

Academic Amnesty

Mohawk Valley Community College's Academic Amnesty program is designed to give a fresh start to students who have been away from the College for four years or more and who return to complete a degree or certificate. Such students may apply to have unsatisfactory grades excluded from the calculation of the grade point average (GPA).

Eligibility requirements:

1. The student has not enrolled at MVCC for at least four years.
2. The student has re-matriculated into a degree or certificate program at MVCC.

Procedure:

1. The student must complete at least twelve credit hours with a GPA of at least 2.5.*
2. The student must submit an application for Academic Amnesty to the appropriate Center Dean along with a written statement that demonstrates both an understanding of what led to past academic difficulties and a strategy for successful completion of the degree or certificate.
3. The student must apply for Academic Amnesty within one calendar year from the date of re-matriculation.
4. Academic Amnesty may be granted only one time in a student's academic history at the College.

Limitations of Academic Amnesty:

1. Courses that were previously applied to a program for the purpose of graduation are not eligible for Academic Amnesty.
2. Academic Amnesty does not change or adjust financial aid eligibility. Federal and state standards for the evaluation of academic history may supersede the College's Academic Amnesty.
3. Outstanding financial obligations incurred by the student prior to approval of Academic Amnesty remain the responsibility of the student.
4. Students may be required to participate in academic intervention programs as a condition of their Academic Amnesty approval.
5. There is no guarantee that MVCC's Academic Amnesty will be recognized by any other college or university.
6. Grades earned in programs such as Nursing in which there is a limit in the number of times a course can be repeated, may not be eligible for Academic Amnesty. Students should consult with their Center Dean at the time of application.

Process:

1. The student submits the application for Academic Amnesty to the Dean of the academic center that houses the program/certificate in which the student has re-matriculated.
2. The Dean will review the applications with the statements and/or require documentation. The student is either disapproved or conditionally approved.
3. The Dean will notify the student in writing of the decision within two weeks of receipt of the application.

4. The student who is conditionally approved must meet the eligibility requirements of completion of the twelve credit hours after the re-matriculation with a 2.5 or higher GPA. Failure to meet this standard will result in ineligibility for Academic Amnesty.
5. The Dean may require the student to participate in the Academic Intervention Program.
6. The Dean will apply additional restrictions as required by programs at MVCC.
7. The Dean will notify the Office of Records and Registration when a request for academic amnesty has been approved. The college will use the new GPA calculations as the basis to determine the student's program GPA, the academic standing in subsequent semesters and honors at the time of graduation.

*The Vice President for Learning and Academic Affairs may approve exceptions as needed or based on the Dean's recommendation.