student and instructor and review all pertinent information. The task force shall come to a decision regarding the appeal and respond to the student, in writing, within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of the appeal.

If the student still feels that he or she is being treated unfairly, an appeal may be made to the Board of Trustees through the President. A written appeal shall be filed with the President within five (5) calendar days after the Academic Appeals Task Force notifies the student. All pertinent information shall be forwarded to the President for dissemination to the Board of Trustees. The Board shall place the appeal on the agenda for their next regularly scheduled meeting. The appeal may be heard in open or executive session depending on the wishes of the student. The President shall deliver the decision of the Board to the student in writing.

The Board's decision is final. The student who finds it necessary to further pursue the matter must do so outside the realm of the College administrative structure.