



# Student Handbook 2019-2020

## **Mission, Vision and Values**

(Revised 08/27/2019)

### **ECC Mission Statement**

Empowering students and enriching communities through education.

### **ECC Vision Statement**

East Central College will be a leader in higher education, inspiring academic excellence and driving community development.

### **ECC Values**

**Integrity** – We commit to building trust through open, honest communication and transparent decision making.

**Diversity** – We value diverse identities and perspectives, and are committed to fostering an inclusive community that embraces our differences as essential for success.

**Learning** – We energize our community through continuous personal and intellectual growth, curiosity, innovation, and adaptation.

**Service** – We strengthen our region through responsible citizenship and environmental stewardship.

**Empowerment** – We equip our students and employees with the resources and tools needed to be successful, resilient and courageous leaders in a changing world.

**Collaboration** – We rely on teamwork to accomplish our common goals.

## **Common Learning Objectives**

The following common learning objectives will be achieved by all students who complete a cohesive program of study at East Central College:

Communication  
Creative/Critical Thinking  
Ethics and Social Responsibility

### **Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy (Adopted December 2, 2013)**

Applicants for admission and employment, students, employees sources of referral of applicants for admission and employment and individuals with whom the Board of Trustees and college officials do business are hereby notified that East Central College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status.

Inquiries related to employment practices may be directed to Wendy Hartmann, Human Resources Director, 005-D Donald Shook Student Center, telephone number 636-584-6710 or [hrnotice@eastcentral.edu](mailto:hrnotice@eastcentral.edu).

Inquiries/concerns regarding civil rights compliance as it relates to student programs and services may be directed to Heath Martin, Vice President of Student Development, 131 Buescher Hall, telephone number 636-584-6565 or [stnotice@eastcentral.edu](mailto:stnotice@eastcentral.edu).

Both offices are located at the ECC main campus located at 1964 Prairie Dell Road, Union, Missouri 63084.

East Central College is an equal opportunity employer and provider of employment and training services. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

**Handbook information is subject to change without notice.**

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# POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

## Academic Calendar

East Central College operates under an official academic calendar which is available on the College's website. The official calendar includes semester start and end dates, tuition and fees due dates, no-class dates, last date to withdraw and other relevant campus information. On occasion, the College will update the official academic calendar; please check the website for the most current version. Academic calendars for current and future semesters are accessible on the College's website at <https://www.eastcentral.edu/current/academic-calendar>.

## Academic Honor Code

Students are expected to conduct themselves honestly in all academic endeavors. Any act of academic dishonesty is a violation of the Academic Honor Code.

### **Introduction**

East Central College is an academic community. Integrity and honesty in the classroom, in academic programs and in all related learning experiences is critical. The Academic Honor Code is a statement of the college's position regarding student conduct as it relates to academic integrity. (Students are responsible for learning about and being fully aware of activities that constitute violation of the Academic Honor Code.) The following list is presented for information and clarification and is not intended to be exhaustive.

The faculty retains the right to recommend a remedy when students are in violation of the Academic Honor Code. Students retain the right to appeal any accusation of policy violation as outlined in the Student Discipline Policy and Appeal Procedure in this handbook.

### **Academic Honor Code Definitions and Clarifying Comments**

#### **Academic Dishonesty:**

Academic dishonesty is defined as any form of cheating or dishonesty that has the effect or intent of interfering with any academic exercise or a fair evaluation of a student's performance. Some examples and definitions are given below. The College faculty can provide additional information, particularly as it relates to a specific course, laboratory or assignment.

#### **Cheating:**

An intentional use or attempted use of unauthorized material or study aids in assignments or tests, or unauthorized assistance by any other party in any academic exercise.

\*Examples: unauthorized use of notes for a test; using a "cheat sheet" on a quiz or exam; any alteration made on a graded test or exam which is then resubmitted to the teacher.

#### **Plagiarism:**

Careless or deliberate use of the work or the ideas of another; representation of another's work, words, ideas, or data as your own without permission or appropriate acknowledgement.

\*Examples: copying another's paper, work, computer disk, or answers and submitting or representing it as your own; submitting an assignment which has been partially or wholly done by another and claiming it as yours; not properly acknowledging a source which has been summarized or paraphrased in your work; failure to acknowledge the use of another's words with quotation marks.

#### **Facilitation of Academic Dishonesty:**

Knowingly assisting another in violation of the Academic Honor Code.

\*Examples: working together without permission on a take-home test; providing another with information

about a test that you have already taken before they take it.

**Multiple Submission:**

Submission of work from one course to satisfy a requirement in another course without explicit permission.

\*Example: using a paper prepared and graded for credit in one course to fulfill a requirement and receive credit in a different course.

**Fabrication/Forgery:**

Use or submission of contrived, invented, forged, or altered information in any assignment, laboratory exercise or test; tampering with or production of a counterfeit document, particularly documents which make up the student's academic record.

\*Examples: making up a source or citing a nonexistent publication or article; representing made up data as real for an experiment in a science laboratory class; forging a change of grade or student withdrawal record; falsifying any document related to a student academic exercise.

**Obstruction:**

Behavior that limits any student's opportunity to participate in any academic exercise or attempts to block access to resources.

\*Examples: destroying a library resource before another student can access it; interfering with another students' efforts or work in any academic exercise; tampering with a computer resource before other students can gain access.

**Misconduct in Creative Endeavors:**

The misrepresentation of another person's ideas, writing, computer images, artistic effort, or artistic performance as one's own.

\*Examples: representing a musical performance as original when it is not; using copyrighted artistic material inappropriately or illegally.

**Professional Behavior:**

Students are required to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the classroom, laboratory, internship or clinical setting as specified in the course syllabus and program requirements.

## Academic Honor Code Disciplinary Procedures

- A. Students who violate the Academic Honor Code will be contacted by the faculty member and referred to the Chief Student Affairs Officer (CSAO). Supporting documentation, when appropriate, will be forwarded to the CSAO. The CSAO will meet with the student, discuss the misconduct and review the Academic Honor Code and Disciplinary Procedures. The CSAO will maintain a file with supporting documentation and the name of the student will be placed on a disciplinary list accessible only to the CSAO and the Chief Academic Officer (CAO).
- B. In the event that the student violates the Academic Honor Code a second time, the student will be required to meet with the CSAO. The student will be placed on academic probation. The student's file and disciplinary list will be maintained by the CSAO.
- C. If the Student violates the Academic Honor Code a third time, they will be subject to sanctions up to disciplinary suspension or expulsion.

## Academic Honors/Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society (BP 3.10)

### President's List

East Central College recognizes students who have demonstrated exemplary academic achievement. Upon completion of at least 12 semester credit hours with a semester grade point average of 3.85 or greater, students will be acknowledged by placement on the President's List.

### Vice President's List

East Central College also recognizes students who have demonstrated superior academic achievement. Upon completion of at least 12 semester credit hours with a semester grade point between 3.50 and 3.84, students will be acknowledged by placement on the Vice President's List.

### Graduation with Honors

Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, Associate of Arts in Teaching, Associate of Fine Arts or Associate of Applied Science degree graduates may earn the designation of "Highest Honors" or "Honors" in recognition of exemplary or superior academic achievement.

- Highest Honors: Students who achieve a cumulative grade point average of 3.85 or greater will be recognized by Highest Honors distinction upon graduation.
- Honors: Students who achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.50 but less than 3.85 will be recognized by Honors distinction upon graduation.

### Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Students who earn a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 after 12 credit hours completed will be invited to join Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.20 is required to maintain membership in the international honor society.

## Academic Standards of Progress

Upon enrollment at East Central College, students are expected to make progress towards graduation. The College defines minimal academic progress based on the following grade point averages:

- Completion of 12-23 semester credit hours of coursework: 1.80 cumulative grade point average and a course completion rate of 67%.
- Completion of 24 or more semester credit hours of coursework: 2.00 cumulative grade point average and a course completion rate of 67%.

Any student with a grade point average that falls below those stated will be placed on academic probation. Students in academic probation status are notified by the Vice President of Student Development and are required to complete an academic improvement plan. Students have a full semester to remedy academic probation.

If at the end of the academic probation semester the probation status is not remedied, the student is automatically suspended for one semester. Students have the right to appeal any academic suspension.

Students on suspension are notified in writing by the Vice President of Student Development with instructions on how a student may appeal.

Upon completion of the semester of suspension, a student may apply for readmission to the College.

Specific academic programs and eligibility criteria established for various financial aid benefit programs may include additional academic requirements for enrollment, program continuation or graduation.

## Animals on Campus (BP 2.16)

East Central College welcomes the presence of trained Service Animals assisting individuals with disabilities on its campus in areas open to the public consistent with the provisions of this policy and applicable law. An individual with a disability may be accompanied by his/her Service Animal in all areas of the College's facilities where members of the public are permitted. This policy, however, applies only to facilities owned by the College or under its control. There may be restrictions imposed on the use of Service Animals in non-College facilities, such as hospitals, science laboratories or other clinical or internship experience locations. Such restrictions are established by the individual facilities, and the College has no control over such restrictions. If you would like more information regarding, contact Access Services in the Student Service Center in Buescher Hall on main campus at 636-584-6588.

## Attendance Policy (BP 3.23)/Medical Absence Procedure (Adopted 08/25/2014; Revised 02/27/2017)

### **Attendance Policy/Statement**

ECC is an attendance taking institution. All faculty will distribute to students a current course syllabus that includes a statement detailing specific course attendance policy, guidelines and actions. Such course attendance policy will be congruent with the institutional attendance guidelines, as stated here.

### **Institutional Attendance Policy**

Student attendance in class, regardless of the delivery modality, is important for student success. Faculty will take attendance at each class meeting and record attendance in a class record. For a student to be considered attending the following conditions must be met:

- A student cannot be absent for all the class meetings held within 14 consecutive calendar days (or a prorated amount based on a reduced class meeting calendar) without having made regular and frequent contact with the instructor regarding class progress.
- A student that fails to meet the attendance policy will be recommended for administrative withdrawal to the registrar's office by reporting a WX on grade reports.

### **Medical Absence Procedure**

Students who are absent due to a medical condition or hospitalization are advised to speak to an academic advisor or counselor to discuss academic and personal safety issues. Depending on the circumstances, the student may be asked to provide documentation from a physician before returning to campus.

## Behavioral Intervention Team

East Central College recognizes the Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) as an official College team. It is the responsibility of the team to review behavioral incidents and concerns and ensure a systematic response to students whose behavior may be disruptive or harmful to themselves or other members of the College community.

## Cell Phone Use

Unless otherwise directed, cell phones should be on silent during classes, laboratories, lectures and performances.

## Change of Student Records

**636-584-6588**

Students should report any change in name, address, phone number, emergency contact information or enrollment status to the Student Service Center as soon as possible.

## Children on Campus (BP 2.15)

Children ages 16 and under, unaccompanied by an adult, are not permitted on campus. No children will be allowed at any time in laboratories, study areas, computer labs, the Fitness Center or nearby locations, unless a child is an integral part of an instructional activity. Exceptions may be approved in advance by an agent of the College.

## Closing the Campus or Site

Any decision to close the main campus or satellite location due to weather or other unforeseen circumstance will be made by the appropriate college administrator. Once a decision is made, the information will be announced on local radio and television, on the college website Facebook and Twitter, via ECC Alert and communicated internally. To sign up for the emergency notification system, simply go to <http://www.eastcentral.edu/campus-safety/emergency-notification/> to receive emails, phone calls and/or texts. The link will take you directly to the sign up form.

## Course Loads/Overloads

Students at East Central College are classified as full time when enrolled in a minimum of 12 credit hours during the fall and spring semesters, or 6 credit hours during the summer. East Central College requires that students who seek enrollment in more than 18 credit hours (nine hours in the summer) receive approval from the Chief Academic Officer or the Chief Student Affairs Officer. Students will be required to provide evidence of their prior academic success.

## Course Repeat Policy (BP 3.9) (effective January 2013)

A student enrolled at East Central College may repeat a course one time, if either the student received a grade of D, F, or W, or the course content and/or credit hour value changed significantly since the original enrollment. If a student needs to repeat a course an additional time or under other circumstances, the student must receive written permission from an appropriate college official. All attempts at the course will be recorded on the official college transcript and the highest grade will be factored into the student's GPA. Financial aid rules may prohibit students from receiving funding for repeating a course, under any circumstances.

### **Procedure:**

- A. Once a course has been repeated, the student grade point average will be computed based on the highest grade awarded in the course. Any course repeat is noted on the official college transcript. Transfer institutions may or may not honor a repeat course grade.
  - B. Students needing written permission to repeat a course as detailed in the policy can find more information from the Registrar's Office, or from an academic advisor.

## Drug-Free College Policy (BP 3.19)

East Central College complies with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, Public Law 101-226 to provide a drug-free, healthful, safe learning and working environment.

The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance, an imitation controlled substance or alcoholic beverages on college premises or off-campus sites (including College vehicles and any private vehicles parked on College premises or off-campus sites), or College sponsored functions is absolutely prohibited. An imitation controlled substance is a substance which, by appearance (including color, shape, size and markings), or by representations made, would lead a reasonable person to believe that a substance is a control substance.

Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary actions, up to student expulsion, and may have legal consequences and/or result in the involvement of civil law enforcement authorities.

Students needing help in dealing with such problems are encouraged to use the College's counseling services (636-584-6580) for referral assistance for treatment centers. Student violations are subject to ECC procedures as outlined in the Student Discipline Policy.

## Expressive Activities Policy (BP 4.43)

East Central College is committed to providing an environment that embraces the principle of freedom of expression for all persons. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that an academic environment is created and maintained that allows for open communication, discussion, and exploration of ideas, while also ensuring that there is no unreasonable disruption of the College function, nor any danger to community members, damage to personal or College property, or unconstitutional interference with the rights of others. Accordingly, all noncommercial expressive activity, including all forms of peaceful assembly, protests, speeches, distribution of literature, carrying signs, and circulating petitions (hereinafter "Expressive Activities"), will be subject to the constitutional limitations set forth in the associated procedures.

## Financial Aid

East Central College participates in a variety of student financial aid programs, such as scholarships, grants, loans, and part-time employment. A number of scholarships are awarded in recognition of academic achievement and special talent, but most aid is awarded on the basis of financial need. While the primary responsibility of paying for college rests with the student and his or her family, a student in need of financial help is encouraged to contact the Financial Aid Office located in the Student Service Center.

### How to Apply

To receive any type of aid, students must first complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which determines eligibility for federal and state financial aid. Apply online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). **ECC's Title IV school code is 008862.** The application requires detailed information regarding the financial status of the student and their family. All information received is held in strict confidence. When the application is processed by the Department of Education, both the student and the college are notified. The Department of Education frequently requires colleges to collect additional documentation from students before financial aid eligibility can be determined. Students should allow four to six weeks for the entire process.

Financial aid recipients are required to submit an official/final high school transcript or passing HiSET/GED certificate to the Registrar. They are also required to submit official college transcripts from all prior colleges/universities attended.

### 2019/2020 Financial Aid Deadlines

#### **December 1 ECC Scholarship Application Priority Deadline for Fall**

Students must submit an ECC Scholarship Application and an Application for Admission by this deadline to be given first consideration for a scholarship award. High school seniors must also arrange to have a current transcript sent from their high school by this deadline. Completion of the FAFSA and additional information will be required after recipients are selected.

#### **February 1 Missouri State Grant Deadline**

To be considered for the grant, students must complete the FAFSA application by this deadline to verify Missouri residency.

#### **July 1 Financial Aid Priority Deadline for Fall**

Students who complete their FAFSA application and provide all documents requested by this date will be held in their classes without payment if they are eligible for financial aid benefits. After

this deadline, students who apply for financial aid must arrange to pay their tuition and fees or set up a payment plan by the payment due date in the Academic Calendar.

### **December 1 Financial Aid Priority Deadline for Spring**

Students who complete their FAFSA application and provide all documents requested by this date will be held in their classes without payment if they are eligible for financial aid benefits. After this deadline, students who apply for financial aid must arrange to pay their tuition and fees or set up a payment plan by the payment due date in the Academic Calendar.

### **May 1 Financial Aid Priority Deadline for Summer**

Students who complete their FAFSA application and provide all documents requested by this date will be held in their classes without payment if they are eligible for financial aid benefits. After this deadline, students who apply for financial aid must arrange to pay their tuition and fees or set up a payment plan by the payment due date in the Academic Calendar.

## **Financial Aid Benefit Programs**

### **Grants**

Several federal and state grants are available to students, based upon financial need.

The Federal Pell Grant program provides eligible students with a foundation of financial aid to help defray the cost of postsecondary education. The amount of the grant varies depending upon the need of the student, the cost of education, and the availability of funds. Any person who is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, enrolled as an undergraduate student, and working toward the first baccalaureate degree is eligible to apply for a Federal Pell Grant.

The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) program was established to make post-secondary educational opportunities available to qualified students who would be unable to obtain such benefits without financial assistance. Priority is given to Federal Pell Grant recipients with exceptional need.

Several Missouri State Aid grant programs are awarded on a financial need basis. To be considered for a state award, students must file a FAFSA by February 1.

### **Loans**

Several types of loans are available at East Central College. Loans must be repaid by the student for Federal Loans and by the student or cosigner for Private Loans.

