



Title of Policy: NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION POLICY

Policy (check one): New _____ Revised _____ Reformatted _____

Applies to (check all that apply):

Faculty Staff Students X

Division /Department College

Topic/Issue:

To amend the current policy that requires that all first-time, full-time students participate in a mandatory New Student Orientation program prior to registration for classes to include all first-time, part-time students.

Background to Issue/Rationale for Policy:

Research indicates that First-Year Experience Programs are relevant and necessary for students' retention in higher education (Mullendore and Banahan, (2005). New student *orientation* programs are critical to this experience. The programs make a substantial impact on welcoming and connecting students as they transition to a college or university. More importantly, these orientations introduce students to the individuals and resources they will need when they are in personal or academic jeopardy – resources that many students overlook or forget are available to assist with their success in college. Ultimately, orientation programs are the bridge, the linchpin, between the last stages of admission and the first stages of retention. Currently, first-time, part-time students are not required to participate in the New Student Orientation Program even though they represent the majority of our student enrollment.

State/Federal Regulatory Requirements (cite if applicable):

None

Policy Language:

It is the policy of Baltimore City Community College that **all** students enrolled in a degree or certificate program are required to participate in the College's New Student Orientation Program (either in-person or on-line) prior to registering for classes.

Proposed Implementation Date: Fall 2011

Proposed by: Dr. Alicia Harvey-Smith
Vice President/Senior Staff Member

Approved by the Board of Trustees: April 25, 2011

Originator/Division: Recruitment, Admissions and Registration, Student Success Center and First Year Experience/Student Affairs

****This Policy once approved by the Board of Trustees supersedes all other policies.***