



Book	Board Policies
Section	Chapter 4: Academic Affairs
Title	Academic Freedom
Code	4030
Status	Active
Last Revised	June 9, 2016
Last Reviewed	June 9, 2016

Reference: Title 5 Section 51023;
ACCJC Accreditation Eligibility Requirement 20 and
ACCJC Accreditation Standard I.C.7 (formerly II.A.7)

NOTE: Boards are **legally required** to adopt a statement of academic freedom.

Academic employees must be free to teach and the students free to learn. Both must have access to the full range of ideas, materials, and options. It is the responsibility of academic employees to encourage students to study varying points of view and to respect the students' right to form, hold, and express judgments, opinions, and beliefs, clearly identifying them as such.

The responsibility of protecting academic freedom rests with the Board of Trustees, administration, educational supervisors, and academic employees. Academic employees have a primary responsibility to develop the curriculum and select instructional materials and methods of presentation appropriate to meet the goals of that curriculum. Academic employees, educational supervisors, and administrators may recommend policies for Board consideration when there are criticisms of staff, methods, or materials. Academic employees, educational supervisors, and administrators must develop procedures to implement those Board-adopted policies related to academic freedom.

When academic employees are performing their assigned responsibilities, they shall be free to express personal opinions and pursue scholarly, literary, and/or artistic endeavors.

Reviewed and Revised June 9, 2016
Reviewed and revised: July 14, 2010
Adopted: July 21, 2004