#### **Federal Subsidized Loans**

Subsidized Direct Loans are based upon financial need. Students are required to enroll at least half-time (six credit hours) and make satisfactory academic progress toward a certificate or degree program. An undergraduate student may borrow up to \$3,500 as a freshman and \$4,500 as a sophomore. Information on current interest rates and other details regarding this loan program can be found at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). Repayment of the loan begins six months after the student ceases to pursue at least six credit hours at an institution of higher education.

#### **Federal Unsubsidized Loans**

Unsubsidized Direct Loans are available to students who do not qualify for the full amount of the Subsidized Direct Loan or are eligible to borrow additional funds through this program. These loans are not based upon financial need and the student borrower is responsible for interest accrued while in school and during deferment periods. Information on current interest rates and other details regarding this loan program can be found at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). Repayment of the principal loan amount begins six months after the student ceases to pursue at least six credit hours at an institution of higher education.

#### **Private Loans**

East Central College has three options to choose from for Private Student Loans. Students can compare rates on [www.elmselect.com](http://www.elmselect.com). They each offer different features, interest rates and eligibility requirements. Students who are on Financial Aid Suspension could qualify for a private student loan if they meet the other

requirements. Private loans may require a cosigner. For more information, stop by the Student Service Center to pick up a brochure.

### **PLUS (Parent) Loans**

Effective July 1, 2015, East Central College no longer processes Federal PLUS Loans (Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students). For alternative funding options, please contact the Financial Aid Office.

### **Scholarships - Institutional and East Central Foundation**

There are numerous scholarships available to East Central College students who qualify. Departments within the college offer scholarships to reward academic achievement or performance, and a number of scholarships are made possible through the generosity of businesses, community organizations, and individuals.

Scholarships are available for students who are beginning or resuming their college courses. (Students are urged to apply for scholarships by the priority deadline, i.e. December 1st, to be considered for the following school year.) The scholarship programs and their eligibility requirements are listed online at <https://eastcentral.academicworks.com/opportunities>. The online application requires your eCentral login credentials.

### **A+ Program**

High school graduates who complete the A+ requirements at a high school approved by the Missouri A+ Schools Program are eligible to use their benefits at East Central College. Benefits may be used for 48 months from high school graduation or upon receipt of an Associate of Arts degree or upon completion of 105% of the credit hours required for the program in which the student is currently enrolled. The A+ benefit covers tuition and general fees. Prior to receiving this benefit, students must:

- A. file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and submit all required documents,
- B. submit a signed A+ information form to the Financial Aid Office, and
- C. arrange to have their official high school transcript with the A+ seal sent to the Registrar.

Students are required to enroll full-time, i.e. 12 credit hours in the fall and/or spring and six credit hours in the summer and complete a minimum of 12 credit hours during the fall and spring semester and complete all credits attempted in the summer. A cumulative grade point average of 2.50 or higher is required to remain eligible. Students who attend other institutions full-time during the fall and spring are not eligible to use A+ benefits at ECC during the summer. State benefits are subject to change.

### **Work Study**

East Central College participates in a work-study program funded jointly by the College and the Federal Work-Study Program. To be eligible, students must be enrolled in at least six credit hours and must submit the FAFSA form and all required documents prior to employment. For summer, students must be enrolled in at least six credit hours for both summer and fall and have a complete financial aid file for the fall semester. Students must maintain satisfactory grades while working on campus for continued eligibility. Financial Aid will determine and inform the student if they qualify for the work study program. The number of hours of work a week will be based on the budget and the student's financial qualifications for the maximum of 19 ¾ hours per week. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information or apply for jobs in the Human Resources Office.

### **Veterans Benefits**

Veterans may be eligible for educational benefits under one or more of the following programs:

- Chapter 30 – Montgomery GI Bill© Active Duty
- Chapter 33 – Post 9/11 GI Bill©

- Chapter 1606 – Montgomery GI Bill© Selected Reserve
- Chapter 1607 – Reserve Educational Assistance Program
- Chapter 35 – Survivors’ and Dependents’ Educational Assistance
- Chapter 31 – Veterans’ Vocational Rehabilitation Program

Each program or chapter has different eligibility requirements. The Veterans Administration (VA) awards benefits to eligible students based upon information provided by the Department of Defense. Monthly benefit amounts are determined by enrollment status and are paid directly to the student by the VA. Chapter 31 can be used to charge tuition/fees/books/supplies. Chapter 33 can be used to charge tuition/fees. Students in all other chapters are responsible for payment of tuition/fees by the appropriate due date. Applications for veterans’ benefits are available in the Student Service Center or online at [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov). Students receiving veterans’ benefits are eligible to apply for other financial aid programs.

### **Missouri Returning Heroes’ Education Act**

Information on the Missouri Returning Heroes Act can be found at the following links: [Senate Bill 830](#) and [MRHA Q & A](#).

### **Agency Funding**

Agency funding is for those student who would like to take advantage of funding through outside programs such as Trade Adjustment Assistance (TRA), Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) formerly known as Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

### **Maintaining Financial Aid Eligibility**

#### **Student Rights and Responsibilities**

Students receiving financial aid have certain rights and responsibilities. The applicant must, without exception, report any of the following changes to the Financial Aid Office: (a) withdrawal from school, (b) transfer to another school, (c) change in enrollment status, (d) name change, (e) address change or parents’ address change, and (f) joining military service.

The financial aid applicant is responsible for obtaining, completing and filing the proper financial aid application, statements, and forms each year on a timely basis. The applicant has the right to seek and receive full information and advising/counseling from the Financial Aid Office in regard to any financial matter. If the family’s financial circumstances change due to death, divorce, marriage, disability, long-term unemployment or low income, the applicant’s eligibility may change. The applicant must take the initiative to notify the Financial Aid office of these changes.

Correct information must be provided on all financial aid forms. False reporting of information on financial aid application forms is a violation of law and may be considered a criminal offense.

An applicant for financial aid must return all additional documentation, verification, corrections, and/or new information requested by either the Financial Aid Office or the agency to which the financial aid application or confidential statement was submitted.

The applicant is responsible for reading and understanding all forms requiring a signature and for retaining copies for his/her records. Applicants must accept responsibility for all signed agreements. A student accepting a College Work Study Award must perform the work that is agreed upon by the applicant and the supervisor before funds will be disbursed. The student is also responsible for understanding the school’s refund procedures and policies.

### **Minimum Standards of Academic Progress for Financial Aid Recipients**

All students are required to meet the “minimum standards of academic progress” in order to receive federal and state financial aid. The policy of East Central College, in accordance with Title IV federal regulations, requires:

- Successful completion of at least 12 semester hours of coursework with a grade point average of 1.80.

- Successful completion of at least 24 semester hours of coursework with a grade point average of 2.00.
- Successful completion of 67% of all coursework attempted.
- Successful completion of a specified program of study within 150% of time allowed to earn a degree.

Note: Successful completion of a course does not include grades of W, WX, F, I, NC or H.

Additional information is available in the Student Service Center or the college website:

<http://www.eastcentral.edu/finaid> under Satisfactory Academic Progress.

### **Financial Aid Warning or Suspension**

Students who do not meet the “minimum standards for academic progress” will be placed on financial aid warning for one semester. During this warning period, students may continue to receive aid. Failure to meet the policy standards after the warning semester will result in financial aid suspension and loss of financial aid.

In certain situations, students may appeal their suspension by submitting a Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal form to the Director of Financial Aid. Documentation of extenuating circumstances may be required.

### **Return of Title IV Funds**

Students who have been awarded federal financial aid funds are required to earn these funds by attending classes through at least 60% of the period of enrollment. Students who quit attending or withdraw from all courses prior to the 60% point in the semester or receive all failing or withdrawal grades for the semester, but have already received their federal financial aid disbursement for the semester, may have been overpaid. If an overpayment occurs, the student is required to repay a portion of the funds to the school. For a full description of this policy please visit the Financial Aid Office or college website <http://www.eastcentral.edu/finaid/> under Return to Title IV Funds brochure.

## **Foundation Seminar/Campus Orientation**

Foundation Seminar, a freshman studies course, is a one credit hour course, introducing the student to college. Topics covered include the skills necessary to be successful in the college environment, such as time management, academic integrity, technology for the classroom, and creative/critical thinking. Attendance at Campus Orientation is a required element of this course. Foundation Seminar is a required course for all degrees and certificates at East Central College.

Except visiting students, non-degree-seeking students, and students who have completed a certificate or degree from a regionally accredited institution with at least a 2.0 GPA, all first-time ECC students will be required to take Foundation Seminar concurrent with a new student’s first semester of coursework at East Central College.

- This rule applies to all new students regardless of their enrollment status (part-time or full-time).
- Students who have successfully completed an equivalent first-year seminar course at another institution and transferred that credit into ECC will be exempt from the class.
- As soon as a non-degree seeking student becomes a degree-seeking student or completes 15 credit hours, the student will be required to take Foundation Seminar.
- Students who do not earn a passing grade in Foundation Seminar during their first semester will be required to retake the class until they pass the class.

Campus Orientation is a required program to introduce new students to the campus, the faculty and staff, and the many services organized around student needs. The program is scheduled before the start of the fall and spring semesters on the main campus and ECC-Rolla.

# Grades

## Grading System (BP 3.6)

The faculty at East Central College have sole responsibility for assignment of grades to students, based upon student academic performance and other criteria as described in the official course syllabus provided to each student. These criteria have been developed by the faculty and are approved by the academic administration of the College.

## Grade Descriptions

Each faculty member's assignment of grades reflects the following standard college grading scale and corresponding grade points earned:

| <u>Grade</u> | <u>Explanation</u>        | <u>Grade Quality Points Per Credit Hour</u> |
|--------------|---------------------------|---|
| A            | Superior                  | 4   |
| B            | Above Average             | 3   |
| C            | Average                   | 2   |
| D            | Below Average, Passing    | 1   |
| F            | Failing, No Credit        | 0   |
| W            | Withdrawal, No Credit     | 0   |
| WX           | Administrative Withdrawal | 0   |
| I            | Incomplete                | 0   |
| H            | Audit                     | 0   |
| P            | Pass                      | 0   |

At the end of each academic semester, faculty are required to submit final course grades online through eCentral and file a record of the grade and the criteria used to arrive at the official grade with the appropriate instructional division. Grades are available to students via eCentral on the College website. All submitted grades become part of the student's official record (transcript) and are used in the computation of the semester grade point average and the student's cumulative grade point average.

## Other Grade Options

### Mid-semester Progress Reports

In addition to final grades, faculty may report mid-semester student progress. At that time, in addition to the mid-semester grade options of D and F, the following may be reported:

U Unsatisfactory Progress

While not an official transcript grade, U may be used at mid-semester to identify unsatisfactory progress within a course.

### Incomplete (I)

A grade of Incomplete (I) may be recorded for a student who has completed 80% of the required coursework with a passing grade but, because of reasons acceptable to the instructor, has failed to complete all coursework. Each grade of (I) must be accompanied by a written contract with specific terms for satisfactory course completion and the signatures of the instructor and student. All coursework must be completed during the following semester. If class attendance is required, coursework must be completed during the semester when the course is next offered. A final grade will be recorded as determined by the instructor. Students on financial aid should consult with the Financial Aid Office regarding the impact a grade of (I) may have on student financial aid status.

### Audit (H)

A student may elect an audit grade option following the procedures outlined below. Audit (H)

grades carry no credit hour value and will not count in credit hours attempted in certain financial aid programs.

- A. A student is admitted to the College, meets all course admission requirements and registers for the course, paying the usual tuition and fees and enrolls as an audit student. Faculty may or may not require that the audit student take exams but all attendance requirements are the same as other students in the class. A student completing the class and meeting the audit requirements as established by the faculty member will receive a grade of (H) for the class, but no credit hour completion will be associated with the grade. A student who fails to meet the attendance requirement may withdraw or be administratively withdrawn from the class and a grade of (W) will be recorded.
- B. A student is admitted to the College, meets all course admission requirements and registers for the course, paying the usual tuition and fees. Within the College refund period (as defined in the course schedule and available in the Registrar's Office) a student may change status to audit (H). All the procedures for the audit class will then apply.

### **Withdrawal (W or WX)**

A student may initiate the withdrawal from a course and will receive a grade of "W". The grade is not used in calculating the grade point average and, by itself, does not represent the quality of the student's academic performance or conduct.

A student may be withdrawn from a class administratively by the instructor or campus official due to excessive absence or other reason and will receive a grade of "WX".

In either situation, a grade of "W" or "WX" carries no credit hour value and will count in credit hours attempted in certain financial aid programs.

### **Pass (P)**

In some courses and under certain circumstances, a grade of (P) is used to indicate that a student has attained a sufficient level of knowledge within a course or program of study to receive credit. Circumstances that warrant the use of (P) include, but are not limited to, articulated credit, advanced placement, and foreign language credit. In each of these circumstances, credit is awarded but no grade point average points are computed. Students may not request a Pass grade option.

## **Grade Point Average**

Grade point average is determined using the following steps:

1. Exclude for purposes of computation all grades of W, WX, P, I and H
2. For all other grades, multiply the credit hour value of the course by the point value of the grade; this value is the student's grade points
3. Total the number of semester hours attempted in all courses used to determine grade points; this value is the student's hours attempted
4. Divide the grade points by the hours attempted; this number (a value of at least 0.00 and not to exceed 4.00) is the grade point average.

Cumulative grade point average computations will include all courses taken at East Central College plus any courses transferred to and accepted by East Central College.

## **Grade Forgiveness Policy (BP 3.8)**

Students at East Central College may petition for forgiveness; application is limited to grades of (D) or (F) earned in coursework in a single semester.

Grades will remain on the transcript but will be forgiven for purposes of grade point average computation and will be denoted accordingly. This policy applies only to coursework taken at East Central College. Transfer institutions may or may not, at their discretion, honor the grade forgiveness from East Central College. Students should consult with the transfer school regarding its policies.

## Criteria and Procedures for Grade Forgiveness

- A. Policy limits grade forgiveness to a single semester of coursework.
- B. Petitions are limited to students who have not attended ECC for a minimum of two consecutive semesters (excluding summer) OR who have changed his/her major. Students who wish to maintain continuous enrollment may seek relief under the Grade Replacement Policy.
- C. Academic Grade Forgiveness may be invoked only once.
- D. Upon receipt of a degree from East Central College, a student is no longer eligible for Academic Grade Forgiveness.
- E. Use of the Academic Grade Forgiveness Policy does not preclude a student from use of the college's Grade Replacement Policy for coursework taken during other semesters.
- F. Academic Grade Forgiveness Policy applies only to coursework taken at East Central College.
- G. Forgiven coursework and grades will remain on the student's official transcript (with proper annotation) but will not count toward any program/graduation requirement or be computed in any grade point average.
- H. Grade Forgiveness will not retroactively impact a student's status with respect to any financial aid program or other student assistance program.
- I. Academic Grade Forgiveness is not revocable.

## Graduation Requirements

**636-584-6553**

In order to receive a degree or certificate from East Central College, students must satisfactorily complete the prescribed course requirements for a degree or certificate program as specified in the catalog or other current official East Central College document.

### **Students planning to graduate are required to:**

- Achieve a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (a "C" average) on all college level credit earned. (Certain programs may require a higher GPA).
- Complete a minimum of 15 college credit hours at East Central College.
- Complete an exit examination as specified by the College for the degree or certificate earned.
- Settle all financial obligations to East Central College.
- Provide evidence of completed high school diploma or G.E.D. certificate, if not already on file.
- Request from the Registrar, or obtain from the college website, an Application for Graduation, complete and sign the application and obtain an advisor's signature. The application should be submitted to the Registrar's Office in a timely fashion according to following deadlines:

Fall Priority Application Deadline: July 1\*

*Applications will be accepted until September 15*

Spring Priority Application Deadline: December 1\*

*Applications will be accepted until February 15*

Summer Priority Application Deadline: May 1\*

*Applications will be accepted until June 15*

\*Applications received on or before the priority dates listed above will be notified of any graduation deficiencies prior to the beginning of the subsequent semester. Later applicants will be notified as soon as

possible.

### **Second or Subsequent Degree or Certificate**

Any student seeking a second or subsequent degree or certificate must complete all requirements for the desired degree or certificate. In no case will second or subsequent degrees be awarded without the student's completing a minimum of 15 additional semester hours of college-level credit with a minimum overall grade point average of 2.0. Those hours must be earned in residence at East Central College and may not include credit by examination.

## **Identity Verification**

When a student applies for admission, they certify that the information provided is complete and accurate. When a student registers for classes their first semester, they must do so in person. The student must provide a current government issued photo ID which contains the students' first and last names to verify their identity and receive a college photo ID. The ID is required for all college-related business.

## **Information Technology Usage Policy**

Use of the technology resources (computers, networks, telephones, etc.) of East Central College (the "College") is restricted to purposes related the College's mission of education and public services within the context and traditions of academic freedom. Access to the College's technology resources is a privilege, not a right, granted to the College's faculty, staff and students in support of their studies, instruction, academic and student life, College responsibilities, official business of the College, and other College-sanctioned activities. Individuals outside of the College may be granted access to the College's technology resources only with the express, prior authorization of the Director of Information Technology, President, or appropriate administrator, and only for a purpose consistent with the College's mission.

Authorized users of the College's technology resources are expected to act responsibly, ethically and lawfully. At a minimum, authorized users are expected and required to comply with the Rules of Use contained within this policy and with all technology resources limited, suspended or revoked, may be subject to prosecution under federal, state and local law.

