AIMS COMMUNITY COLLEGE POLICY

STUDENTS' RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

As members of an academic community, Aims' students are expected to conduct themselves in a mature and responsible manner. Students should at all times try to promote a sense of cooperation within the College and work to build an atmosphere that will be most conducive to the goals of higher education within the institution.

It is expected that the students of Aims Community College observe all local, state and federal laws and respect other members of the community. Aims' students neither gain nor lose any of the rights and responsibilities of other citizens by virtue of their student status. Aims Community College reserves the right to take necessary and appropriate action to protect the safety and well being of the campus community.

Students shall have the right to discuss and to express by orderly means any view in support of any cause, providing it does not disrupt the operation of the college or infringe on the rights of other members of the college community.

Students also have the right to peaceful assembly and to select speakers and guests to discuss issues of their choice. An invitation to a speaker shall not imply endorsement of the speaker's view by either the student group or the College administration. Peaceful assembly is defined as the purposeful gathering on campus, either within or outside a campus building, of two or more persons whose conduct is peaceful. A student group or organization planning a gathering or demonstration is required to provide written notice about time, place and content of gathering to the Dean of Student Services or his designee at least two (2) school days prior to the gathering.

A student has the right to: initiate grievance procedures when he/she believes that an act or decision made by a college employee resulted in a violation of one or more of his/her rights; examine his/her own personal records in the presence of the Dean of Student Services or his designee; express opinions and concerns regarding College related issues through the Associated Students of Aims Community College; and be free from explicit or implied sexual harassment and discrimination based on age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, national origin or disability.

Students, both on-campus and while participating in off-campus College sponsored activities, are expected to comply with College rules and regulations of the off-campus sites. It is the responsibility of the students to make themselves aware of the rules and regulations of the institution and to comply with those rules and regulations.

Students are held to standards of conduct relating to sexual harassment and sexual violence, as defined by the Office of Civil Rights (OCR), under the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis on sex in educational programs or activities and the right of students to receive an education free from sexual harassment and sexual violence, on campus and off campus.
1. Sexual harassment, as defined by the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) is:
   “…unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature, which can include unwelcome sexual advances, 
   requests for sexual favors, or other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature. 
   Thus, sexual harassment prohibited by Title IX can include conduct such as touching of a 
   sexual nature; making sexual comments, jokes, or gestures; writing graffiti or displaying or 
   distributing sexually explicit drawings, pictures, or written materials; calling students 
   sexually charged names; spreading sexual rumors; rating students on sexual activity or 
   performance; or circulating, showing, or creating e-mails or Web sites of a sexual nature.”

2. Sexual violence as defined by the OCR:
   “…refers to physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person’s will or where a person is 
   incapable of giving consent due to the victim’s use of drugs or alcohol. An individual also 
   may be unable to give consent due to an intellectual or other disability. A number of 
   different acts fall into the category of sexual violence, including rape, sexual assault, sexual 
   battery, and sexual coercion. All such acts of sexual violence are forms of sexual 
   harassment.”

Students are expected to practice academic honesty. Each student is responsible for contributing to a 
positive learning environment in classroom situations. Students who conduct themselves contrary to 
the best interest of the class as a whole may be dropped from the roster. Students should refrain from 
expressing derogatory opinions concerning race, gender, ethnicity, and should avoid using obscene 
language. They must refrain from any form of cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false 
information to the college.

Students shall not engage in the unauthorized or unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession or 
use of alcohol and/or illicit drugs on College property or as part of off-campus college activities, nor 
shall they possess or use illegal or unauthorized firearms, explosives, dangerous chemicals or other 
weapons on College property or at off-campus college activities.

Any question or concerns regarding students' rights and responsibilities can be directed to the Dean 
of Student Services.

The President shall implement and maintain procedures to carry out the intent of this policy.

APPROVED: Aims Board of Trustees
Date: September 26, 1968

Revised: December 9, 1980
      November 1996
      April 4, 2012
      February 17, 2014

5-601A Student Code of Conduct
5-601B Disciplinary Process
5-601C Student Grievance Process
5-601D Student Mediation, Assistance, and Advocacy Program Process (MAPP)