

# Full-time Faculty Guidebook

2025-2026

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This Guidebook is intended as a resource for the faculty and staff who work within the Academic Affairs unit of Nashville State Community College (Nashville State). The guidebook will reference Nashville State policies but is not intended to replace or supersede Nashville State or Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) policies. Policies and procedures included in the Handbook shall comply with Federal, State of Tennessee, and TBR laws, policies, procedures, and guidelines. Where there is conflict in procedures cited in the Guidebook with those of Federal regulations, State of Tennessee, or TBR, the following shall be the order of compliance: Federal regulations, State of Tennessee, TBR, and lastly, Nashville State policy.

This Guidebook is a dynamic document that needs continual updating in order to meet the needs of those for whom it was written and to reflect policy and procedural changes. As is the case with the College Catalog, this Academic Affairs Guidebook will be reviewed annually.

# **Section 1: Getting Started**

## **Introduction to the College**

Founded in 1970, Nashville State Community College has been dedicated to bringing affordable and accessible higher education to Middle Tennessee for decades. Today, Nashville State continues to prepare students for success with several campuses across Tennessee.

In 1984, Nashville State joined the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) system of state universities and community colleges. In 2002, the Tennessee General Assembly and the Governor expanded the mission of Nashville State to a comprehensive community college.

As a community college, Nashville State offers the Associate of Applied Science technical and career degrees, and the Associate of Arts, the Associate of Fine Arts, the Associate of Science, and the Associate of Science in Teaching transfer degrees.

Nashville State Community College has seven campuses that serve the seven counties of northern middle Tennessee: Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, Montgomery, and Stewart.

The seven campuses are:

Clarksville Campus 1760 Wilma Rudolph Blvd. Clarksville, TN 37040

Dickson Campus 206 West Walnut St. Dickson, TN 37055

East Davidson Campus 2845 Elm Hill Pike

Nashville, TN 37214

Humphreys County Campus 695 Holly Lane Waverly, TN 37185

North Davidson Campus 1520 Gallatin Pike Madison, TN 37115

Southeast Campus 5248 Hickory Hollow Pkwy. Antioch, TN 37013

White Bridge Campus 120 White Bridge Pike Nashville, TN 37209

## THEC and TBR

## Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC)

Formed in 1967, the Tennessee Higher Education Commission is the state's higher education coordinating board and is responsible for an array of duties under TCA 49-7-202. https://www.tn.gov/thec/about-thec-tsac/commission-members0.html

- Administration of the outcomes-based funding formula
- Approval of all new academic degree programs
- Development of the state master plan for higher education
- Serving as the hub for postsecondary data analysis and research
- Authorization and regulation of proprietary institutions
- Serving as the state approving agency for veteran education benefits

#### Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR)

The Tennessee Board of Regents system is the largest system of higher education in Tennessee. It is governed by 19 board members. The board meets four times a year at regularly scheduled meetings, and the chairman may call additional meetings during the year as needed. The board sets policies and guidelines that govern all TBR institutions. All board meetings are open to the public and the press as observers under Tennessee law.

According to its bylaws, the purpose of the Board of Regents is to do the following:

- 1. Establish, govern, manage, and control the State University and Community College System of Tennessee.
- 2. The Board of Regents views itself as the responsible agency for purposes and proposals of the System subject only to legislatively mandated review.
- 3. Develop a system organization that will provide coordination of the system of institutions and area vocational-technical schools while at the same time preserving the unique qualities,

- integrity, and regional and community relationships of each of the institutions and schools.
- 4. Provide essential centralized services and uniform procedures which will increase the individual effectiveness and improve operations of each of the institutions and schools of the system.
- 5. Increase the ability of the institutions and schools and the System to compete and account for state appropriations, while providing more efficient utilization of state resources provided for their support.
- 6. Assure more effective lay and public direction and system policy guidance thus preserving citizens' control of postsecondary education in Tennessee