### **Rules of Use:**

1. No one will use any of the College's technology resources without proper authorization, nor will anyone assist in, encourage, or conceal from the college any unauthorized use or attempt at unauthorized use of any of the College's technology resources.
  - Each user will take steps to ensure the confidentiality of his or her password or user ID and to protect his or her files, data, printouts and electronic mail from unauthorized users.
  - No one will give any password or user ID for any of the college's technology resources to any unauthorized person.
  - No one will obtain, possess, use or attempt to use anyone else's password or user ID, regardless of how the password or ID was obtained.
  - Any user who determines that someone has made an unauthorized use of his or her account, password, or user ID, will report that breach of security to the College's Director of Information Technology.
2. No one will use the College's technology resources for illegal, commercial or profit-making purposes.
3. No one will use any of the College's technology resources to attempt an unauthorized use, or to interfere with anyone else's legitimate use, of any computer or network facility anywhere.
  - No one will attempt to obtain system privileges to which he or she is not entitled.
  - No one will access or attempt to access anyone else's account, system, files or data without proper authorization.

- No one will use the College's technology resources to engage in any form of academic dishonesty, such as plagiarism or cheating.
  - No one will use the College's technology resources in ways that unnecessarily impede or disrupt the computing activities of others.
  - No one will attempt to prevent others from accessing services.
  - No one will participate in any scheme to deliberately flood a computer with excessive amounts of electronic mail ("mail bombing").
4. No one will attempt to endanger or breach the security or operation of any of the College's technology resources.
    - No one will run nor distribute a program on any of the College's technology resources, unless the user is confident that the program will not harm or endanger the system.
  5. No one will knowingly create, install or distribute a computer virus or any other type of destructive program on any of the College's technology resources, or otherwise damage or destroy any equipment, software or data belonging to the College or any other user.
  6. No one, without proper authorization, will modify or reconfigure the software or hardware of any of the College's technology resources.
  7. No one will use any of the College's technology resources in a manner that violates the privacy of other users.
    - No one, without proper authorization, will access, read, copy, alter or delete any other person's computer, files, electronic mail, or account information.
    - No one will attempt to intercept or otherwise monitor any network communications not explicitly meant for them.
    - No one will create, install or distribute any program that is designed to trick or deceive users into revealing confidential information about themselves.
  8. No one will use any of the College's technology resources to access or transmit images, messages, communications or other materials that can be deemed to be obscene, threatening, harassing, annoying, defamatory, fraudulent or unlawful.
    - No one will use the College's technology resources to access, download or send material that is damaging to the College, including but not limited to obscene or sexually explicit material.
    - No one will transmit on any of the college's technology resources electronic mail or messages that may be deemed to contain profanity or obscenity.
    - Anyone who has received, in his or her opinion, a threatening, obscene, harassing, annoying, defamatory, fraudulent, unlawful or unwanted message, communication or other material will report that to the College's Director of Information Technology.
  9. No one will misrepresent his or her identity or his or her relationship to the college when obtaining computing or network privileges, or when using any of the College's technology resources or in any electronic communication with anyone else.
    - No one will falsely attribute or forge the origin of electronic mail, messages or postings.
  10. No one will install, copy or otherwise use any software or data in violation of applicable copyrights or license agreements.
    - No one will make nor distribute unauthorized copies of software or data contained in the college's technology resources, nor will anyone install or use unauthorized or pirated software on any of the College's technology resources.
  11. Users of the College's resources will only communicate or distribute electronic mail to clearly identified groups of interested individuals who may reasonably be expected to want to receive the transmission, and will not engage in the mass broadcasting of electronic mail nor the distribution of chain letters

(messages asking the recipient to distribute further copies).

- No one will send electronic mail to unwilling recipients, nor participate in the distribution of unsolicited commercial advertising (“spam”) through electronic mass mailings.

12. No one will post any documents or pages on the College’s website that do not comply with these rules or have not been approved by the college’s Web Committee or the Director of Information Technology.

The rules set forth above are intended to help authorized users use the College’s technology resources responsibly and in compliance with the applicable laws. The rules are not intended to be exhaustive, and the College specifically reserves for itself the right to add to and modify these rules within its discretion. The College also specifically reserves the right to enforce its interpretation of these rules, as well as the right to discipline a user or limit, suspend or revoke a user’s ability to use the College’s technology resources if the College, in its opinion, believes that the user has misused or abused those resources, even though the user’s particular conduct may not be specifically listed in the rules above. All users of the College’s technology resources are responsible for being aware of and complying with this policy, as well as with all of the College’s other pertinent policies and procedures.

If a user suspects any violation of the above rules, the user should notify the college’s Director of Information Technology. Users of the College’s technology resources are expected to cooperate with the Director of Information Technology in the operation of these resources and the investigation of any misuse or abuse.

In order to ensure the integrity of the College’s technology resources and compliance with the rules set forth above, the College specifically reserves for itself the right to monitor, inspect and review any and all systems, files, data, mail, communications and other transmissions created, compiled, accessed, stored, or sent on any of the College’s technology resources. Furthermore, in order to ensure the integrity of the College’s technology resources, the College specifically reserves the right to immediately suspend, without any advance notice, the network and computing privileges of any user who is alleged to have misused or abused any of the College’s technology resources. The College, in addition, reserves the right to discard incoming mass mailings that involve unsolicited commercial advertising (“spam”) without notifying the sender or recipient, as well as the right to block all Internet communication from sites that are involved in extensive mass mailings or other disruptive practices or which contain sexually explicit content or other content that is, in the opinion of the College, inconsistent with its mission.

Although the College allows its students, faculty and staff to post pages and messages on its website, the College considers its website to be an official publication of the College and, therefore, reserves for itself the right to actively monitor, modify and remove pages and messages from its website. The College’s Web Committee has overall responsibility for all pages maintained on the college’s website. The content of any pages or messages posted on the College’s website must meet with the approval of the Web Committee and must conform to the rules set forth above and all other applicable rules and policies of the College.

Although the College seeks to provide users with a stable and reliable computer network, the College cannot guarantee against a loss of data, files and/or software as a result of system crashes, network outages, power outages or similar interruptions in service. Accordingly, the College disclaims any liability for loss of data, damages, service interruptions or failure to deliver services. The College also disclaims any responsibility and/or guarantees for data, information and materials contained in systems or sites not developed by the College, such as those obtained through the Internet.

Any questions regarding this policy and its corresponding rules should be directed to the College’s Director of Information Technology.

Review of this policy will be regular and consistent with the development of technology.

## **International Students, Maintaining Student Status**

**636-584-6588**

Students who are not citizens or permanent residents of the United States must contact and meet with the International Student Program Coordinator each semester to maintain their F1 Visa status. Visit the [International Students](#) section of the Admissions webpage for further information.

## Military Duty

**636-584-6566**

A student who is involuntarily called to active military duty before the end of the current semester will be allowed to withdraw in good standing and request a full refund of tuition and fees. Proof of military orders will be required.

## Parents' Rights

East Central College, in compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), releases no restricted personal information without written consent of the student. The Act prohibits college officials from disclosing any records, including grade reports, academic standings, transcripts, or any other records, files, documents, and materials that contain information directly related to the student and by which the student can be individually identified. Authorization for parental access to student records covered by the Act must be made in writing by the student and addressed to the Registrar.

Parents are welcome to attend Campus Orientation prior to their student's first semester.

## Pregnancy Statement

In accordance with Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, East Central College shall treat pregnancy and related conditions as a justification for an excused absence for so long a period of time as is deemed medically necessary by the student's physician. Requests for excused absence related to pregnancy should be directed to the instructor; questions about Title IX should be directed to the Vice President of Student Development.

## Prerequisites, Co-requisites and Concurrent Registration

### Prerequisite

A prerequisite course is a requirement, stated in the course description, which must be fulfilled prior to enrolling in a course. A prerequisite course requirement is usually associated with sequential courses and requires satisfactory completion (grade C or better) of the prerequisite course. Prerequisite courses taken at other institutions will be evaluated based on East Central College's transfer in course procedures. In addition, some departments at the college may use the age of the prerequisite course (typically reviewed if the course was taken five or more years ago) as a factor in determining whether a prerequisite is satisfied.

### Co-requisite

A co-requisite is a requirement that two or more courses be taken in the same semester. The co-requisite requirement is stated in the course descriptions of all courses affected. Typically, any enrollment activity in one co-requisite course will impact enrollment in the other. Activities affected may include withdrawal, audit or grade assignment.

### Concurrent Registration

Courses listed as concurrent must be taken during the same semester. Completion of one course is independent of completion of the concurrent course. Enrollment activity in one course will not affect the other.

## Printing Policy

Students may print in the Learning Center, Library or any open student lab on campus.

New students will be given a free **print card** for 200 print pages when they complete Orientation. Returning students may pick up a similar card from the Learning Center/Library early in the semester. Student ID will be required.

Additional student printing requires the purchase of a print card from one of the following locations at a cost of \$.05 per page, in 20 or 100 page increments. If the card is lost or stolen, the student will be expected to purchase a new card.

- Cashier, 8 am – 6 pm, Monday – Thursday and 8 am – 2:00 pm Fridays
- Bookstore, 8 am – 6 pm, Monday – Thursday and 8 am – 2:00 pm Fridays
- Library, 7:30 am – 7:30 pm Monday – Thursday and 7:30 – 2:00 pm Fridays (Fall and Spring)  
7:30 am – 6:30 pm Monday – Thursday and 7:30 – 2:00 pm Friday (Summer)

Students who take classes at ECC-Rolla, should contact the staff on site for more information on printing procedures.

Community members who are sixteen or older may print in the Learning Center or Library, but first they must 1) obtain a Community Patron Library Card, which requires a Missouri photo ID, and 2) purchase a print card as indicated above.

## Privacy Rights (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act affords students the right to inspect and review their education records within a reasonable period of time. Students have the right to request an amendment of their education records if they believe them to be inaccurate or misleading. They also have the right to request in writing that their education records be disclosed to certain individuals. Students must provide written consent for East Central College to disclose personally identifiable information from their education records, with certain exceptions.

In accordance with the provisions of FERPA, East Central College may provide directory information, which would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. East Central College has designated the following information as “directory information” for the purposes of FERPA: Student’s Name, City of Residence, Program of Study, Academic Classification (Freshman/Sophomore and Full-time/Part-time), Participation in Recognized Activities, including photographs of sponsored activities, Dates of Attendance, including matriculation and withdrawal dates, Degrees, Certificates, Recognitions, and Awards received, Individual or Group Photographs. Additionally, East Central College may release lists of students that qualify for academic honors, as well as lists of graduates, to paper and digital media publications.

Students have the right to prohibit the release of their own directory information by notifying the Registrar in writing. Students should consider carefully the consequences of a decision to withhold directory information. In such cases, East Central College will not release any of this “directory information;” thus, any future requests for such information from non-institutional persons or organizations will be refused.

### **FERPA Annual Notice to Reflect Possible Federal and State Data Collection and Use**

As of January 3, 2012, the U.S. Department of Education's FERPA regulations expand the circumstances under which your education records and personally identifiable information (PII) contained in such records — including your Social Security Number, grades, or other private information — may be accessed without your consent. First, the U.S. Comptroller General, the U.S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or state and local education authorities ("Federal and State Authorities") may allow access to your records and PII without your consent to any third party designated by a Federal or State Authority to evaluate a federal- or state-supported education program. The evaluation may relate to any program that is "principally engaged in the provision of education," such as early childhood education and job training, as well as any program that is administered by an education agency or institution. Second, Federal and State Authorities may allow access to your education records and PII without your consent to researchers

performing certain types of studies, in certain cases even when we object to or do not request such research. Federal and State Authorities must obtain certain use-restriction and data security promises from the entities that they authorize to receive your PII, but the Authorities need not maintain direct control over such entities. In addition, in connection with Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems, State Authorities may collect, compile, permanently retain, and share without your consent PII from your education records, and they may track your participation in education and other programs by linking such PII to other personal information about you that they obtain from other Federal or State data sources, including workforce development, unemployment insurance, child welfare, juvenile justice, military service, and migrant student records systems.

## Program Evaluation

A program evaluation summarizes a student's progress toward degree or certificate completion. Login to eCentral/Student Planning online registration and select "My Progress." User name and password are required.

## Registration/Waitlist Process

**After completing the admission application process and appropriate placement testing,**

### **All NEW students:**

1. Must check in with a Student Services representative to make an appointment or meet with an advisor to register for first semester classes.
2. Must have an active academic program. If needed, student should complete the Declaration of Academic Program form with an advisor.
3. Should bring the following required documents when meeting with their advisor: previous college credit transcripts and placement test scores.

### **All RETURNING Students:**

1. Must meet with their assigned academic advisor.\*\*
2. Should bring the following documents when meeting with their advisor: degree plan (obtained from ECC website), transcript, current class schedule, and program evaluation (last three items may be obtained from eCentral).

**Early Registration** (Begins the first day of registration and ends the day before fees are due)

1. To enroll, students must have an advisor approve their class schedule. Registration may be done online or in person. New students must first complete the Admissions process, including freshman assessment testing, as required.
2. Adding a class
  - a. With advisor approval, open classes may be added online or in person.
  - b. With advisor, Instructor, and Division Chairperson approval, closed classes may be added.
3. With advisor approval, dropping a class may be done online or in person.
4. Withdrawing from all classes after the start of a semester requires completion of the *Request to Withdraw from All Classes* form. The [Complete Withdrawal Form](#) is available at the Student Service Center and online. Signatures from Financial Aid, a General Advisor, and the Cashier are required before submitting the form to the Student Service Center.
5. Waitlisting a class is possible, in certain classes. Classes with a waitlist are identified with a waitlist statement on the note section of the class on the class schedule. If a waitlist is available and with advisor approval, students may join the course waitlist online or in

person. If an opening occurs in the course, the student is notified via student email and given 24 hours to respond. The student email account must be activated in order to receive the notification.

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**Registration** (Begins the day fees are due and ends when the class begins)

**RETURNING Students:**

If a student enrolls when faculty are on campus during final exams week or pre-semester week, they are encouraged to meet with their assigned advisor.

1. Students enrolling must have an advisor approve their class schedule. Registration may be done online or in person. New students must first complete the Admissions process, including freshman assessment testing – as required.
2. Adding a class
  - a. Open classes may be added online or in person, with advisor approval.
  - b. With advisor and Division Chairperson (or Director of the Rolla Campus) approval, closed classes may be added.
3. With advisor approval, dropping a class may be done online (before the semester begins) or in person.
4. Withdrawing from all classes requires completion of the *Request to Withdraw from All Classes* form. The [Complete Withdrawal Form](#) is available at the Student Service Center and online. Signatures from Financial Aid, a General Advisor, and the Cashier are required before submitting the form to the Student Service Center.
5. Waitlisting a class is possible, in certain classes, when all sections of a course are full. Classes with a waitlist are identified with a waitlist statement on the note section of the class on the class schedule. If a waitlist is available and with advisor approval, students may join the course waitlist online or in person. If an opening occurs in the course, the student is notified via student email and given 24 hours to respond. The student email account must be activated in order to receive the notification.

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**Late Registration** To enroll, students must have an advisor approve their class schedule and must obtain instructor approval for each course. Registration must be done in person. New students must first complete the Admissions process, including freshman assessment testing – as required.

1. Adding a class
  - a. With instructor and advisor signatures, open classes may be added in person.
  - b. Closed classes - Students may request the instructor's signature and a written recommendation from their advisor.
2. With advisor approval, dropping a class may be done in person.
3. Withdrawing from all classes requires completion of the *Request to Withdraw from All Classes* form. The [Complete Withdrawal Form](#) is available at the Student Service Center

and online. Signatures from Financial Aid, a General Advisor, and the Cashier are required before submitting the form to the Student Service Center.

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**After Late Registration** To enroll, students must obtain permission from the Vice President of Student Development. All steps outlined in Late Registration process will apply.

1. Adding a class
  - a. With instructor and advisor signatures, open classes may be added in person.
  - b. Closed classes – Student may request the instructor’s signature and a written recommendation from their advisor which they submit to the Division Chairperson (or Director of Rolla Campus) for approval.
2. With advisor approval, dropping a class may be done in person. Beginning the fifth week of the semester, or prorated time for shorter courses, instructor signature is required to drop a class. After the official withdrawal deadline\*, students are not able to withdraw from classes.
  - a. Administrative Withdrawal (WX) due to attendance can occur at any time. Please see the “Administrative Withdrawal” section of the Student Handbook for more information regarding this action.
3. Withdrawing from all classes requires completion of the *Request to Withdraw from All Classes* form. The [Complete Withdrawal Form](#) is available at the Student Service Center and online. Signatures from Financial Aid, a General Advisor, and the Cashier are required before submitting the form to the Student Service Center. After the official withdrawal deadline\*, students are not able to withdraw from classes.

**\*Definitions:**

- **Standard course offering** refers to a course which meets the full semester, i.e. 16 weeks in the fall or spring semester or 8 weeks in the summer semester.
  - **Prorated time** refers to the deadlines applied to shorter courses.
  - **Official withdrawal deadline is posted on the academic calendar and is the final day of the week when 75% of the term is completed.**
- 

**Prerequisite Waivers:**

Course prerequisite waivers must be approved by the course instructor and/or division chair and submitted with course registration. Students who are enrolled in the prerequisite at the time of registration, but do not successfully pass the prerequisite with a grade of C or higher, must drop the subsequent course.

