

Academic Bankruptcy Policy

Background:

Many faculty and administrators have indicated the need for a policy that would allow students who attended County College of Morris in the past, and who had very poor academic records, to resume their studies at the College with a “clean slate.” The primary argument offered to the Academic Standards Committee was that an immature student fresh from high school who fares poorly in his classes very often becomes a mature, goal-oriented student who is eager to pursue serious study. Such a student should be afforded an opportunity to resume his academic career without being penalized for a long-standing record that does not reflect his present determination to succeed.

Recommendations:

1. Any student, full or part-time, may declare academic bankruptcy once in his career at County College of Morris.
2. There must be a five-year interim between the time a student takes his last course and the time he becomes eligible to declare academic bankruptcy, and resume his career at CCM.
3. The student’s “old” record is retained, with “bankruptcy policy applies” indicated on the official transcript. There must be a clear and distinct separation from the old record and the new.
4. The bankruptcy policy will be printed on the back of the official transcript.
5. Total bankruptcy includes all courses taken during the student’s first affiliation with the College. There is no “selective bankruptcy.” Bankruptcy includes the student’s entire record.
6. There is no minimum number of credits required before a student is eligible to declare academic bankruptcy.