## **College Leadership**

President's Office -

- Internal Auditor
- College Foundation
- Communications & Marketing
- Strategic Analytics & Planning
- Human Resources
- Vice President Business and Finance
  - Operations
  - Safety and Security
  - Technology Services Division
  - Finance and Accounting
- Vice President Student Affairs and Enrollment Management
  - o Financial Aid
  - Admissions and Records
  - Welcome Center and Career Services
  - Testing Center
  - Access Center
  - Student Life
  - Student Success Center
- Vice President Academic Affairs and Workforce Development
  - Workforce Development
  - Learning Resources/Library
  - Academic Schools School of Arts and Sciences, School of Business and Professional Studies, School of Health Sciences, School of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math
  - Extended Campuses High School Initiatives and Dual Enrollment
  - Extended Campuses Clarksville Campus, Dickson Campus, East Davidson Campus, Humphreys County Campus, North Davidson Campus, Southeast Campus
  - o Online Learning

# Organization of the Academic Affairs Unit

The Academic Affairs unit is led by the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development. Included within Academic Affairs are: Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs, Associate Vice President of Extended Campuses and

High School Initiatives, Instructional Deans; Campus Directors, Dean of Learning Resource Center, Executive Director of Workforce Development, Executive Director of Online Learning & Teaching Innovation, and Director of High School Initiatives.

#### Academic Affairs leadership Team (AALT)

This group addresses issues such as day-to-day operations of academic schools and interactions with other units on campus, academic scheduling, curricula, workforce connections, and programs and services.

#### **Enrollment Management**

This group addresses issues that affect student enrollment, retention, recruiting, and graduation. It is a collaborative team comprised of core team members from Academic Affairs, Enrollment Management, Financial Aid, Student Services, Marketing, and Planning and Institutional Effectiveness.

## **Shared Governance**

The purpose of standing, task force, and ad hoc committees at Nashville State is to create a structure that supports the mission, strategic initiatives, and functionality of the college. Committees fulfill specific needs of the college and may be standing (with sub-committees), task forces, or ad hoc groups. Representative participation is key to supporting our commitment to principles of shared governance, inclusivity, and diversity. Membership on a committee offers the opportunity for the campus community to serve the college in a meaningful way.

Current committee rosters and minutes can be found on the Nashville State SharePoint site - search "Committees" to access the Committees SharePoint page. All employees have access to SharePoint through their Microsoft Office web portal.

**Sponsorship:** Each committee has a direct link to Nashville State Administration through the sponsorship process. All committees have a Senior Staff sponsor who serves as a resource for committee activities as needed.

**Standing Committees**: established groups that have on-going responsibilities and charges that are essential to supporting student learning, retention, and success, ensuring shared governance, making informed recommendations, fulfilling strategic initiatives, and supporting the framework for consistent, representative shared governance. Each standing committee has set parameters (example: only staff on Staff Assembly). Outside of those parameters, membership should be broad in scope and representation.

Examples: Faculty Senate, President's Cabinet, Assemblies, College Planning Council
Each standing committee may have sub-committees or ad hoc groups that that may work towards meeting on-going goals of the full committee.

**Sub-committees**: Appointments or elections to these sub-committees are determined by the full committee. Sub-committees are responsible for documenting their work and submitting that work (minutes, project reports, etc.) to the full standing committee on a pre-determined schedule. Each sub-committee has inherent parameters. Sub-committees differ from ad hoc groups as their work is on-going, to repeat annually.

Example: Technology Access Fund is a sub-committee of the Technology Committee.

*Ad Hoc*: Groups created for a specific purpose, within a specific time frame, to address an issue or task under the direction of an existing standing committee, sub-committee, or task force. The

committee officer(s) shall appoint or recruit members. The group exists until the purpose or goal is accomplished and its report delivered to the appropriate administrator

Example: Office Hours Ad Hoc group reporting to Faculty Senate

**College-wide Ad Hoc:** Small groups, created by a President or Vice President, for a specific purpose, within a specific time frame, to address an issue or task impacting multiple college divisions. The President or Vice President forming the group will appoint a chair and approve membership. The group exists until the purpose or goal is accomplished and its report delivered to the appropriate administrator.

Each ad hoc receives its charge or mission in writing, including expected outcomes, and a timeline for completion of the work. If work is expected to extend beyond the initially determined timeline, the task force must provide an updated timeline for completion or make recommendations for continuation, including possible transition to a standing committee.

Example: Tenure and Promotion Process Review

*College-wide Task Force:* Only the President or a Vice President may form a task force for a specific purpose, issue, or task. The Senior Staff member (or delegate) must notify the Committee on Committees of the proposed task force formation with guidelines, membership, and chair and recorder before the initial meeting.