**Submission of Registration Documents**

All completed forms must be submitted to Student Services in Union, or Rolla,.

**Note:** Exceptions to the above procedures may be made on a limited basis by the Vice President of Academic Affairs or the Vice President of Student Development.

## Residency Status Policy (BP 3.4)

Student residency status will be determined at the time of enrollment at East Central College. Student residency guidelines followed by the College will be those adopted by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education. In the case of international students or resident aliens, residency will be determined based upon both federal determinations of status and state guidelines. A copy of such guidelines may be found in the Office of the Registrar.

## Residency Change Process

**636-584-6558**

### **East Central College District**

To qualify for in-district tuition and fees, a student must reside in one of the following school districts: Washington, Union R-11, St. Clair-R13, Sullivan C-2, New Haven, Crawford County R-1 (Bourbon), Franklin County R-2, Lonedell R-14, Strain-Japan R-16, or Spring Bluff R-15.

### **Definition**

A resident of the ECC district is:

- A dependent student whose parents or legal guardians have established residence within the district; or
- An independent student (adult student or emancipated minor) who has established residence within the district prior to enrollment in the college.

### **Determining Resident Status**

Attendance at an institution of higher education is considered a temporary presence and does not establish resident status. The burden of proof rests with the student. Questions should be directed to the Student Service Center Coordinator at 636-584-6588.

### **Proof of Residency – Primary factors to be considered:**

In-district residency may generally be obtained by presence within the College district for the primary purpose of full-time employment or retirement or for a minimum of twelve consecutive months along with proof of intent to make Missouri a permanent home for an indefinite period of time.

### **Proof of Residency – Secondary factors to be considered:**

- Continuous presence in the district during those periods not enrolled as a student;
- Presence within the district upon marriage to a district resident and the maintenance of a common domicile with the resident spouse;
- Substantial reliance on sources within the district for financial support;
- Former domicile within the district and maintenance of significant connections while absent; and
- Ownership of a home within the district.

### **Supporting Evidence**

The following documents may be used as evidence if issued in the student's name (or name of parent/guardian of dependent student), dated prior to enrollment and indicates current address. A post office box will not qualify.

- Contract for purchase of property
- Lease or rental agreement
- Utility contract and/or utility bill

- Bank statement
- Tax receipt (payment of income, personal, and property taxes in the district)
- Voter registration
- Automobile registration or operator's license
- Validation of full-time employment

### **Residency Change Request**

[Submit Residency Change Request](#): and copies of supporting evidence prior to the beginning of the semester to the Student Service Center, 1964 Prairie Dell Road, Union, MO 63084. Note: Refunds will not be issued for semesters already completed.

## **Safety and Security on Campus/Jeanne Clery Act**

East Central College endeavors to provide a safe learning and working environment for everyone. In the event that students, visitors, and/or employees are perceived to be at risk, they will be warned in a timely manner by all available means.

### **Emergency Procedures**

#### **636-584-6600**

When a crime occurs or someone is in danger, contact the local police department immediately by dialing "911." After calling the police, contact the Campus Police by dialing 636-584-6600. Students and employees should immediately report all crimes to the local police as well as Campus Police.

A student concern/incident report should be filed with the Vice President of Student Development within 24 hours. The form is available online on the [ECC Cares](#) webpage. The individual's right to privacy will be respected.

For information regarding specific emergency procedures, please [view the ECC Emergency Plan](#).

### **ECC Alert**

East Central College has an emergency text messaging, phone and email notification system. Called ECC Alert, the system is capable of sending text messages instantly and simultaneously to students and employees who register their cell phones, landlines and/or preferred email addresses.

These notifications will apply to weather cancellations, delays, and emergency conditions. To receive emergency alerts and updates from anywhere, sign up now at [ECC Alert](#).

### **Resources**

Counseling services and referrals are available at either ECC location.

To obtain information on registered sex offenders, students should visit the Missouri State Highway Patrol's website: <http://www.mshp.dps.mo.gov> or call 1-888-767-6747.

### **Title IX Coordinator**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, is a Federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities. Inquiries concerning Title IX may be directed to the Vice President for Student Development, 131 Buescher Hall, 1964 Prairie Dell Road, Union, MO 63084, 636-584-6565 or [stnotice@eastcentral.edu](mailto:stnotice@eastcentral.edu).

## Crime Statistics

As required by the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act of 2000, the following information represents crime reported to authorities on and around the Union campus and extension centers. Additional information is available the [Student Consumer Information](#) section of the ECC webpage. Campus Security Policies, Crime Statistics and Crime Log can be found under Health and Safety. A paper copy of the report can be obtained from ECC's Office of Institutional Research, Assessment and Planning.

### East Central College Crime Statistics 2015- 2017

| <b>Criminal Offenses</b>          |                  |      |      |                   |      |      |                        |      |      |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------|------|-------------------|------|------|------------------------|------|------|
|                                   | <b>On Campus</b> |      |      | <b>Non Campus</b> |      |      | <b>Public Property</b> |      |      |
|                                   | 2015             | 2016 | 2017 | 2015              | 2016 | 2017 | 2015                   | 2016 | 2017 |
| Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter | 0                | 0    | 0    | 0                 | 0    | 0    | 0                      | 0    | 0    |
| Negligent Manslaughter            | 0                | 0    | 0    | 0                 | 0    | 0    | 0                      | 0    | 0    |
| Sex Offenses – Forcible           | 0                | 0    | 0    | 0                 | 0    | 0    | 0                      | 0    | 0    |
| Sex Offenses – Non-Forcible       | 0                | 0    | 0    | 0                 | 0    | 0    | 0                      | 0    | 0    |
| Robbery                           | 0                | 0    | 0    | 0                 | 0    | 0    | 0                      | 1    | 0    |
| Aggravated Assault                | 0                | 0    | 0    | 0                 | 0    | 0    | 0                      | 0    | 0    |
| Burglary                          | 0                | 0    | 0    | 0                 | 0    | 0    | 0                      | 0    | 0    |
| Motor Vehicle Theft               | 0                | 0    | 0    | 0                 | 0    | 0    | 0                      | 0    | 0    |
| Arson                             | 0                | 0    | 0    | 0                 | 0    | 0    | 0                      | 0    | 0    |

| <b>Arrests</b>                      |                  |      |      |                   |      |      |                        |      |      |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------|------|-------------------|------|------|------------------------|------|------|
|                                     | <b>On Campus</b> |      |      | <b>Non Campus</b> |      |      | <b>Public Property</b> |      |      |
|                                     | 2015             | 2016 | 2017 | 2015              | 2016 | 2017 | 2015                   | 2016 | 2017 |
| Weapons: Carrying, Possessing, Etc. | 0                | 0    | 0    | 0                 | 0    | 0    | 0                      | 0    | 0    |
| Drug Abuse Violations               | 0                | 1    | 1    | 0                 | 0    | 0    | 0                      | 1    | 0    |
| Liquor Law Violations               | 0                | 1    | 2    | 0                 | 0    | 0    | 0                      | 0    | 0    |

| <b>Disciplinary Actions</b>         |                  |      |      |                   |      |      |                        |      |      |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------|------|-------------------|------|------|------------------------|------|------|
|                                     | <b>On Campus</b> |      |      | <b>Non Campus</b> |      |      | <b>Public Property</b> |      |      |
|                                     | 2015             | 2016 | 2017 | 2015              | 2016 | 2017 | 2015                   | 2016 | 2017 |
| Weapons: Carrying, Possessing, Etc. | 0                | 0    | 0    | 0                 | 0    | 0    | 0                      | 0    | 0    |
| Drug Abuse Violations               | 0                | 0    | 0    | 0                 | 0    | 0    | 0                      | 0    | 0    |
| Liquor Law Violations               | 0                | 0    | 0    | 0                 | 0    | 0    | 0                      | 0    | 0    |

| <b>Incidents/Arrests</b> |                  |  |  |                   |  |  |                        |  |  |
|--------------------------|------------------|--|--|-------------------|--|--|------------------------|--|--|
|                          | <b>On Campus</b> |  |  | <b>Non Campus</b> |  |  | <b>Public Property</b> |  |  |

|                           | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>Domestic Violence</b>  | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| <b>Dating Violence</b>    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| <b>Stalking Incidents</b> | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |

| <b>Hate Crimes</b>  |
|---|
| There were no reported hate crimes for the years 2015, 2016 and 2017. |

**Note:** On Campus & Public Property statistics includes the Main (Union) Campus, ECC-Washington, ECC-Rolla Main and ECC-Sullivan; any public property surrounding each location. Non Campus statistics include the ECC-Rolla North and ECC-Warrenton. ECC-Rolla North did not open and offer classes until January 2014. East Central College is no longer conducting operations at the Sullivan location.

### Student Conduct Policy (BP 3.17)

Admission to East Central College carries an obligation to conduct one's self as a responsible member of the College community. Individual students and student organizations are required to observe the policies of the College and the laws of city, state, and federal governments. Student and organizational behavior must be compatible with the educational objectives of the College thereby maintaining safety standards and promoting the health and wellness of each member of the College community. Students are expected to approach each academic course and activity with a willingness to learn and an attitude of cooperation. Students and student organizations are expected to uphold the key principles of honor, truthfulness, and respect for people and property. Prohibited conduct will lead to student discipline.

#### Prohibited Conduct:

- A. Violations of standards established by College academic programs for student conduct in areas and classes such as the gym, fitness center, locker rooms, clinical settings, labs, shops and internships.
- B. Violation of or disregard for safety policies and procedures, e.g. lab safety contract.
- C. Violation of the Tobacco-Free Campus Policy.
- D. Violation of East Central College's Information Technology Policy.
- E. All forms of academic dishonesty such as cheating, aiding or abetting cheating, plagiarism, fabrication or multiple submission of papers in courses without prior instructor consent or representation of others' work as one's own. Refer to Academic Honor Code.
- F. Knowingly furnishing false information to the College.
- G. Forgery, alteration, or misuse of College documents, records, or identification, whether in written or electronic form.
- H. Obstruction or disruption of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary procedures, or any other College events or activities, including public service functions and other authorized activities on College premises.

- I. Disturbing others with strong, pervasive odors such as perfume, cologne, body odor, animal odor, alcohol, or illegal substances.
- J. Assault, abuse or conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of another person on College-owned or controlled property or at a College-sponsored or supervised function.
- K. Theft, malicious destruction, damage, misuse, or conversion of property belonging to the College, a College employee, a College student, or a campus visitor.
- L. Unauthorized entry into or use of College facilities.
- M. Violation of local, state, or federal laws on College-owned or controlled property or at College-sponsored or supervised functions.
- N. The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance, an imitation controlled substance, or alcoholic beverages on College premises or at off-campus sites, in College vehicles and in any private vehicles parked on College premises or at off-campus sites or at College-sponsored or supervised functions. An imitation controlled substance is a substance that is not a controlled substance, which by appearance (including color, shape, size, and markings), or by representations made, would lead a reasonable person to believe that a substance is a controlled substance.
- O. Failure to identify one's self when requested to by College officials or College agents or failure to comply with directions of College officials acting in the performance of their duties.
- P. Possession or use of firearms or other weapons, explosives, dangerous chemicals, or fireworks on campus or at College-sponsored or supervised activities.
- Q. Gambling on College-owned or controlled property or at College-sponsored or supervised functions. Charitable or fund raising raffles may be permitted for student organizations with the approval of the Vice President of Student Development.
- R. Violation of the Policy Regarding Student Protections Against Sexual Assault, Relationship Violence, and Stalking.
- S. Violation of College policies regarding Discrimination and Harassment.
- T. Disorderly conduct, breach of public decency, breach of the peace, aiding or inciting another to breach the peace, infringement upon the rights of another or defamation of another either on College property or at College-authorized activities.
- U. Hazing, or any act that intimidates, frightens, or degrades an individual.
- V. Bullying, defined as repeated and/or severe aggressive behavior likely to intimidate or intentionally hurt, control or diminish another person, physically or mentally.
- W. Stalking, defined as engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific member of the College community that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her safety or the safety of others, or to suffer substantial emotional distress. For purposes of this definition, a course of conduct means that two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties by any action, method, device or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property. Stalking may involve physical stalking and/or cyber stalking.
- X. Any aforementioned committed in concert with other persons, may make each participant responsible for the acts of the entire group.

Jurisdiction for this Policy applies to student conduct which occurs on all property owned or operated or maintained by East Central College as well as actions which occur off-campus when the misconduct affects the well-being of students and other members of the College community.

## Student Discipline Policy (BP 3.18)

636-584-6566

All students are expected to meet the expectations of College administrators and faculty and the norms of a civil society and to avoid prohibited conduct (see Student Conduct Policy 3.17). If the need for student discipline arises, students can expect due process as defined by the following procedures.

### Procedures

In most cases, disciplinary actions are meant to be remedial rather than punitive. Ideally, disciplinary proceedings will be conducted informally between the student(s) and the Chief Student Affairs Officer (Vice President of Student Development). However, when this means of resolution is not possible, a student has the right to a formal process of discipline and appeal.

### Definitions

1. Chief Student Affairs Officer (CSAO): the administrator responsible for student services such as counseling and advising.
2. Chief Academic Officer (CAO): the administrator responsible for the oversight and direction of academic programs and faculty.
3. Hearing Committee: A five-member committee called upon for hearings whose membership includes two (2) faculty, two (2) administrative/professional staff, and one (1) support staff member. The CSAO and the CAO are not voting members of the hearing committee, but they are nevertheless involved in the hearing. The CSAO will preside over, and the CAO will present the charges, at all hearings where the misconduct does not involve an academic issue. If the misconduct involves an academic issue, their roles will be reversed.
4. Sanctions: Any action taken during the institutional discipline process, not including those actions an instructor may take within the classroom in cases of academic dishonesty such as assigning a lowered or failing grade for the assignment or class.

### Possible Sanctions

1. Warning: A verbal admonition by a College official regarding a violation of the Student Conduct Policy.
2. Fines, community service, rehabilitation or other restitution: A monetary fee, assigned task or other means of reparation.
3. Disciplinary Probation: A status resulting from a finding of misconduct. The student remains enrolled but under stated conditions.
4. Summary Suspension: An involuntary and immediate separation of the student from the institution when, in the judgment of the CAO, CSAO and/or President, the student presents potential for behavior dangerous or destructive to him/herself, others or College property. Such suspension will be for a limited time until further disciplinary determination is made.
5. Disciplinary Suspension: An involuntary separation of the student from the institution for a specified period of time due to misconduct. Student may be re-admitted following a specified period of time.
6. Expulsion: Permanent loss of student status due to misconduct. Other stated conditions may be applied.

### **Formal Student Disciplinary Process** (Revised June 16, 2014)

Students subject to sanctions will be accorded the opportunity for a hearing before a hearing committee. For a hearing to be held, the student is required to submit a written request for a hearing to the Chief Student Affairs Officer or designee. The following guidelines will be applicable:

1. Students will be informed in writing of the time, date, and location of the hearing, either by personal delivery or certified mail, at least ten calendar days in advance of the hearing.
2. The entire case file will be available for inspection by the student in the office of the Chief Student Affairs Officer during normal business hours. The file, which should be available at least two (2) business days before the hearing, need not include the personal and confidential notes of any College official or participant in the hearing process.
3. The hearing will be conversational and non-adversarial. Formal rules of evidence will not apply. The Chief Student Affairs Officer or designee shall exercise active control over the proceedings to avoid needless consumption of time and to achieve the orderly completion of the hearing. Any person who disrupts the hearing may be excluded.
4. The student may choose to be assisted by a member of the faculty or staff of the institution. Furthermore, the student may be accompanied by legal counsel, although the role of legal counsel will be limited to providing legal advice to the student, and such legal counsel may not participate in any other way.
5. Those assisting the student, except for legal counsel, will be given reasonable time to ask relevant questions of any individual appearing at the hearing, as well as to present relevant evidence. In some circumstances, including those involving sexual assault or other sensitive allegations, the Chief Student Affairs Officer or designee may determine that direct questioning of a witness by the student or the individual assisting the student is not appropriate. In those cases, the student or their representative will submit the questions to the Chief Student Affairs Officer or designee, who will then ask the questions.
6. Whenever possible, the student will be expected to respond to questions asked by the Chief Student Affairs Officer or designee.
7. If the student requests a hearing and fails to appear after proper notice, the hearing committee may either proceed with the hearing in the student's absence or may make a decision without holding a hearing.
8. The hearing will be recorded. The recording(s) shall be kept with the pertinent case file for a minimum of six (6) months.
9. A written decision will be rendered by the hearing committee within five (5) business days after the completion of the hearing. The written decision, which should be five mailed or personally delivered to the student, should contain a brief statement of reasons for any determination leading to sanctions. The student should also be advised as to when a petition for reinstatement would be considered, along with any conditions for reinstatement. The decision of the hearing committee will be final unless a timely appeal is made to the College President.
10. A student who wishes to appeal a disciplinary decision must do so within 30 days of the notice of written decision of the hearing committee by filing a written appeal with the College President. The written notice to the President should state the basis for the appeal.
11. An appeal is limited to the following issues:
  - A. Prejudice or other irregularities that improperly influence the outcome of the disciplinary hearing.

- B. Discovery of new or significant evidence that was not available at the time of the original hearing.
  - C. A sanction that is extraordinarily disproportionate to the violation.
12. The College President will meet with the student and render a decision within seven (7) days. The decision of the President will be final.
  13. In all non-grade appeals, the student may withdraw from College or the class of his/her own volition at any time during the disciplinary process.

