

BP 4231 GRADE CHANGES

**References:**

Education Code Sections 76224 and 76232;  
Title 5 Section 55025

**The Faculty Association and the Chancellor are currently working together on a MOU regarding grade changes. Make certain the language in this policy reflects any language revisions.**

The Chancellor shall implement procedures to assure the accuracy and integrity of all grades awarded by faculty. The procedures shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

- Assurance that in the absence of mistake, bad faith, fraud, or incompetence, the grades awarded by faculty shall be final.
- Procedures for students to challenge the correctness of a grade.
- The installation of security measures to protect grade records and grade storage systems from unauthorized access.
- Limitations on access to grade records and grade storage systems.
- Discipline for students or staff who are found to have gained access to grade records without proper authorization or to have changed grades without proper authorization.
- Notice to students, faculty, transfer institutions, accreditation agencies, and law enforcement agencies if unauthorized access to grade records and grade storage systems is discovered to have occurred.

Also see BP 3310 titled Records Retention and Destruction, AP 4231 titled Grade Changes, and BP/AP 5040 titled Student Records.

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**NOTE:** The **red ink** signifies language that is **legally required** and recommended by the Policy and Procedure Service and its legal counsel. This document was reviewed by the administrative team on

April 10, 2013. This document was reviewed by representatives of the Academic Senates on October 21, 2013.

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**Date Adopted:**

*(This is a new policy recommended by the  
Policy and Procedure Service)*

## Legal Citations for BP 4231

### Education Code Sections 76224 and 76232; Title 5 Section 55025

**76224.** (a) When grades are given for any course of instruction taught in a community college district, the grade given to each student shall be the grade determined by the instructor of the course and the determination of the student's grade by the instructor, in the absence of mistake, fraud, bad faith, or incompetency, shall be final.

(b) No grade of a student participating in a physical **education** class, however, may be adversely affected due to the fact that the student does not wear standardized physical **education** apparel where the failure to wear such apparel arises from circumstances beyond the control of the student.

**76232.** (a) Any student may file a written request with the chief administrative officer of a community college district to correct or remove information recorded in his or her student records which the student alleges to be: (1) inaccurate; (2) an unsubstantiated personal conclusion or inference; (3) a conclusion or inference outside of the observer's area of competence; or (4) not based on the personal observation of a named person with the time and place of the observation noted.

(b) Within 30 days of receipt of the request, the chief administrative officer, or his or her designee, shall meet with the student and the employee who recorded the information in question, if any, if the employee is presently employed by the community college district. The chief administrative officer or his or her designee shall then sustain or deny the allegations.

If the chief administrative officer, or his or her designee, sustains any or all of the allegations, he or she shall order the correction or removal and destruction of the information.

If the chief administrative officer, or his or her designee, denies any or all of the allegations and refuses to order the correction or removal of the information, the student, within 30 days of the refusal, may appeal the decision in writing to the governing board of the community college district.

(c) Within 30 days of receipt of an appeal, the governing board shall, in closed session with the student and the employee who recorded the information in question, if any, and if that employee is presently employed by the community college district, determine whether to sustain or deny the allegations.

If the governing board sustains any or all of the allegations, it shall order the chief administrative officer, or his or her designee, to immediately correct or remove and destroy the information.

The decision of the governing board shall be final.

Records of these administrative proceedings shall be maintained in a confidential manner and shall be destroyed one year after the decision of the governing board unless the student initiates legal proceedings relative to the disputed information within the prescribed period.

(d) If the final decision of the governing board is unfavorable to the student or if the student accepts an unfavorable decision by the chief administrative officer, the student shall have the right to submit a written statement of his or her objections to the information. This statement shall become a part of the student's record until the information objected to is corrected or removed.

## **5 CCR s 55025**

Cal. Admin. Code tit. 5, s 55025

TITLE 5. EDUCATION  
DIVISION 6. CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES  
CHAPTER 6. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION  
SUBCHAPTER 1. PROGRAMS, COURSES AND CLASSES  
ARTICLE 2. GRADING AND ACADEMIC RECORD SYMBOLS

s 55025. Grade Changes.

(a) In any course of instruction in a community college district for which grades are awarded, the instructor of the course shall determine the grade to be awarded each student in accordance with this article. The determination of the student's grade by the instructor shall be final in the absence of mistake, fraud, bad faith, or incompetency.

(b) For purposes of this section, "mistake" may include, but is not limited to, clerical errors and errors made by an instructor in calculating a student's grade.

(c) Procedures for the correction of grades shall be consistent with Education Code section 76232 or provide an alternative mechanism which will ensure that students receive a reasonable and objective review of the requested grade change. If the procedure requires the student to first request a grade change from the instructor, provisions shall be made for another faculty member to substitute for the instructor if the instructor is not available, the student has filed a discrimination complaint or the district determines that it is possible there has been gross misconduct by the original instructor.

(d) Procedures shall also include expunging the incorrect grade from the record.

(e) When grade changes are made as a result of course repetition in accordance with article 4 of this subchapter, appropriate annotations of any courses repeated shall be entered on the student's permanent academic record in such a manner that all work remains legible, insuring a true and complete academic history.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 66700 and 70901, Education Code. Reference: Sections 70901 and 76224, Education Code.