# COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF VERMONT

# ACADEMIC FORGIVENESS POLICY

*See also:*
*VSC Academic Data Management policy*

**August 13, 2020**
**Revised: June 5, 2025**



**POLICY**

CCV recognizes that under certain extenuating circumstances, it is appropriate to reduce the effect of unsuccessful courses on a matriculated student's cumulative grade point average (GPA). As outlined below, CCV's Academic Forgiveness policy includes two provisions: Amelioration and Fresh Start.

A student in a degree or certificate program who wishes to mitigate the effects of uncharacteristically poor performance on their cumulative grade point average may petition the academic dean for an amelioration. Students in a degree or certificate program who wish to mitigate the effects of extended poor performance on their cumulative grade point average prior to a separation from CCV, and in which time their circumstances have changed substantively, may petition the academic dean for a fresh start.

**Academic Forgiveness – General Procedures**

1. A petition for academic forgiveness should take the form of a letter that outlines the reasons for poor academic performance and why academic forgiveness is being requested.

2. The petition should be accompanied by a letter from the student's advisor that supports the request.

3. A student may make use of this policy one time only in their VSC career. That is, they may choose either to ameliorate or invoke fresh start. They may not do both.

4. All forgiven grades will remain on a student's official transcript, but the grades will not be counted in the student's cumulative GPA.

5. Forgiven courses with grades of C- or above are eligible to meet program requirements.

6. Courses already counted in the GPA calculation for an awarded degree cannot be forgiven.

7. The decision to approve a request for academic forgiveness remains exclusively with the academic dean or designee.

8. CCV students seeking academic forgiveness for grades earned at another VSC college must meet the requirements outlined in the VSC Academic Data Management policy. The CCV academic dean will consult with the academic dean at the institution where the grades were awarded before approving academic forgiveness.

**PROCEDURES 1 – AMELIORATION**

1. A matriculated student may petition the academic dean to have selected courses removed from calculation in their cumulative grade point average.

2. In no case shall a student have more than fifteen (15) credits worth of coursework ameliorated. Only courses graded C or below are eligible for amelioration.

3. Once a student has achieved at least six (6) credits of coursework that is all graded above C-, they must meet with an advisor to discuss the purpose of amelioration and to determine if there are suitable reasons for filing a petition.

**PROCEDURES 2 – FRESH START**

1. A matriculated student who has been away from CCV for one year may petition the Academic Dean to have prior courses removed from calculation in their cumulative grade point average.

2. Students who have a GPA of 2.0 or better at the time of separation from CCV are not eligible for fresh start.

3. There is no credit limit when invoking the fresh start provision of this policy. If approved, all coursework before the time of separation will be ameliorated.

4. Once a student has achieved at least twelve (12) credits of coursework that is all graded above C-, they must meet with an advisor to discuss the purpose of fresh start and to determine if there are suitable reasons for filing a petition.