## Student Protection Against Discrimination and Harassment BP3.25

(Adopted June 16, 2014)

1. Retaliatory actions based on making complaints of prohibited discrimination or harassment or based on participation in an investigation, formal proceeding or informal resolution concerning prohibited discrimination or harassment.
2. Aiding, abetting, inciting, compelling or coercing discrimination or harassment.

### General Rule

Except as otherwise set forth in Policy, all employees, students and visitors must immediately report to the College for investigation any incident or behavior that could constitute illegal discrimination or harassment.

This Policy addresses illegal discrimination or harassment directed at students, which does not rise to the level of sexual assault, relationship violence or stalking, as those terms are defined in Policy 3.26 Policy Regarding Student Protections Against Sexual Assault, Relationship Violence, and Stalking. Complaints regarding sexual assault, relationship violence or stalking are governed by Policy 3.26.

Policy 3.24 Student ADA Grievance Policy governs grievances by students who believe they have been denied requested accommodations or discriminated against on the basis of a disability in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Sec 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or other related disability statutes. Students may file such a grievance under this Policy 3.25, Policy 3.26, or Policy 3.24; the College's Compliance Officer will determine which Policy governs resolution of the specific complaint.

The College also prohibits illegal discrimination and harassment against employees, and specific information about the College's Policy and response to allegations of illegal discrimination and harassment against employees is found in Policy 5.5.

Definitions – the following definitions apply to this policy:

**Discrimination** – Conferring, refusing or denying benefits or providing differential treatment to a person or class of persons in violation of law based on race, color, religion, gender, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

**Harassment** – A form of discrimination, as defined above, that occurs when the school or work environment becomes permeated with intimidation, ridicule or insult that is sufficiently severe or pervasive enough that it unreasonably alters the employment or educational environment. Behaviors that could constitute illegal harassment include, but are not limited to, the following acts if based on race, color, religion, gender, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law: verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression; stalking; graffiti; display of written material or pictures; name calling; slurs; jokes; gestures; stereotyping; threatening, intimidating or hostile acts; theft; or damage to property.

**Sexual Harassment** – A form of discrimination, as defined above, on the basis of sex. Sexual harassment, which includes sexual assault, includes a variety of unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature ranging from unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexual exploitation, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature, such as sexual assault, that is sufficiently severe to the

point it interferes with or limits a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the College's programs. Sexual assault is a severe form of sexual harassment and one instance may be sufficient to create a hostile environment.

**Complaint**– A verbal or written report of discrimination or harassment made to the Compliance Officer. Compliance Officers

The Board of Trustees designates the following individuals to act as the College's Compliance Officers:

|                                       |                               |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Title IX Administrator                | Title IX Deputy Administrator |
| Section 504 Administrator             | ADA Administrator             |
| Vice President of Student Development | Director of Human Resources   |

East Central College  
1964 Prairie Dell Road

Union, MO 63084  
636-584-6565

East Central College  
1964 Prairie Dell Road

Union, MO 63084  
Phone: 636-584-6712

The Compliance Officer will:

1. Coordinate compliance with this policy and the law.
2. Receive all complaints regarding discrimination and harassment at East Central College.
3. Serve as the College's contact person for compliance with discrimination laws.
4. Investigate or assign persons to investigate complaints; monitor the status of complaints; and recommend consequences.
5. Seek legal advice when necessary to enforce this Policy.
6. Report to the College President and the Board of Trustees aggregate information regarding the number and frequency of complaints and compliance with this Policy.
7. Make recommendations regarding changing this Policy or the implementation of this Policy.
8. Coordinate and institute training programs for College staff and supervisors as necessary to meet the goals of this Policy, including instruction in recognizing behavior that constitutes discrimination and harassment.
9. Perform other duties as assigned by the College President.

#### Reporting a Complaint

Students who believe that they have been victims of illegal discrimination or harassment, may file a formal (verbal, written, or online) complaint with the Vice President of Student Development and it will be promptly investigated. There is no time limit on the filing of complaints. You can file a complaint on [the ECC Cares webpage](#).

As noted above, all employees, students and visitors must immediately report to the College for investigation any incident or behavior that could constitute illegal discrimination or harassment. Such reports should be made to the Vice President of Student Development or the Director of Human Resources, as the College's Compliance Officers. All College employees will instruct persons seeking to make a complaint under this Policy to communicate directly with the College Compliance Officers. Even if the potential victim of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation does not file a complaint, College employees are required to report to the Compliance Officers any observations, rumors or other information regarding actions prohibited by this Policy.

After receiving a complaint, the Compliance Officer to whom the complaint is made will determine the appropriate College Policy for processing the complaint. Once the determination is reached, the

Compliance Officer will notify the student making the complaint of which College policy will govern the disposition of the student's complaint.

### Interim Measures

When a report is made or the College otherwise learns of potential discrimination, harassment or retaliation, the College will, if appropriate, take immediate action to protect the alleged victim, including implementing interim measures. For example, the College may alter a student's class schedule, provide additional support for a student (such as counseling or academic support), suspend an employee pending an investigation, or, if applicable, alter transportation or working situations. The College will take immediate steps to prevent retaliation against the alleged victim, any person associated with the alleged victim, or any witnesses or participants in the investigation. These steps may include, but are not limited to, notifying students, employees and others that they are protected from retaliation, ensuring that they know how to report future complaints, and initiating follow-up contact with the complainant to determine if any additional acts of discrimination, harassment or retaliation have occurred. The College will provide these types of interim measures if requested by the victim and if such measures are reasonably available and appropriate in the circumstances. Individuals are encouraged to speak with the College's Compliance Officers about the availability of such measures. In the case of a confidential reporting, the Reporting Party should speak with the College counselor to whom they made the report about any requested interim measures.

### Procedure for Investigation and Resolution of Complaints

In determining whether alleged conduct constitutes discrimination or harassment, the College will consider the surrounding circumstances, the nature of the behavior, the relationships between the parties involved, past incidents, the context in which the alleged incidents occurred and all other relevant information. Whether a particular action or incident constitutes a violation of this Policy requires a determination based on all of the facts and surrounding circumstances. If, after investigation, College officials determine that it is more likely than not that discrimination, harassment or other prohibited behavior has occurred, the College will take immediate corrective action.

The following procedures will be used as a guideline for investigating complaints:

1. Interview the person making the complaint regarding the nature and specifics of the incident(s);
2. Interview the person accused; and
3. Interview other possible witnesses, if appropriate.

#### **A. Complaints Against Employees of the College**

If a complaint under this Policy is against an employee of the College, the complaint will be investigated by the Director of Human Resources or designee, and will be handled according to the procedures found in Policy 5.5. Employees who violate this Policy will be disciplined, up to and including employment termination.

#### **B. Complaints Against College Students**

If a complaint under this Policy is against another student, the complaint will be investigated by the Vice President of Student Development or designee.

Both the person making the complaint and the person accused will have equal opportunity to provide relevant information, including the identities of any witnesses they believe should be contacted as part of the investigation.

After reviewing all the relevant information, the Vice President of Student Development or designee will render a determination as to whether the Policy was violated and what additional actions may be necessary, including disciplinary action against the person accused and/or making available to the victim appropriate College resources.

Students who violate this policy will be disciplined, which may include suspension or expulsion. Other possible sanctions are found in the Student Discipline Code.

The Vice President of Student Development will notify both the complainant and the person accused of his or her determination, but, unless otherwise authorized by law, will only notify the complainant of any sanctions imposed against the accused student, to the extent such sanctions impact the complainant, such as a determination that the accused may not come within a certain distance of the complainant.

#### B.1. Appeals

If either the person making the complaint or the person accused disagrees with the Vice President of Student Development or designee's determination, either student may request that the complaint be handled according to the procedures found in the Student Discipline Policy, Policy 3.18.

#### Confidentiality, Records and Counseling

To the extent practicable, the College will endeavor to keep confidential the identity of the person filing a complaint, witnesses or other parties interviewed, and any complaint or other document that is generated or received pertaining to complaints. Information may be disclosed if necessary to further the investigation, or resolution of a complaint, or if necessary to carry out disciplinary measures. The College will disclose information to the College's attorney, law enforcement, and others when necessary to enforce this Policy or when required by law.

In implementing this Policy, the College will comply with state and federal laws regarding the confidentiality of student and employee records.

Information regarding any resulting employee or student disciplinary action will be maintained and released in the same manner as any other disciplinary record.

Any student who believes he/she has been a victim of illegal discrimination or harassment has the option of speaking confidentially to a College counselor. Counseling services are available at no cost to the student and referrals to community resources are available. College counselors can also help the alleged victim identify other available College resources.

All other employees are mandated to report the information regarding illegal discrimination or harassment to the Compliance Officer.

## Student Protections Against Sexual Assault, Relationship Violence, and Stalking (BP3.26) (Adopted June 16, 2014)

East Central College is committed to maintaining an educational environment that is free from illegal discrimination or harassment in admission or access to its programs, activities and facilities. This includes conduct on property owned or operated by the College, at College-sanctioned functions, and certain off-campus events. Sexual assault, as that term is defined in this Policy, is a form of sexual harassment and is strictly prohibited. Relationship violence and stalking may also be forms of discrimination and harassment and are also strictly prohibited. For purposes of this Policy, "relationship violence" refers to both dating and domestic violence, as those terms as defined below.

The College also prohibits:

1. Retaliatory actions based on making complaints of prohibited discrimination or harassment or based on participation in an investigation, formal proceeding or informal resolution concerning prohibited discrimination or harassment.

2. Aiding, abetting, inciting compelling or coercing discrimination or harassment.
3. Discrimination or harassment against any person because of such person's association with a person protected from discrimination or harassment as described in this Policy.

### **General Rule**

The College is committed to ensuring that all students feel and are free to benefit fully from the College's programs and activities. As part of this commitment, the College seeks to create an environment that encourages individuals to report incidents of sexual assault, relationship violence and stalking. Reporting allows the College to provide support to victims, and is the only procedure through which the College can address offenders and attempt to reduce the risk of future occurrences. This Policy provides information about how individuals may report allegations of sexual assault, relationship violence and stalking to the College, how the College responds to such reports, as well as information about resources available to victims of sexual assault relationship violence and stalking.

In investigating and responding to complaints of sexual assault, relationship violence or stalking, the College's primary focus is to address the sexual assault, relationship violence or stalking, and, in most cases, the College will grant amnesty to a Reporting Party for other potential violations, such as alcohol violations. Such potential violations should not discourage a Reporting Party from notifying the College of incidents of sexual assault, relationship violence or stalking.

This Policy addresses behavior where the Accused Individual is a student. Behavior that does not rise to the level of sexual assault, relationship violence or stalking, as those terms are defined in this Policy, may still violate College Policy, and may be addressed by the College's Policy regarding Student Protections Against Discrimination and Harassment (Policy 3.25) or the College's Student Conduct Policy (Policy 3.17). In the event the Accused Individual is an employee, the reporting procedures and resources are the same as set forth in this Policy, but the investigation and response to allegations against employees is found in Policy 5.5.

### **Definitions – the following definitions apply to this Policy:**

**Accused Individual** – Any person identified by the Reporting Party as the perpetrator of sexual assault, relationship violence or stalking.

**Consent** – An affirmative, unambiguous, and voluntary agreement to engage in a specific sexual activity during a sexual encounter. The person initiating sexual activity must obtain the other person's consent throughout the duration of the sexual activity. Consenting persons must act freely, voluntarily, and have knowledge of the act or transaction involved. Consent will not be implied by silence or mere passivity from a state of intoxication or unconsciousness; it may not be inferred in circumstances in which consent is not clear, including, but not limited to situations that involve the absence of "no" or "stop," or those that involve the existence of a prior or current relationship or sexual activity. Consent cannot be given if the Accused Individual has taken advantage of a position of influence which that person has over the Reporting Party. Consent cannot be given by an individual who is incapacitated through the effect of drugs or alcohol or for any other reason. Consent may be withdrawn at any time.

**Dating Violence** – Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. The existence of such a relationship will be determined based on a consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. For the purpose of this definition: (a) A social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature means a relationship which is characterized by the expectation of affection or sexual involvement between the parties. (b) Dating violence can be a single event or a pattern of behavior that includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse. (c) Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

**Domestic Violence** – (1) A felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed--(a) By a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim; (b) By a person with whom the victim shares a child in common; (c) By a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner; (d) By a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of

the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred, or (e) By any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred. (2) Domestic violence can be a single event or a pattern of behavior that includes, but is not limited to, sexual, or physical abuse.

**Discrimination** – Conferring, refusing or denying benefits or providing differential treatment to a person or class of persons in violation of law based on race, color, religion, gender, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

**Harassment** – A form of discrimination, as defined above, that occurs when the school or work environment becomes permeated with intimidation, ridicule or insult that is sufficiently severe or pervasive enough that it unreasonably alters the employment or educational environment. Behaviors that could constitute illegal harassment include, but are not limited to, the following acts if based on race, color, religion, gender, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law: verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression; stalking; graffiti; display of written material or pictures; name calling; slurs; jokes; gestures; stereotyping; threatening, intimidating or hostile acts; theft; or damage to property.

**Reporting Party** – A member of the College community, who reports to the College that he or she has been the victim of alleged sexual assault, relationship violence, and/or stalking.

**Sexual Assault** – A form of sexual harassment, and is defined as physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent. Sexual assault includes intentional touching, either of the victim or when the victim is forced to touch, directly or through clothing, another person's genitals, breasts, thighs, buttocks, or other intimate parts. Sexual assault also includes attempted or actual sexual penetration of any kind without a person's consent.

**Sexual Harassment** – A form of discrimination, as defined above, on the basis of sex. Sexual harassment, which includes sexual assault, includes a variety of unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature ranging from unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexual exploitation, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature, such as sexual assault, that is sufficiently severe to the point it interferes with or limits a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the College's programs. Sexual assault is a severe form of sexual harassment and one instance may be sufficient to create a hostile environment.

**Stalking** – Activity that may be a form of harassment, as defined above, that involves engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his/her safety or the safety of others, or to suffer substantial emotional distress. For purposes of this definition, a course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about, a person, or interferes with a person's property. Stalking may involve physical stalking and/or cyber stalking.

### **Compliance Officers**

The Board of Trustees designates the following individuals to act as the College's compliance officers:

|                                       |                               |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Title IX Administrator                | Title IX Deputy Administrator |
| Section 504 Administrator             | ADA Administrator             |
| Vice President of Student Development | Director of Human Resources   |
| East Central College                  | East Central College          |
| 1964 Prairie Dell Road                | 1964 Prairie Dell Road        |
| Union, MO 63084                       | Union, MO 63084               |
| 636-584-6565                          | Phone: 636-584-6712           |

The compliance officer will:

1. Coordinate compliance with this Policy and the law.
2. Receive all complaints regarding discrimination and harassment at East Central College.

3. Serve as the College's contact person for compliance with discrimination laws.
4. Investigate or assign persons to investigate complaints; monitor the status of complaints; and recommend consequences.
5. Seek legal advice when necessary to enforce this Policy.
6. Report to the College President and the Board of Trustees aggregate information regarding the number and frequency of complaints and compliance with this Policy.
7. Make recommendations regarding changing this Policy or the implementation of this Policy.
8. Coordinate and institute training programs for College staff and supervisors as necessary to meet the goals of this Policy, including instruction in recognizing behavior that constitutes discrimination and harassment.
9. Perform other duties as assigned by the College President.

### **Reporting a Complaint**

The College encourages the reporting of all incidents of sexual harassment, including, but not limited to, sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking. The decision to report such incidents is a deeply personal and often difficult decision, but is often a way for the victim to begin healing. Such reporting may also help prevent future incidents of a similar nature from occurring. Victims are not required, however, to report such incidents, and will not be penalized if they choose not to report an incident to law enforcement or a Compliance Officer. The first priority for any victim of sexual assault or relationship violence is to receive appropriate medical attention for any medical injuries and to preserve evidence in the event the Reporting Party chooses to pursue a complaint. The College will maintain and publish information containing resources and guidance for victims of sexual assault, relationship violence and stalking. Such information will be maintained in the College's Annual Security Report and the College's Student Handbook, and any other means identified by the College administration to make the information readily available to the campus. Copies will also be maintained by the College's Title IX Administrator, who will make such information available to any interested person.

The College provides several options for reporting incidents of sexual harassment, including, sexual assault, relationship violence, and/or stalking:

1. Confidential Reporting – Individuals may make a confidential report to a College counselor. Counseling services are available at no cost to students and referrals to community resources are available. College counselors can also help the alleged victim identify other available College resources.
2. Formal Complaint – Individuals may also file a formal (verbal, written, or online) complaint with the Vice President of Student Development and it will be promptly investigated. There is no time limit on the filing of complaints, though the College encourages prompt reporting, as delayed reporting may hinder the College's ability to pursue disciplinary action against an Accused Individual.
3. Criminal Report – Individuals may make a criminal report with local law enforcement, or appropriate jurisdiction. College personnel are available to assist individuals with contacting the appropriate jurisdiction for making such a report.

In addition to pursuing criminal or College disciplinary proceedings, individuals may wish to obtain an order of protection, no-contact order, or restraining order from the relevant jurisdiction. Such orders are enforced by the local law enforcement agency in the relevant jurisdiction.

