2503 – Academic Clemency

Barton County Community College seeks to provide a supportive and challenging environment in which students can improve their basic intellectual skill and equip themselves for a fulfilling life and responsible citizenship in a world characterized by change. We acknowledge that there are circumstances that necessitate an academic "fresh start" and offer academic clemency as a means to make academic rehabilitation possible.

The following criteria are effective as of Fall 2006:

A. Applicants for academic clemency are eligible to apply for clemency after a two-year waiting period from the date of their respective academic "crisis."
B. Applicants for academic clemency must demonstrate improved academic performance in the semester(s) subsequent to their academic crisis (i.e., at least 12 credit hours and a 2.5 grade point average) to be eligible for clemency.
C. No more than 1-2 consecutive semesters of clemency may be considered.

The following limitations apply:

1. Applicants receiving academic clemency are not eligible for graduation with honors at Barton County Community College.
2. Applicants may receive academic clemency only once.
3. Only course credit earned at Barton County Community College is eligible for academic clemency.
4. Courses which the student can retake as part of his/her current program of study are not eligible for academic clemency.
5. The courses for which the student is given academic clemency will remain on the transcript, but grades received in those courses will not be used to calculate the student's cumulative grade point average (GPA). Courses remain on the transcript but are coded with a CL grade. Hours are included in attempted hours only.

The process for applying for academic clemency:

6. Applicants must obtain, complete, and sign the application for clemency and submit all supporting documentation to the Registrar.
7. Such action shall take place within 30 working days of the receipt of the request. Applicants for academic clemency are asked to identify a limited number of courses (no more than 7) within the stated period (1 – 2 consecutive semesters), and include this information with documentation regarding their clemency appeal.
8. Applicants must acknowledge the circumstances surrounding their academic crisis, and explain what they have done to effect recovery.
9. Although the final decision remains with the Vice President of Instruction and Student Services, the decision-making process shall be informed by the recommendation(s) of the respective associate dean(s), and/or the respective faculty.
10. If, in the decision-making process, there is not clear consensus, an ad hoc committee shall meet and make a recommendation to the Vice President of Instruction and Student Services. The membership of the committee shall include the respective faculty member(s) and appropriate associate dean(s).
11. The decision of the Vice President of Instruction and Student Services is final.

(Based on policy 1503; approved by President on 9-28-06)