Each task force receives its charge or mission in writing, including expected outcomes, and a timeline for completion of the work. If work is expected to extend beyond the initially determined timeline, the task force must provide an updated timeline for completion or make recommendations for continuation, including possible transition to a standing committee.

Example: Compensation Task Force

Nashville State's shared governance structure provides for the following standing committees:

- 1. Accessibility Committee
- 2. Administrative Assembly
- 3. Business Continuity
- 4. Behavioral Intervention/Care Team
- 5. Charitable Solicitation
- 6. College Planning Council
- 7. Committee on Committees
- 8. Curriculum
- 9. Distance Education
- 10. College-Wide Promotion Review

- 11. Faculty Senate
- 12. Faculty Sick Leave Bank
- 13. College-Wide Tenure Review
- 14. General Education
- 15. Institutional Review Board (IRB)
- 16. President's Cabinet
- 17. Staff Assembly
- 18. Staff Sick Leave Bank
- 19. Technology

# **Emergency Alert System**

Students, staff, and faculty can also sign up for Nashville State's emergency alert system RAVE. RAVE is an automated messaging system that sends messages to your cell phone and college email account in the event of a college closing or weather-related delay. To sign up, go to <a href="https://www.getrave.com/login/nscc">https://www.getrave.com/login/nscc</a>.

## **College Closings and Inclement Weather**

Nashville State Community College campus closure decisions are made in response to actual conditions at the various campus locations with consideration of weather forecasts. Students and employees are responsible for using their own best judgment with regard to weather conditions.

The President has authorized the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Workforce Development (VPAA), in consultation with the Director of Safety and Security, the Director of Facilities, and/or Extended Campus Directors, to make campus closure decisions. Extended campus directors will consult with the AVP Extended Campuses and the VPAA.

The decision to delay or cancel classes at the White Bridge Campus will also serve as the decision for the East Davidson, Southeast Campus, and North Davidson Campus. Separate decisions will be made for the Clarksville Campus, Dickson Campus, and Humphreys County Campuses. Classes held at a high school site will follow the respective public-school system closing decision.

When a decision is made to close a campus, the VPAA notifies the President the other VP's, the AVP(s), Academic Affairs Leadership Team, Computer Services, and AVP Marketing and Public Relations. Notifications are made by telephone, email, and/or text message.

The AVP Marketing and Public Relations notifies TV stations (channels 2, 4, and 5) and the Nashville State Webmaster. The Webmaster notifies the campus community via the college's website and social media outlets. The Computer Services Department puts a message on the college's phone greeting and voicemail systems (615-353-3333).

If severe weather or an emergency situation necessitates that a campus closes while classes are in session, the Department of Safety and Security will use the campus communications system to notify all personnel who are on campus. Members of the college community are strongly encouraged to sign up to receive emergency closure/cancelation alerts.

Whenever possible, announcements to delay or cancel classes will be made at least two hours prior to the closing or delay. When the campus is not closed, but an individual faculty member is not able to make it to campus due to weather condition, the faculty member will post an announcement or other instructions for students using D2L. Faculty members are also responsible for submitting a Class Cancelation Form to their Instructional Dean and extended Campus Director.

In July, 2024 TBR issued the following statement: "Presidents, in collaboration with their academic leaders, should ensure that faculty are prepared to adapt their instruction for hybrid or remote learning at any point during the semester."

Each in-person course should have an associated D2L course shell or another online platform where faculty can, at a minimum, upload the following:

- 1. Course syllabi
  - a. Course syllabi should contain a note on how each faculty member will adapt their classroom work to an online environment e.g., a synchronous, online class via Teams or

- Zoom or a reading with a required discussion posting. Note: TCATs are required to monitor and document attendance using technology capable of monitoring attendance in at least 50 minutes of each 60-minute clock hour through a synchronous modality.
- b. This campus closure protocol should keep in mind that students may be impacted by the event that closed campus e.g., loss of internet during a winter storm. It is encouraged that assignments have flexible due dates.
- 2. Instructor contact information
- 3. A message that students should check D2L or other online platforms in the event of a campus closure for updates on assignments and work that will be replacing the missed on-ground class.

Students are not to be penalized if they are unable to make it to class or arrive late due to weather. In such cases, students need to contact their faculty members (preferably through email in advance of the scheduled class) indicating that they have special weather-related circumstances that prevent their attendance.