Upon receiving a complaint of sexual assault, relationship violence or stalking, the College will provide to the Reporting Party a written notice describing the reporting options listed above. Reporting Parties are not limited to one form of reporting and may pursue multiple methods of reporting options.

In addition, except as otherwise provided in this Policy, all employees, students and visitors must immediately report to the College for investigation any incident or behavior that could constitute illegal

discrimination or harassment, which includes sexual assault and may include relationship violence and stalking. Such reports should be made to the Vice President of Student Development or the Director of Human Resources, as the College's Compliance Officers. All College employees will instruct persons seeking to make a complaint under this Policy to communicate directly with the College compliance officers. Even if the potential victim of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation does not file a complaint, College employees, except members of the College's counseling staff who are considered confidential reporters, are required to report to the Compliance Officers any observations, rumors or other information regarding actions prohibited by this Policy.

After receiving a complaint, the Compliance Officer will determine the appropriate College Policy for processing the complaint. In making this determination, the Compliance Officer will consider the specific facts alleged by the Reporting Party. Allegations related to acts of Sexual Assault, Relationship Violence or Stalking, as those terms as defined in this Policy, will be processed according to this Policy. Allegations that may constitute sexual or other forms of harassment prohibited by the College, but not rising to the level of Sexual Assault, Relationship Violence or Stalking, will be reviewed according to Policy 3.25 Student Protection Against

Discrimination. Once the determination is reached, the Compliance Officer will notify the Reporting Party of which College Policy will govern the disposition of the Reporting Party's complaint, and will provide the Reporting Party with a copy of the applicable Policy. The College encourages the Reporting Party to seek clarification from the Compliance Officer if the Reporting Party believes the Compliance Officer has selected the wrong Policy to resolve the complaint.

### **Interim Measures**

When a report is made or the College otherwise learns of potential discrimination, harassment or retaliation, the College will, if appropriate, take immediate action to protect the alleged victim, including implementing interim measures. For example, the College may alter a student's class schedule, provide additional support for a student (such as counseling or academic support), suspend an employee pending an investigation, or, if applicable, alter transportation or working situations. The College will take immediate steps to prevent retaliation against the alleged victim, any person associated with the alleged victim, or any witnesses or participants in the investigation. These steps may include, but are not limited to, notifying students, employees and others that they are protected from retaliation, ensuring that they know how to report future complaints, and initiating follow-up contact with the complainant to determine if any additional acts of discrimination, harassment or retaliation have occurred. The College will provide these types of interim measures if requested by the victim and if such measures are reasonably available and appropriate in the circumstances. Individuals are encouraged to speak with the College's Compliance Officers about the availability of such measures. In the case of a confidential reporting, the Reporting Party should speak with the College counselor to whom they made the report about any requested interim measures.

### **Procedure for Investigation and Resolution of Complaints**

In determining whether alleged conduct constitutes a violation of College Policy, the College will consider the surrounding circumstances, the nature of the behavior, the relationships between the parties involved, past incidents, the context in which the alleged incidents occurred and all other relevant information. Whether a particular action or incident constitutes a violation of this Policy requires a determination based on all of the facts and surrounding circumstances. If, after investigation, College officials determine that it is more likely than not that prohibited behavior has occurred, the College will take immediate corrective action.

The following procedures will be used as a guideline for investigating complaints:

1. Interview the Reporting Party regarding the nature and specifics of the incident(s);
2. Interview the Accused Individual; and
3. Interview other possible witnesses, if appropriate.

### **A. Complaints Against Employees of the College**

If a complaint under this Policy is against an employee of the College, the complaint will be investigated by the Director of Human Resources or designee, and will be handled according to the procedures found in Policy 5.5. Employees who violate this Policy will be disciplined, up to and including employment termination.

### **A. Complaints Against College Students**

If a complaint under this Policy is against another student, the complaint will be investigated by the Vice President of Student Development or designee. The procedures will follow those set forth in the Student Code of Conduct, except that to the extent there are any inconsistencies between the Student Code of Conduct and this Policy, the procedures set forth in this Policy will apply in cases of Sexual Assault, Relationship Violence, or Stalking:

1. The College will conduct a thorough, fair, and impartial investigation.
2. Proceedings under this Policy will be conducted without undue delay, and will be conducted by officials who receive annual training on the issues related to relationship violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and how to conduct a hearing process that protects victim safety and promotes accountability. In general, proceedings pursuant to the Policy, including adjudication through the Student Discipline Policy, should be completed within sixty (60) days of the Reporting Party's complaint to the Compliance Officer.
3. Mediation will not be used in cases alleging sexual assault, relationship violence, or stalking.
4. The Compliance Officer or designee may issue a "no contact" order to all parties identified in a sexual assault, relationship violence, or stalking complaint. The Compliance Officer will consider other interim measures that may be appropriate.
5. Both the Reporting Party and the Accused Individual will have equal opportunity to provide relevant information, including the identities of any witnesses they believe should be contacted as part of the investigation. Both the Reporting Party and the Accused Individual have the right to have an advisor of their choosing present during any meetings or proceedings related to the investigation. For purposes of this Policy only, there is no limitation on the choice of an advisor by either the Reporting Party or the Accused Individual. The limitations on the role of legal counsel in a disciplinary proceeding are defined by the Student Discipline Policy.
6. After reviewing all the relevant information, the Vice President of Student Development or designee will render a determination as to whether the Policy was violated and what additional actions may be necessary, including disciplinary action against the Accused Individual and/or making available to the Reporting Party appropriate College resources. In making this determination, the Vice President of Student Development or designee will utilize a "preponderance of the evidence standard," meaning that he or she will determine whether it is more likely than not the Policy violation occurred.
7. Students who violate this Policy will be disciplined, which may include suspension or expulsion. Other possible sanctions are found in the Student Discipline Policy.
8. The Vice President of Student Development will notify both the Reporting Party and the Accused Individual, in writing, of this or her determination. The written notification will also notify both the Reporting Party and the Accused Individual of the availability of appeal, as described below.
9. If either the Reporting Party or the Accused Individual disagrees with the Vice President of Student Development or designee's determination, either student may request that the complaint be handled according to the procedures found in the Student Discipline Policy, Policy 3.18. In those circumstances, both the Reporting Party and the Accused Individual will have equal opportunity to participate in the process, and the process will utilize a preponderance of the evidence standard," meaning that it will determine whether it is more likely than not that the Policy violation occurred.
10. At the conclusion of any portion of the disciplinary proceeding, including any appeal, both the Reporting Party and the Accused Individual will be notified in writing, and simultaneously, of the

result of that portion of the disciplinary proceeding, when that result becomes final, and the availability of any appeal.

### **Confidentiality, Records and Counseling**

To the extent feasible, the College will endeavor to keep confidential the identity of the person filing a complaint, witnesses or other parties interviewed, and any complaint or other document that is generated or received pertaining to complaints. Information may be disclosed if necessary to further the investigation, or resolution of a complaint, or if necessary to carry out disciplinary measures. The College will disclose information to the College's attorney, law enforcement, and others when necessary to enforce this Policy or when required by law.

In implementing this Policy, the College will comply with state and federal laws regarding the confidentiality of student and employee records.

Any student who believes he/she has been a victim of illegal discrimination, harassment, sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence or stalking has the option of speaking confidentially to a College counselor. Counseling services are available at no cost to the student and referrals to community resources are available. College counselors can also help the alleged victim identify other available College resources.

All other employees are mandated to report the information regarding illegal discrimination, harassment, sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence or stalking to the Compliance Officer.

### **Training and Awareness Programs**

In addition to the information contained in this Policy, the College will, in accordance with the Campus Sexual Violence Act ("SaVE Act"), provide training and information to members of the campus community regarding the following topics:

1. Safe and positive steps an individual may take to intervene to prevent harm or intervene when there is a risk of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking against another person;
2. Information about how to recognize warning signs of abusive behavior in order to mitigate the likelihood of perpetration, victimization, or bystander inaction;
3. Awareness campaigns and prevention programs intended to stop domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking before they occur, and to increase campus awareness and share information and resources for the same purpose;
4. Written notification to students and employees about existing counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, and other services available for victims, both within the institution and in the community;

The College will distribute this information to members of the campus community through the College's Annual Security Report and the College's Student Handbook, and any other means identified by the College administration to make the information readily available to the campus. Copies will also be maintained by the College's Title IX Administrator, who will make such information available to any interested person.

## **Theft on Campus**

**911/636-584-6566**

The college is not responsible for lost or stolen articles. Students should never leave textbooks, backpacks, cell phones and other valuables unattended. If a theft occurs, contact the Student Development Office and Campus Police immediately. Incidents which are reported quickly can often be solved through the use of campus video cameras.

## **Tobacco-Free Campus (BP 4.31)**

East Central College is a Tobacco-Free campus. Usage of all tobacco products will be prohibited on all College properties owned or leased by the College, including facilities, buildings, parking lots, athletic fields, and common areas. The term "tobacco products" shall include eCigarettes, hookah and such other

smoking-related substances and products as the College chooses to prohibit. This policy applies to all faculty, staff, students, employees, contractors, performers and visitors. ECC is committed to providing its students, employees and visitors with a safe and healthy environment.

Students who violate the policy will be given a warning. Continued non-compliance will result in a \$20 fine or two hours of campus clean-up, followed by disciplinary probation and suspension. In accordance with the Student Conduct Policy, students will be expected to show their college identification card when requested by a college employee or security guard.

## Transcripts/Final Grades

**636-584-6553**

Transcripts and final grades can be viewed online through a student's eCentral account. Students may request official transcripts online at <http://www.eastcentral.edu/registrar/request-transcript/>. Official transcripts cost \$6.25 each. Grade reports are not mailed to students unless a written request is made to the Registrar's office. Mid-term deficiency grades from the fall and spring semesters are ~~mailed to students~~ available on the student's eCentral/Student Planning account, but are not recorded on the students' transcripts.

East Central College reserves the right to withhold copies of the educational records of students who fail to meet their financial obligations to the College or fail to return materials which belong to the College.

## Transfer In Credit (BP 2.5)

### **Transfer Credit Policy**

East Central College is committed to assisting student transfer to and from East Central College and facilitating credit transfer to and from other post-secondary institutions. Transfer in credit will be analyzed in terms of level, course content, comparability and compatibility with degree programs and course offerings at East Central College.

### **Transfer In Credit Procedures**

Transfer students should follow "New Student Procedures."

1. Courses completed at any Missouri public institution in compliance with the Missouri Department of Higher Education's guidelines and agreements concerning the transfer and articulation of credit will be accepted in transfer if appropriate to a student's program of study.
2. Courses completed at any institution maintaining current articulation agreements with East Central College will be accepted in transfer as outlined in the agreement.
3. Courses completed at any regionally accredited institution will be reviewed for course equivalency and program relevance and accepted for transfer accordingly.
4. Courses completed at non-regionally accredited institutions will be reviewed as follows:
  - a. The transfer institution's accreditation status will be examined.
  - b. Information provided by the school or the student regarding the completed coursework, e.g. transcripts, catalog descriptions, course syllabi, faculty credentials, etc. will be distributed to the appropriate program/academic department official for recommendation to the Vice President of Academic Affairs ~~Instruction~~.
  - c. After an evaluation has been completed and the results communicated to the student, the student may appeal the decision regarding transfer to the Registrar and the Vice President of Academic Affairs.
5. Courses completed at a foreign institution will be reviewed as follows:

- a. Student is required to provide an official transcript, along with an English translation, and an explanation of the foreign institution's grading procedures.
  - b. Information regarding the completed coursework will be distributed to the appropriate program/academic department official for recommendation to the Vice President of Academic Affairs.
  - c. After an evaluation has been completed and the results communicated to the student, the student may appeal the decision regarding transfer to the Registrar or the Vice President of Academic Affairs. Such an appeal will require a review through an international credit evaluation service, as directed by the Registrar's Office. The cost of the evaluation must be paid by the student prior to the evaluation.
6. Experiential learning will be reviewed as follows:
- a. Student will submit a written request to the Registrar describing the experiential learning and provide supporting documentation. Student will make a formal request for course/credit equivalency.
  - b. Information regarding the request will be distributed to the appropriate program/academic department official for recommendation to the Vice President of Academic Affairs.
  - c. After an evaluation has been completed and the results communicated to the student, the student may appeal the decision regarding transfer to the Registrar and the Vice President of Academic Affairs.
7. Military credit will be reviewed as follows:
- a. Student will provide an official copy of their DD214 and/or a Joint Service Transcript (JST).
  - b. Courses completed through the military will be reviewed for course equivalency and program relevance using ACE credit recommendations and accepted for transfer accordingly.
  - c. After an evaluation has been completed and the results communicated to the student, the student may appeal the decision regarding transfer to the Registrar and the Vice President of Academic Affairs.
8. Dual credit coursework will be reviewed based on the policies and guidelines of the Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE) with respect to the transfer in of dual credit coursework. Limitations and exclusions may apply based on the MDHE policy and guidelines statements.
9. All other incoming credit transfer requests not covered by the aforementioned procedures must be made in writing to the Registrar's office.
10. Students on academic probation at another college will be admitted on academic probation and will be subject to East Central College's academic policies.
11. Students on academic suspension from another college will not be accepted for admission to East Central College unless permission is granted by the Vice President of Student Development. In most cases, no student will be admitted who has been suspended from another college for social or behavioral issues.

### **Transfer In Grades**

Grades received on all credits transferred to ECC are entered on the student's permanent record and included in the cumulative grade point average.

## **Transfer of Credits Earned at East Central College**

Students who plan to transfer credits from East Central College should contact their transfer institution as early as possible to become familiar with program requirements. Students who transfer within the state have certain rights and privileges which are outlined on the Missouri Department of Higher Education website. General transfer guidelines may be found at <http://www.dhe.mo.gov/files/policies/credittransfer.pdf>. Information regarding signatory colleges may be found at <http://www.dhe.mo.gov/cota/gectinstitutions.php>.

Transfer options include:

The **Associate of Arts (AA)** East Central College offers the Missouri Transfer Guaranteed Core 42 General Education model. In meeting this standard, students graduating from ECC with an AA degree and transferring to a public baccalaureate institution in Missouri will enter the transfer institution at the junior level and will have satisfied the lower division general education requirement.

The **Associate of Applied Science (AAS)** degree is the career and workforce preparation degree. Each AAS degree is comprised of a block of general education coursework (a minimum of 20 hours) coupled with a minimum of 44 credit hours of program based coursework. While the AAS is a career preparation degree, many institutions may consider the degree in transfer. Certificate Options are also available in many of the career fields offering the AAs degree.

The **Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT)** degree is the institutional transfer degree for student preparing to study in teacher education programs. Each AAT degree is comprised of the general education block (a minimum of 43 credit hours), tailored to the specific needs of education majors, and coupled with elective options in the area of teacher preparation, totaling a minimum of 64 credit hours. Students completing the AAT degree and transfer to the public baccalaureate institution in Missouri offering teacher preparation programs will enter the transfer institution at the junior level; all lower division general education coursework will be satisfied and the core block of teacher education courses will transfer.

The **Associate of Fine Arts (AFA)** degree is the institutional fine arts degree. A specifically articulated degree with specific Missouri baccalaureate institutions, the AFA degree is comprised of a general education core tailored to students interested in study in a Bachelor of Fine Arts program and the necessary course work to prepare students for that study, totaling a minimum of 64 credit hours. Students may choose from a variety of elective coursework appropriate for the specialized areas of studio art, and music.

The **Associate of Science (AS)** degree is the institutional pre-engineering degree. A specifically articulated degree with specific Missouri public baccalaureate institutions, the AS degree is comprised of a general education core and the necessary coursework to prepare students for a course of study in engineering, totaling a minimum of 64 credit hours. Students may choose from a variety of elective coursework appropriate for the specialized area of engineering of expressed interest.

**Course by Course:** Individual courses are evaluated by the transfer college/university. The student should contact a transfer advisor at the transfer institution to determine what courses are transferable. Students can also check the transfer school's website to see if they have a transfer equivalency guide available.

**Forty Two (42) Hour General Education Block** East Central College offers a 42 hour general education block of coursework that satisfies the Missouri Department of Higher Education General Education Core 42 Transfer model. In meeting this standard, students graduating from ECC with an AA degree and transferring to a public baccalaureate institution in Missouri will enter the transfer institution at the junior level and will have satisfied the lower division general education requirement. Students completing their AA degree and transferring to public baccalaureate institutions are assured full acceptance of the general education coursework.

## Transfer Scholarships

Transfer scholarships are offered by several state universities to students who complete an associate degree or a minimum number of credit hours. Grade point average is often a criteria. For more information, visit the transfer university's website or <http://www.eastcentral.edu/transfer/financial-aidtransfer-scholarships/>.

## Tuition Payment Policy

Tuition and fees are payable on or before the date published in the academic calendar. All checks and money orders should be made payable to East Central College. Tuition and fees may also be paid by debit card, Visa, Discover or Master Card. For information about a payment plan, contact the cashier.

The following link <http://www.eastcentral.edu/finaid/tuition-and-fees/> contains general information on the general tuition and fees assessed for all credit classes. Some courses have supplementary special fees as noted in the class schedule. Tuition and fees are subject to change without notice.

### **Returned Checks**

The college will assess a charge whenever a check or draft presented for payment for service is not accepted by the banking institution on which it is written because of a post-date, insufficient funds, closed account, no account, frozen account, or uncollected funds. A \$25 fee will be charged if the check is returned by the banking institution for any of the above reasons.

