



## STUDENT - POLICY

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**NAME:** STUDENT APPEAL POLICY

**REFERENCE:** Student Appeal Procedures  
Post-Secondary Brokering Institution Student Appeal Policy & Procedures

### SCOPE

This policy applies to appeals received through the implementation of Great Plains College policies and procedures. Students wishing to appeal a decision made by a brokering institution shall be referred to that institution's student appeal policy and procedures.

### PURPOSE-PHILOSOPHY

The purpose of this policy is to recognize the rights of students to be treated in a fair and reasonable manner. We also acknowledge our staff's ability to implement policies and make decisions related to student academic and non-academic misconduct, as well as decisions related to student progress, attendance, harassment investigations, and financial decisions.

The *Student Appeal policy* is designed to ensure such decisions made by staff are held to standards of procedural fairness and allow for due process consistent with the principles of natural justice.

### Student Conduct/Academic Progress Appeals

Students have a right to:

- Be fully informed of any allegations against them.
- Respond to the allegations.
- Appeal disciplinary rulings or decisions affecting their academic progress

Great Plains College shall review student appeals in a fair and systematic manner.

### Financial Decision Appeals

Students have a right to appeal financial decisions, including those related to:

- Refunds
- Financial credits

Great Plains College shall assess financial appeals in a fair and systematic manner.

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A student at Great Plains College may appeal any college disciplinary, academic or financial ruling that they believe was applied unjustly, unfairly, or in a prejudicial manner and which negatively impacts their academic standing. This includes rulings made under the Student Conduct Policy, Student Academic Progress Policy, or Pricing and Costing Guidelines.

NOTE: *Decisions related to grade appeals are not subject to this policy. (See the Grade Appeal Policy.)*

### Grounds for Appeal

The rendering of a decision that impacts a student's academic standing is not, in itself, grounds for appeal. Appeals must be based on reasonable grounds, which typically include:

- Alleged misapplication of procedural regulations or policy – The decision-making process did not follow established college policies and procedures.



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- Alleged inconsistent, discriminatory or arbitrary application of the policy – The ruling was applied unfairly, inconsistently, or in a manner that demonstrate bias.
- New evidence – Information that was not available at the time of the decision and could reasonably impact the findings.

### **Exclusions**

- Rulings, decisions, policies and procedures of partner institutions are not subject to this policy unless specifically described in formal agreements.

The application of principles of procedural fairness at the time of initial investigation and ruling by the original decision maker will reduce the number of appeals.

### **Continuation of Studies During Appeal Process**

A student who has initiated the appeal process will continue in their program until the conclusion of the appeal, unless the immediate out-of-scope manager and/or Vice-President determines that their continued presence:

- Is detrimental to the campus community or learning environment, or
- Poses a safety risk to themselves or others.