# **Section 2: Faculty Information and Responsibilities**

#### **Adjunct Faculty Levels**

Adjunct faculty are part-time, temporary employees whose contracts typically cover a one-semester or summer term period to teach up to twelve (12) credits in fall and spring and up to seven (7) per summer semester and are paid by the teaching load credit according to the chart below. In special situations, adjuncts may teach in excess of credits in a semester as outlined above, but must have approval from the VPAA to do so.

Adjunct faculty members are not required to hold scheduled office hours; however, students must have access to adjunct faculty members. Access can be provided right before and after class and/or by phone, email, or virtual conference. Adjunct faculty members are expected to meet all classes promptly as scheduled. In the case of unanticipated absences, instructors must notify the Dean or Director as applicable. Any absenteeism may be reflected in the amount of pay. Adjunct faculty contracts must be acknowledged through myNSCC by the first day of class of each semester or term.

Adjunct salaries are based on the instructor's qualifications and experience. Credentials determined by the appropriate Instructional Dean in accordance with SACSCOC requirements. Healthcare programs may develop an altered system for payment of clinical faculty with prior approval of the VPAA.

Category 1: \$650 per TLC

Category 2: \$680 per TLC Successful completion of 12 TLCs at Nashville State

Category 3: \$710 per TLC Successful completion of 21 TLCs at Nashville State

Category 4: \$740 per TLC Successful completion of 30 TLCs at Nashville State OR successful completion of 9 TLCs at Nashville State and the Culturally Responsive Teaching Certificate through the Nashville State Teaching Center.

## Full- time Faculty Appointments and Rank

All new full-time faculty are required to complete the New Faculty Orientation provided by the Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development.

Full-time faculty appointments may be Temporary, Term, Tenure-track, or Tenured as defined in Nashville State policy 05-01-01.

*Temporary*. Full-time faculty employed in non-tenurable appointments for a specific time appropriate to that purpose. They are not eligible for promotion consideration. Temporary appointments should not exceed one academic year but are renewable for a maximum of three academic years. Temporary appointments may not be converted to term, tenure-track or tenure appointments.

*Term.* Full-time faculty employed in non-tenurable appointments. They are eligible for promotion consideration. A faculty member should not remain in a term appointment for more than six years. A term appointment may be converted to a tenure-track appointment with up to three years credit given toward the probationary period of employment required for tenure consideration.

*Tenure-track*. Full-time faculty who are employed in a probationary period of employment preliminary to consideration for tenure. They are eligible for promotion consideration.

*Tenured.* Full-time faculty who have been awarded tenure by the Tennessee Board of Regents pursuant to the provisions of this policy. They are eligible for promotion consideration.

#### **Conversion from Term to Tenure Track**

The conversion of a term appointment to a tenure-track appointment is allowed. Faculty who have never had a tenure-track contract at Nashville State in the past may request conversion to a tenure-track contract by notifying their instructional dean in writing before November 15.

Moving from a term contract to a tenure-track contract does not guarantee that a faculty member will earn tenure. The faculty member will, during the sixth year of tenure-track contract, have to

apply and complete the tenure process in accordance with TBR and campus policies. A faculty member who does not receive tenure as a result of that process may not request that the contract be changed back to a term contract.

## Process for Requesting Conversion to Tenure Track

- 1. Faculty member submits a request for conversion to tenure track to their Instructional Dean by November 15.
- 2. The Dean will make a recommendation to the Vice President of Academic Affairs about the conversion of the individual to a tenure-track contract, which would become effective the following year. The recommendation must be forwarded to the VPAA no later than December 1 of the year in which the faculty member requests conversion.

For each faculty position, the dean will first examine relevant information to determine whether or not a recommendation for a tenured position is in the best interests of the

institution. The information provided and considered must include, but is not limited to:

- Enrollment and graduates for at least five years, when appropriate.
- Nashville State faculty student credit hours (SCH) production and faculty/student ratios for at least five years.
- Nashville State full-time/adjunct faculty percentages for at least five years.
- Nashville State percentage of TLCs in the department taught by tenured faculty for at least five years.
- Current and anticipated curriculum needs.

