

## ACADEMIC STANDING

<b>Policy Name</b> Academic Standing	<b>Responsible Owner</b> Vice President Academic and Research	<b>Created</b> 2020 September
<b>Policy Number</b> E-1.02	<b>Approval Body</b> Education Council	<b>Last Reviewed/Revised</b> October 2025
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### PURPOSE

This policy provides direction regarding the assessment of student academic performance during their studies at Northern Lights College (NLC) and ensures that students are provided timely feedback on their academic performance.

### SCOPE

This policy relates to all students who register in credit courses at Northern Lights College. Non-credit Workplace Training and Continuing Education courses at the College and the students completing these courses are not subject to this policy.

### DEFINITIONS

**Academic Alert:** The standing that serves as an early warning to a student who was in Good Standing but has not met the minimum Term Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 requirement. This standing is designed to help students address potential issues before their academic standing is more severely affected.

**Academic Probation:** The standing assigned to a student who has not met a minimum 2.0 Term GPA requirement for a second consecutive term or is returning from Required to Withdraw.

**Academic Standing:** a measure of a student's eligibility to remain in a program and progress towards graduation.

**Cumulative GPA:** Cumulative Grade Point Average – the average of the final grades for all credit courses taken since first admission to the College.

**Good Academic Standing:** Minimum academic performance required to maintain an acceptable GPA of 2.0 or higher. The initial standing of all students at the College is Good Academic Standing.

**Grade Point Average (GPA):** Calculation obtained by dividing the total number of grade points earned by the total number of credits. At the College, GPA is calculated on a 4.33-point scale.

**Required to Withdraw:** The standing assigned to a student who has not met a minimum Term GPA of 2.0 for the third consecutive term. The student will be withdrawn from their program and unable to return for a determined timeframe. Students who are required to withdraw must apply to resume their studies at NLC.

**Student Success Plan (SSP):** A document initially co-created between a Learning Support Specialist or their designate and the student. The SSP is developed through a discovery process intended to assist students in determining barriers to success and to help the student develop strategies to address them.

**Term GPA:** Term Grade Point Average – the average of the final grades for all credit courses taken within the defined term.

## **POLICY STATEMENTS**

NLC recognizes the considerable effort students put forth to meet their educational goals and is committed to providing a supportive learning environment for all students.

NLC nurtures academic excellence and student success for an education of high quality and consistent standards.

In addition to final grades, Academic Standing provides feedback to students at the end of each term with regards to their ability to complete their credential, allowing them the opportunity to seek academic support in order to return to Good Academic Standing. Students are ultimately responsible for their learning and progress and are encouraged to seek help in a timely manner when they face challenges and require improvement strategies. A student who does not maintain Good Academic Standing will be required to coordinate their academic improvement with the College in a Student Success Plan, and the College may restrict their registration in future semesters.

Academic Standing is based on the student's academic performance and therefore cannot be appealed.

**SUPPORTING FORMS, DOCUMENTS, WEBSITES, RELATED POLICIES**

- E-1.02.01 Academic Standing Procedures
- E-1.03 Admissions Policy
- E-1.10 Academic Appeal Policy
- E-1.07 Evaluating Students Policy
- E-2.10 Student Appeals Policy
- Scheduling Policy (in development)

**RELATED ACTS AND REGULATIONS**

- N/A

**RELATED COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS**

- N/A