## **Weapons on Campus (BP 4.40)**

East Central College prohibits all persons who enter any College property from carrying on his/her person a handgun, firearm, knife\* or other weapon prohibited by law.

No person shall carry a concealed firearm onto the main campus or off-site locations at any time regardless of whether the person is licensed to carry the weapon or not.

This prohibition shall apply to students, employees and members of the public. The prohibition shall not apply to law enforcement officers, sheriffs, and deputy sheriffs who are authorized by law to carry firearms. Any person having a conceal-and-carry permit or endorsement who is carrying a concealed firearm will be denied entry and ordered to leave the premises. All College employees are authorized to deny entry and order persons carrying concealed firearms to leave the premises.

College employees and students who violate the provisions of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

The College shall post appropriate notice that concealed firearms are prohibited at all College locations.

\*MO Rev. Statutes, Chapter 571.010, defines a knife as one with a blade of four inches or more in length.

## **Withdrawing from Course or College**

**636-584-6588**

Students enrolled at East Central College may withdraw from an individual course or their entire course schedule on or before the withdrawal deadline published in the academic calendar. After the withdrawal deadline, instructor approval is required.

### **Before you withdraw from a class...**

- Have you talked to your instructor? Your situation may not be as bad as you think.
- Have you talked to Financial Aid? Dropping a class could have a negative effect on your ability to keep your aid or scholarship.
- Will dropping this course put you below full time status? Some insurance plans require that students be enrolled full-time.
- Is this course a prerequisite or co-requisite for another course? Does this affect your graduation plans? Will the course be offered again when you need it? Have you talked to your advisor?
- Have you gone to the Learning Center for tutoring?
- Are you working too many hours? Have you talked to your employer about cutting your hours – at least temporarily?
- What's the semester deadline for dropping a class? You may have time to improve your grades.

Withdrawal forms are available at the Student Service Center or on the [Student Forms](#) section of the ECC website. A withdrawal request is not official until the student submits the withdrawal form to the Student Service Center, including the last date of attendance and required signatures. If the completed withdrawal form is submitted to the Student Service Center prior to the withdrawal deadline, the student will receive a (W) grade. After the withdrawal deadline, the student will receive a grade of (W) or (F) as reported by the faculty member.

Course withdrawal may have an adverse effect on a student's financial aid or academic program completion, so students are advised to consult with their instructor, their advisor, and the Financial Aid Office, if appropriate, before withdrawing. The college's refund policy has information on refund deadlines and withdrawal fees. Refer also to Registration/Waitlist Process.

### **Administrative Withdrawal for Non-Attendance (BP 3.23.1) (Revised 02/27/2017)**

ECC is an attendance taking institution. All faculty will distribute to students a current course syllabus that includes a statement detailing specific course attendance policy, guideline and actions. Such course attendance policy will be congruent with the institutional attendance guidelines, as stated here.

### **Institutional Attendance Policy**

Student attendance in class, regardless of the delivery modality, is important for student success. Faculty will take attendance at each class meeting and record attendance in a class record. For a student to be considered attending the following conditions must be met:

- A student cannot be absent for all the class meetings held within 14 consecutive calendar days (or a prorated amount based on a reduced class meeting calendar) without having made regular and frequent contact with the instructor regarding the class progress.

A student that fails to meet the attendance policy will be recommended for administrative withdrawal to the registrar's office by reporting a WX on grade reports.

## **APPEAL/GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

### **Academic Suspension**

Students who do not meet the "minimum standards of academic progress" are placed on academic suspension and are notified by the Vice President of Student Development with instructions on how to appeal.

### **ADA (Americans w/Disabilities Act) Grievance**

#### **Informal Procedure:**

#### **Step 1:**

1. Student contacts faculty and/or Access staff regarding implementation of academic accommodations.
2. Resolved or go to Step 2.

#### **Step 2:**

1. Student requests conference with Access staff and/or faculty/staff. When deemed appropriate by the Access staff, the division chair will also be included.
2. If the faculty/staff have been asked to provide the accommodations by the Access staff, the faculty/staff will continue to provide the accommodations.
3. Resolved or go to Step 3.

#### **Step 3:**

1. Student requests conference with appropriate Vice President, as well as the parties listed above.
2. Within 10 working days, appropriate Vice President convenes a conference of parties from above and may consult with the Vice President of Student Development.
3. Resolved or student initiates formal grievance procedure.

#### **Formal Procedure:**

#### **Step 1:**

1. Student appeals by filing Formal ADA Grievance Form with Vice President of Student Development

within 10 working days of informal grievance decision.

2. Vice President of Student Development conducts investigation with all parties involved and issues a statement of findings.
3. Resolved or go to Step 2.

#### **Step 2:**

1. Vice President of Student Development appoints and convenes ADA Hearing Committee, which is a five-member committee composed of faculty and staff chaired by the Vice President of Student Development, within 10 working days of appeal being filed. Hearing will be audio recorded.
2. The ADA Hearing Committee reviews documentation and meets with all parties involved.
3. Vice President of Student Development notifies all concerned parties of the committee's decision in writing within 10 working days.
4. Resolved or go to Step 3.

#### **Step 3:**

1. Student files written appeal to President within 10 working days of committee's decision, including copies of Informal and Formal Grievance proceedings.
2. President renders decision, which is final.

### **Administrative Withdrawal Appeal**

Any student who feels that the administrative withdrawal was executed unfairly or inaccurately can appeal the withdrawal within 10 calendar days of notification. Student must submit a written statement of the appeal to the college's Vice President of Academic Affairs.

### **Due Process/Formal Student Hearing (BP 3.18)**

Students have the right to appeal a grade or a disciplinary sanction as outlined under "Student Discipline Policy."

#### **College Personnel:**

1. Chief Student Affairs Officer (CSAO): the administrator (Vice President of Student Development) responsible for student services such as counseling and advising.
2. Chief Academic Officer (CAO): the administrator (Vice President of Academic Affairs) responsible for the oversight and direction of academic programs and faculty.
3. Hearing Committee: A five-member committee called upon for hearings whose membership includes two faculty, two administrative/professional staff, and one support staff member. The CSAO and the CAO are non-voting members of the hearing committee, but they are nevertheless involved in the hearing. The CSAO will preside over, and the CAO will present the charges, at all hearings where the misconduct does not involve an academic issue. If the misconduct involves an academic issue, their roles shall be reversed.

#### **Procedures:**

In most cases, disciplinary actions are meant to be remedial rather than punitive. Ideally, disciplinary proceedings will be conducted informally between the student(s) and the CSAO or CAO. However, when this means of resolution is not possible, a student has the right to a formal student hearing before a hearing committee. For a hearing to be held, the student is required to submit a written request for a hearing to the CSAO or CAO. The following guidelines will be applicable:

1. Students will be informed in writing of the time, date, and location of the hearing, either by email, personal delivery or certified mail, at least 10 calendar days in advance of the hearing.
2. The entire case file will be available for inspection by the student in the CSAO's or CAO's office

during normal business hours. The file, which should be available at least two business days before the hearing, need not include the personal and confidential notes of any college official or participant in the evaluation process.

3. The hearing shall be conversational and non-adversarial. For that reason, legal counsel will not be allowed to participate in the hearing on behalf of either the student or the administrator presenting the case against the student. Formal rules of evidence will not apply. The CSAO or CAO shall exercise active control over the proceedings to avoid needless consumption of time and to achieve the orderly completion of the hearing. Any person who disrupts the hearing may be excluded.
4. The student may choose to be assisted by a member of the faculty or staff of the institution. Furthermore, the student may be accompanied by legal counsel or other representative, although the role of legal counsel will be limited to providing legal advice to the student.
5. Those assisting the student, except for legal counsel, will be given reasonable time to ask relevant questions of any individual appearing at the hearing, as well as to present relevant evidence.
6. Whenever possible, the student will be expected to respond to questions asked by the CSAO, CAO or other hearing committee members.
7. If the student requests a hearing and fails to appear after proper notice, the hearing committee may either proceed with the hearing in the student's absence or may make a decision without holding a hearing.
8. The hearing shall be tape recorded. The tape(s) shall be kept with the pertinent case file for a minimum of six months.
9. A written decision shall be rendered by the hearing committee within five business days after the completion of the hearing. The written decision, which should be mailed or personally delivered to the student, should contain a brief statement of reasons for any determination leading to sanctions. The student should also be advised as to when a petition for reinstatement would be considered, along with any conditions for reinstatement. The decision of the hearing committee shall be final unless a timely appeal is made to the College President.
10. A student who wishes to appeal a disciplinary decision must do so within 30 days of the original action by filing a written appeal with the College President. The College President will meet with the student and render a decision within seven days. The decision of the President shall be final.
11. In all non-grade appeals, the student may withdraw from College or the class of his/her own volition at any time during the disciplinary process.

## Financial Aid Suspension Appeal

Students who do not meet the "minimum standards for academic progress" will be placed on financial aid warning for one semester. During this warning period, students may continue to receive aid. Failure to meet the policy standards after the warning semester will result in financial aid suspension and loss of financial aid.

In certain situations, students may appeal their suspension by contacting the Director of Financial Aid. Documentation of extenuating circumstances may be required.

## Grade Appeal (BP 3.7)

Students at East Central College have the right to appeal a final course grade. The right to appeal is limited to grades given for the semester most recently completed.

Students must make appeal within 8 weeks of the official end date of the semester for which the grade is reported. Students must submit in writing to the CAO (Vice President of Academic Affairs ~~Instruction~~) a statement detailing the course, the faculty member, the grade received and the reason the appeal is sought.

The CAO will review the appeal and seek a resolution. Should no resolution be reached, the student will be notified and a formal hearing conducted.

A hearing committee will be appointed by the CAO, and a hearing conducted for the purpose of allowing all parties to state their positions. The committee will render a decision in writing to the student and faculty member within five school days.

The student may appeal the decision of the committee to the President in writing within 10 days of the committee's decision. The President will conduct a review and render a decision within 30 days. The decision of the President is final.

## Non-Discrimination Policy/Grievance

**636-584-6566**

### **Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy (Adopted December 2, 2013)**

Applicants for admission and employment, students, employees sources of referral of applicants for admission and employment and individuals with whom the Board of Trustees and college officials do business are hereby notified that East Central College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status.

Inquiries related to employment practices may be directed to Wendy Hartmann, Human Resources Director, 005-D Multipurpose Building, telephone number 636-584-6710 or [hrnotice@eastcentral.edu](mailto:hrnotice@eastcentral.edu).

Inquiries/concerns regarding civil rights compliance as it relates to student programs and services may be directed to the Vice President of Student Development, 131 Buescher Hall, telephone number 636-584-6565 or [stnotice@eastcentral.edu](mailto:stnotice@eastcentral.edu).

Both offices are located at the ECC main campus located at 1964 Prairie Dell Road, Union, Missouri 63084.

## Refund Policy and Refund Appeal (BP 4.33)

**636-584-6566**

### **(Effective Fall Semester 2018)**

In a 16 week semester, students who withdraw from a course during the first seven calendar days will receive 100% refund of tuition and fees paid. Students withdrawing between the 8th and 14th calendar days of the full semester will receive a 50% refund of tuition and fees. No refunds will be made after the 14th calendar day of the semester.

In a 14 week session, the first 6 days will be 100%, the next 6 days will be 50%.

In an 8 week session, the first 4 days will be 100%, the next 4 days will be 50%.

- Refund deadlines are prorated for courses operating on a schedule different than the regular 16 week semester, e.g. summer, late start, intersession, etc. All procedures for schedule changes or withdrawals apply.
- Failure to attend classes does not constitute a schedule change or withdrawal and does not entitle the student to a refund.
- Refunds for online courses and courses with arranged meeting times will follow the full semester deadlines.
- The date on which the student enrolls does not determine the refund period.
- Refunds will be mailed to students at the end of the refund period.

### **Refund Appeals**

In the event of extenuating circumstances and with proper documentation, a partial or total refund may be granted. A confidential committee consisting of college administrators will review refund requests on a

case by case basis. Students may appeal through the Office of Student Development. Go to ECC website for a copy of the [Tuition Appeals form](#).

## Residency Status Appeal (BP 3.4)

Student residency status will be determined at the time of enrollment at East Central College. Student residency guidelines followed by the College will be those adopted by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education. In the case of international students or resident aliens, residency will be determined based upon both federal determination of status and state guidelines. A copy of such guidelines may be found in the Office of the Registrar.

### **Procedures (Revised August 17, 2007):**

If the student disagrees with the College's assessment of his or her resident/non-resident status, the following procedure should be followed to appeal the decision:

- A. **Informal Appeal.** Meet informally with the ~~Student Service Center Coordinator~~ Business Analyst – Enrollment Services to discuss the residency status and reasons why the student should be considered an in-district student. The ~~Student Service Center Coordinator~~ Business Analyst – Enrollment Services will render an informal decision based upon the information provided in this discussion.
- B. **First Level of Formal Appeal.** If the informal decision determines that the student is not an in-district resident and if the student wishes to appeal this decision further, then the next level of appeal may be implemented. The student is obligated to submit the appeal in writing to the Chief Student Affairs Officer, accompanied by written documentation of those criteria which the student meets for in-district residency as set forth in the Student Residency Requirements published by the Missouri Department of Higher Education. The Chief Student Affairs Officer will review and verify the information provided and render a decision within three working days of receipt of the written appeal.
- C. **Second Level of Formal Appeal.** The final level of appeal requires the student to submit an appeal in writing to the Office of the President of the College. The Chief Student Affairs Officer will forward to the President the documentation previously provided by the student at the first level of formal appeal. The President will deliver a decision within five (5) working days of receipt of the written appeal.

## Sexual Harassment Complaint Process

### **Title IX Coordinator**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, is a Federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities. Inquiries concerning Title IX may be directed to the Vice President for Student Development, 131 Buescher Hall, 1964 Prairie Dell Road, Union, MO 63084, 636-584-6565 or [stnotice@eastcentral.edu](mailto:stnotice@eastcentral.edu).

## Student Concern/Complaint Procedure

**636-584-6566**

East Central College encourages students to report concerns and complaints so that the college may review, respond to, and resolve these issues in an open and professional manner. Students may view the entire [General Student Complain Policy](#) on the college website.

Students who wish to discuss a concern relating to their education at East Central College should contact the appropriate supervisor or vice president or submit an online Student Concern Report located on the college website at [ECC Cares](#).

Instructions for Filing a Complaint with the Higher Learning Commission:

Individuals interested in bringing an appropriate complaint to the attention of the Commission should take some time to compile a complete submission as outlined below. There is no complaint form.

1. Write a cover letter directed to the Commission containing a brief narrative of the facts of the complaint. In most cases, such a narrative need be no longer than a few pages.
2. Indicate in your complaint why you believe the issues raised in your complaint are accrediting issues. If possible, please review the Commission's Criteria for Accreditation on the Commission's Web site prior to writing this section. You should also indicate how you believe the Commission can assist you with this matter. Remember that the Commission cannot assist you in understanding your tuition bill, arranging for a refund of tuition, obtaining a higher grade for a course, seeking reinstatement to an academic program, etc.
3. Attach documentation to support your narrative wherever possible. (For example, if you make reference in your complaint to an institutional policy, include a copy of the policy with your complaint.) Helpful documentation might include relevant portions of the catalog, letters or e-mail exchanged between you and the institution, learning agreements, etc.
4. A few reminders--
  - Please type your complaint or print very neatly.
  - Please do not use abbreviations or nicknames (e.g., NMS or USC or U of N).
  - Sign and date the cover letter.
  - Include contact information for future correspondence, with a street address.
  - If you are writing on behalf of someone else (son/daughter or client), be sure to provide that person's consent in writing to allow you to communicate with the Commission on his/her behalf.
5. Mail the letter and its attachments to the Commission's office at 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, IL 60604-1413. The Commission does not have an online complaint system and does not accept complaints via e-mail.

Please note that The Commission will not consider those complaints that are not in writing and do not contain the elements noted here. The Commission's complaint policy precludes it from considering matters more than five years old.

The Commission will acknowledge your complaint within thirty days of receiving it and let you know whether your complaint is complete and whether it raises issues that are related to accrediting requirements or whether it is an individual dispute outside the jurisdiction of the Commission's complaint policy.

Email questions to [complaints@hlcommission.org](mailto:complaints@hlcommission.org) .

## Transfer Credit Appeal

After an evaluation has been completed and the results communicated to the student, the student may appeal the decision regarding transfer to the Registrar and the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

## SERVICES

### Academic Advising

Academic advisors understand and are available to provide information about program and institutional requirements and requirements for completion of a certificate or degree program. They assist students in making course selections and program changes. They understand the graduation application process and refer students to campus services as appropriate. They are accessible to students during scheduled office hours.

Students are ultimately responsible for academic decisions and choices. Because of this, students are expected to be open to developing and clarifying personal and professional goals, to be familiar with the academic calendar and timelines for registration, and to be accountable for understanding requirements for transferring to another college. Students are encouraged to ask questions and seek assistance as often as needed.

For more information about Academic Advising visit <http://www.eastcentral.edu/advisement/>.

### Automated Teller Machine (ATM)

East Central College has one ATM on campus located in the Donald Shook Student Center on the 1st floor at the entrance to the food service area. Check cashing service is not available on campus.

### Bookstore

**636-584-6737**

The primary function of the bookstore is to have available for sale the required and recommended texts and supplemental material necessary and helpful to the student's college career. Books are stocked at the request of instructors. Textbooks may be purchased before classes begin each semester and any time thereafter.

The bookstore works closely with instructors in order to carry course related supplies and general school supplies. These supplies include educationally priced software, art and photography supplies, ECC insignia items, backpacks, notebooks and more.

Book Buy-Back: Each semester selected books are purchased by the bookstore the week of ECC's semester final exams.

## Bulletin Boards/Postings

636-584-6566

### On Campus Postings - Union Campus

Non-Specific Bulletin Boards and Tack Strips - Flyers or posters must be submitted for approval to post by students or employees. Visit the Student Development Office in Buescher Hall, room 132; Student Activities in Donald Shook Student Center room 104 or Public Relations in Buescher Hall room 245 during regular business hours. These offices serve as the primary approval agents for campus postings. Postings that will be displayed off campus should be reviewed by the Public Relations Department.

#### Postings allowed:

- Approved campus club activities
- College sanctioned activities
- Community benefit activities
- Not-for-profit organization activities

#### Postings NOT allowed:

- Political messages (unless sanctioned by the College or a College organization)
- Activities promoting a “for-profit” organization, e.g. restaurants, banks, etc.
- Postings that conflict with the educational mission of the College
- Postings that promote alcohol or substance abuse
- Postings with a demeaning, sexual, or discriminatory message
- Postings which are suitable for special bulletin boards.

#### Miscellaneous Information:

- Postings must display an approval stamp from Student Development or Public Relations.
- Postings by any campus or community group must bear the name of the sponsoring club or organization and may not imply sponsorship or endorsement by the College.
- All event posters should include relevant details, e.g. who is sponsoring the event, who is invited, what type of event, where and when it will be held.
- Postings should be displayed with tacks on bulletin boards or tack strips.
- Tack strips next to classroom doors are reserved for class information only.
- One posting per event is allowed on each board or tack strip.
- Postings are to be removed on the date displayed on the approval stamp.
- If postings become worn or unsightly, they will be removed by the College.
- The College reserves the right to remove any form of advertising which does not comply with this policy.

Postings will be monitored regularly by the Office of Student Development and Student Activities.

#### Unapproved Areas – No postings allowed

- Postings should not be displayed on windows, doors, or any place that could be considered hazardous or damaging to property.
- Any postings on unapproved areas such as glass, painted walls, doors, columns, railings, fire extinguishers, or fire alarm boxes will be removed.
- No literature of any kind is to be placed on automobiles at any campus location.

#### Special Bulletin Boards

**Campus Events Board**, Donald D. Shook Student Center, first floor, next to Donald D. Shook Student Center 104

All notices must be approved by the Student Development Office, the Public Relations Office or the Coordinator of Student Activities.

**Career Services Job Postings Board**, Donald D. Shook Student Center, first floor.

All notices of job postings and career information must be approved by Career Services, Buescher Hall 156. Approved job openings may also be advertised through the College’s online employment postings.

**Classified Ads Board**, Donald D. Shook Student Center building, first floor  
Must be approved by Student Activities Coordinator or the Office of Student Development  
(Includes items for sale, housing information, child care services, ride sharing, etc.)

**Community Activities**, Donald D. Shook Student Center, first floor  
Must be approved by Student Activities Coordinator or the Office of Student Development

### **Miscellaneous Departmental Boards**

All notices must be approved by the department that sponsors the board.

## Career Services

**636-584-6568**

The Career Services Office offers the following free services to students, alumni, and community members:

- Career Interest/Skill/Value exploration
- Resume/Cover Letter/Interviewing assistance
- On-line electronic job board accessible 24 hours a day - post your resume or look for jobs/internships (students & alumni)
- Physical (printed) Job Board at Union campus
- Labor market and wage information
- Information on available Internships in the area
- Information on local job fairs

Services for employers:

- On-line electronic job board accessible 24 hours a day - post your jobs/internships or look for potential employees
- Physical (printed) Job Postings at Union campus
- On-campus Recruiting opportunities
- Internship referrals to Instructional Departments
- Information on Training Opportunities for current employees

For more information visit <http://www.eastcentral.edu/career/>.

## Commencement

**636-584-6553**

The commencement ceremony is held at the end of the spring semester. Fall graduates may participate in the spring ceremony following their last semester. Summer graduates may participate in the preceding spring ceremony if they apply by the spring deadline. See also Graduation Requirements.

Fall Priority Application Deadline: July 1\*  
*Applications will be accepted until September 15*

Spring Priority Application Deadline: December 1\*  
*Applications will be accepted until February 15*

Summer Priority Application Deadline: May 1\*  
*Applications will be accepted until June 15*

\*Applications received on or before the priority dates listed above will be notified of any graduation deficiencies prior to the beginning of the subsequent semester. Later applicants will be notified as soon as possible.

See “Academic Honors” for information on graduating with honors.

## Counseling

Counseling at ECC is available free of charge to all currently enrolled students. Short-term professional counseling is available for students whose performance is hampered by personal, educational, or career concerns. As needed, counselors will refer to community resources for further assistance. Counseling is free of charge, individual, confidential, and solution-focused. Our goal in counseling is to provide you with a safe, confidential, and non-judgmental environment in order to begin the process of self-discovery. We hope that your experience with Counseling Services will enhance your overall educational experience at East Central College. Contact Jenny Kuchem at 636-584-6580.

## Access/Disability Services

Access Services provides support for students who have documented permanent disabilities by making reasonable accommodations in regard to academic instruction and other college/student related activities upon reasonable notice. Accommodations may include, but are not necessarily limited to, use of adaptive technology, environmental modifications, alternative testing arrangements, note takers, and use of prerecorded media. To qualify for services, students must identify themselves to Access Services and present documentation of their disabilities from qualified professionals or agencies. The request should be made at least six weeks prior to the beginning of each semester so accommodations can be in place when classes begin. Students will be given instructor notification forms outlining approved accommodations to deliver to their instructors at the beginning of each term. If you would like more information regarding, contact Access Services in the Student Service Center in Buescher Hall on main campus at 636-584-6588.

## Financial Services

The Financial Services office provides a variety of services to students, including:

- Collection of tuition and fees
- Issuance of financial aid checks
- Issuance of refund checks (Students may elect direct deposit in lieu of checks.)
- Sale of theatre tickets

## Fitness Center/Locker Rooms

**636-584-6584**

Students enrolled in any East Central College course have two non-credit options to use the Fitness Center.

1. PE 0000-20 Fitness Center Orientation:

This option is for students who have not attended an orientation. Includes \$15 fee for a fitness center orientation.

2. PE 0000-21 Fitness Center Orientation:

This free option is for students who have previously taken a fitness class or completed an orientation session.

\*All students will need to have their Student ID cards to enter the Fitness Center. Students will also need to complete a medical history form before using the facility.

### Locker Rooms

Locker rooms and lockers may be used by current students and employees. East Central College is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

1. All general facility and student conduct rules apply.
2. Personal locks may be used on lockers.

3. Small lockers may be used for overnight storage and large lockers may be used while exercising.
4. Locks and locker contents will be removed at the end of each semester. Contents left in lockers will be held with the custodial staff until mid-semester of the following semester.
5. Valuable items should not be stored in lockers.
6. Respect the privacy of others. Use discretion when bringing children into the locker room. Children of the opposite sex over the age of four are not allowed entry.
7. Suspicious activity should be reported to the Office of Student Development.
8. Use of phones for photos/videos in the locker room is not permitted.
9. Failure to comply with the procedures listed above will result in the loss of locker room privileges.

## Food Services

**636-584-6719**

Café Central is located on the first floor of the Donald D. Shook Building. Café Central accepts cash, as well as debit and credit cards. In addition to the food and beverages available in Café Central, vending machines are located throughout the campus.

## Learning Center

The Learning Center, with locations on the main campus and ECC-Rolla, is a comprehensive student resource center providing academic support, tutoring, testing services, computer services and other student educational services. The Learning Center's mission is to help East Central College students succeed academically and achieve their educational goals.

The Learning Center Resources available to students include the following:

### Tutoring Services

The Learning Center provides tutoring services in writing, mathematics, science, and a variety of other academic areas. Degreed specialists and trained peer tutors work with students in a comfortable atmosphere. Additionally, the Learning Center has on hand a multitude of books, manuals, handouts, DVDs and other instructional support materials for student use. The Learning Center staff can direct students to appropriate and useful websites to provide additional academic support and tutorials. Group study rooms are available and regular group tutorials can be scheduled and led by peer tutors.

### Computer Services

Students may use computer resources in the Learning Center for writing papers, Internet connection, web based coursework and course-specific programs. Students using computer resources in the Learning Center may take advantage of available tutorial help as needed.

### The Testing Center

The campus Testing Center is located within the Learning Center and provides a secure testing environment. Students may arrange for specific course or class testing as well as a variety of other services.

### The Adaptive Lab

The Adaptive Technology Lab area of the Learning Center is equipped with specialized computer hardware and software for ACCESS students. Specialized equipment and professional support services are available in the adaptive lab to assist students with special needs.

The Learning Center professionals encourage students to visit the Learning Center and experience firsthand the many services provided by ECC to help students to academic success. Hours are posted each semester. Tours are available.

For more information visit <http://www.eastcentral.edu/learning-center/>.

## Library

East Central College Library provides the information resources and services that support the mission and programs of the college. With 26,000 books, subscriptions to over 100 magazines and journals, and almost 3,500 audio-visual items (DVDs, music CDs, and audio-books) the library has a wide variety of resources that inform and enrich our campus community.

In addition to this large number of print and audio/visual materials, the library offers online resources such as electronic books, e-reference, and dozens of databases, most with full-text articles. Several specialized databases support a variety of research requirements.

The library is also a member of MOBIUS, a statewide library system which allows ECC students and staff to request books from over 75 libraries throughout Missouri. The books can be requested online and are delivered to ECC-Union campus within three to four days and ECC-Rolla.

The library is an inviting space with casual study areas, individual study carrels and a group study room. Student computers, equipped with Microsoft Office, are available for class assignments and for searching the Internet. Students with their own laptops can login to ECC's wireless network and plug in to numerous electronic outlets. A small number of iPads and e-readers are available for check out at the Library Service Desk.

The library staff is dedicated to providing excellent customer service. The library offers research assistance in person, online with email on weekdays and online assistance with chat and text including overnight and weekends. One on one reference assistance is available at request of student.

For more information visit <http://www.eastcentral.edu/library/>.

## Lost and Found

The lost and found center will be located with the cashier in Buescher Hall. Items found will be kept until the end of each semester and then discarded. The College is not responsible for lost or stolen items, including items left unattended.

## Online Student Services: eCentral, FalconMail, Moodle

**eCentral** is an online system which allows students to view their academic and financial records and manage their account. After applying for admission, students have access to **eCentral** online services. Students are sent an acceptance letter containing a Personal Identification Number (PIN) which serves as a temporary password to allow access to grades, registration (with advisor approval), schedule changes, student email, degree audits, semester schedules, course information, unofficial transcripts, official transcript requests, account summaries, and online payments. **After receiving the PIN, students must activate their account and choose a new password. This login information will give students access to all online student services.** Computers are available for student use at several campus locations.

**FalconMail** is the primary means of student communication; students are required to monitor their FalconMail on a regular basis. Information sent to this account includes: updates on financial aid and billing, waitlist notification, academic progress, registration and other items of concern to students. For convenience, students may forward their FalconMail to another email account.

**Learning Management System – Moodle** is an online system used to facilitate distance learning and allow students and instructors to move beyond the physical limitations of the traditional classroom setting. Many courses are supplemented with online components which allow instructors and students to communicate regarding course resources, assignments and expectations.

Note: Students who need assistance with their online accounts should contact the Student Service Center or the Learning Center.

## Parking (BP 4.32)

636-584-6708/6709

### **Motor Vehicle Policy**

Operation of motorized vehicles by the public is permitted only on college roads and parking lots. Use of all other areas is prohibited. All motor vehicle operators will be governed by college regulations, and the statutes of the City of Union and laws of the State of Missouri.

### **Procedures:**

#### **Vehicle Registration and Parking Permits**

- A. Employees, regardless of classification, must register all motor vehicles they park or expect to park on college property. Motor vehicles must be registered at the Business Office within 48 hours of initial employment or within 48 hours of purchase.
- B. College parking permits must be displayed as directed. A student permit is not required, but all employees are required to have and display a permit. Only students or employees displaying state-issued handicapped parking permits or license plates are eligible for reserved handicapped parking.

#### **Parking Violations**

- A. Employees, students or visitor owners, operators or registrants will be held responsible for any traffic or parking violations involving their vehicle.
- B. Students and visitors will be held responsible for handicapped parking and fire lane violations at all times and reserved lot violations between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Fines may be levied in these cases by the College or the City of Union. College fines should be paid at the Business Office cashier's window.
- C. Those students who have outstanding fines at the end of the semester will be placed on a "hold" list. While the student is on this list, he/she can receive neither grades nor transcripts from the Registrar's Office and will be restricted from registering for any subsequent semesters. When the student is placed on the "hold" list, he/she will remain on it until the outstanding fines are paid.

#### **Abandoned Vehicles**

Vehicles abandoned on college grounds will be issued a college and/or city citation and will be towed at the owner's expense. The following are considered abandoned:

- (1) Vehicles displaying expired license plates.
- (2) Vehicles in an inoperative condition (including those with flat tires or engine problems) left on college grounds for a period exceeding 15 days. Such vehicles will be reported to the City of Union as abandoned vehicles.

#### **Visitors**

A college visitor is defined as any person other than a student or employee of ECC. Visitors are requested to comply with all college traffic regulations. A person operating a registered vehicle loaned by a relative or friend is not considered to have visitor status. Visitor parking tags may be obtained from campus security and shall be displayed in order to park in spaces or areas otherwise designed for staff parking.

## Photo I.D.

636-584-6588

Students enrolled in credit classes are required to go to the Student Service Center at any ECC location to obtain a student ID. The photo ID must be with the student while on campus, off campus facilities, or College sanctioned activities. Students will be required to use their student ID at the Bookstore, Library, Cashier, and Student Services. Students will be able to swipe their card to sign-in at the Learning Center, Testing Center, Fitness Center, and other locations on campus.

In order for a student to receive their ECC Student ID, they must present a current government issued photo ID, which contains the students' first and last names. The first card is free; the replacement fee for a lost or stolen card is \$10.

## Vending Machines

**636-584-6708/6709**

Refunds from vending machines located throughout the Union campus may be requested from the cashier window located in the Buescher Hall lobby on the first floor.

## Victim Services (Title IX Coordinator)

Any student who feels they have been a victim of sexual harassment or misconduct are encouraged to report this situation to the Title IX Administrator:

Title IX Administrator  
Vice President, Student Development  
Buescher Hall, Office # 131  
1964 Prairie Dell Road  
Union, MO 63084  
636-584-6565  
[stnotice@eastcentral.edu](mailto:stnotice@eastcentral.edu)

Deputy Title IX Administrator  
Director, Human Resources  
Multipurpose Building, #005  
1964 Prairie Dell Road  
Union, MO 63084  
636-584-6712  
[hrnotice@eastcentral.edu](mailto:hrnotice@eastcentral.edu)

Confidential counseling is also available to at the Student Service Center in Union. Call or visit the Student Service Center, 636-584-6588.

# STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

## Clubs and Organizations

Students are encouraged to participate in student clubs and organizations as a way to grow personally and professionally, perform community service, and become acquainted with other students and faculty. Clubs and organizations reflect current student interests and must be formally recognized by the Student Government Association. Examples of student organizations include: Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Student Missouri State Teachers Association, Art Club, Ecology Club, Pre-Engineering Club, H-VAC Club and the Literary Review.

### Student Organizations Policy

The establishment of and participation in student organizations, which support the mission of the College, is encouraged.

### Procedures:

To be established and maintained on the East Central College campus, a student organization must meet the following requirements:

1. Have a full-time employee sponsor.
2. File a mission statement and application with the Student Activities Coordinator.
3. Gain approval of the Student Government Association as a beneficial and worthy College organization.

Student organizations are governed by the constitution of the Student Government Association. Failure to function in accordance with the aforementioned mission statement or constitution will bring about loss of approval.

For more information visit <http://www.eastcentral.edu/student-activities/>.

## Intercollegiate Athletics

East Central College is a member of the Missouri Community College Athletic Conference (MCCAC) and the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). The College fields intercollegiate teams in Men's Soccer (Division I), Women's Softball (Division II), and Women's Volleyball (Division II). Men's Soccer and Women's Volleyball compete in the fall; Women's Softball competes in the spring. Students who are interested in participating should contact the athletic director or the team coach as early as possible.

## Student Activities/Social Activities/Cultural Events

Activities and events such as plays, concerts, art exhibits, movie nights, guest speakers, tournaments, field trips and social gatherings are offered each semester. Campus activities and performances are often produced by students and are aimed at enriching students' social and educational experience. Most events are free to students and open to the public.

## Student Government Association

The Student Government Association is the official governing organization of the student body and represents the students' views in matters involving campus improvement. Membership is comprised of club representatives and members-at-large who may become voting members with regular attendance.

## Student Media

The *Cornerstone* newspaper and website are produced by students enrolled in Applied Journalism courses and students who are involved in the ECC Student Media Club. The course and club are open to students who are interested in writing, editing, photography, graphic design and videography.