If it is determined that staffing needs suggest that adding a tenured position is in the best interests of the institution, the Dean will prepare a recommendation for a tenure-track contract for the faculty member requesting conversion. Information presented must include, but is not limited to:

- Faculty member's credentials and qualifications. Credentials must be exceptionally strong.
- Expertise, certifications, degrees, experiences needed and anticipated.
- Student and supervisor evaluations of the individual faculty member.

If the instructional dean recommends conversion of the contract, a recommendation about granting one (1) to three (3) years credit toward tenure for prior service can be included. The recommendation must be justified through evidence of effective teaching and/or improved academic credentials, such as progress toward earning a higher degree if a higher degree is possible. Any credit for prior service can be awarded only at the time of the initial tenure-track contract.

If the Dean recommends not converting the contract, they will inform the faculty member of that decision in writing with an explanation of their decision.

- 3. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will make recommendations to the President about the conversion of a term contract to a tenure-track contract by March 1.
- 4. The President will make decisions regarding the recommendations and faculty members will be notified of the President's decision by the last day of the spring term.
- 5. Once a faculty member is converted from a term contract to a tenure-track contract, the Dean will work closely and communicate regularly with the faculty member to ensure they are fully prepared to apply for tenure at the end of the tenure-track contract period.

#### **Faculty Rank**

Promotion in rank is in recognition of past achievement of the individual being considered for promotion. In addition, the advancement in rank is in recognition of future potential and a sign of confidence that the individual is capable of even greater accomplishments and of assuming greater responsibilities. The policy is to make promotions strictly on consideration of merit tempered by college and fiscal considerations. The purpose of this policy is to help ensure that promotions are made objectively, equitably, impartially, and in recognition of merit consistent with policy guidelines.

The president of the college is responsible for the master staffing plan of the college. In developing such a plan, the president will consider the fiscal impact of each promotion recommended to the Board.

#### Instructor

- Potential ability in teaching, service/outreach, and scholarship/creative activities/research.
- As determined to be appropriate for the instructional discipline, either an Associate or Baccalaureate degree (i.e., Career Studies) or an earned Master's degree or higher from an accredited institution in the discipline or related area.
- Evidence of good character, mature attitude, and professional integrity.

#### Assistant Professor

- Documented evidence of ability in teaching, service/outreach, and scholarship/creative activities/research.
- As determined to be appropriate for the instructional discipline, either a Baccalaureate degree (i.e., Career Studies) or an earned Master's degree or higher from an accredited institution in the instructional discipline or related area.
- At least two years in rank.
- Evidence of good character, mature attitude, and professional integrity.

#### Associate Professor

• Documented evidence of high-quality professional productivity in teaching, service/outreach, and scholarship/creative activities/research.

- As determined to be appropriate for the instructional discipline, either a Baccalaureate degree (i.e., Career Studies) or an earned Master's degree or higher from an accredited institution in the instructional discipline or related area.
- At least three years in rank.
- Evidence of good character, mature attitude, and professional integrity.

#### Professor

- Documented evidence of sustained high-quality professional productivity in teaching, service/outreach, and scholarship/creative activities/research.
- Earned doctorate or TBR-recognized terminal degree from an accredited institution in the instructional discipline or related area. TBR recognizes the following degrees as terminal (incorporated herein by reference of the TBR Terminal Degree Listing):
  - o M.F.A. in Studio Art or Creative Writing (NASAD guidelines)
  - o M.L.S. in Library Science (or Master's in Library Science)
  - o M.M. in certain Music specialties (NASM)
  - Master's in Engineering or Master's with Major in Engineering (Engineering Technology, University or Community College)
  - The J.D. degree is not recognized as a doctorate; however, it may be considered as a terminal degree in disciplines directly associated with legal studies.
- At least 5 years in rank.
- Documented evidence of teaching excellence and superior contribution to student development or superior scholarly or creative activity. The absence of such evidence may prevent advancement to the rank of professor. Since there is no higher rank, promotion to professor is taken with great care and requires a substantial level of achievement. This rank is not a reward for long service; rather it is recognition of superior achievement within the discipline with every expectation of continuing contribution to the college and the larger academic community.
- Evidence of good character, mature attitude, professional integrity, and a high degree of academic excellence and responsibility.

Note: Minimum criteria may be waived if approved by the college president when a candidate offers extraordinary qualifications in lieu of the stated minimum rank criteria. Such approval must be supported by evidence of the extraordinary nature of the qualifications. For example, a candidate with recognized national prominence and expertise might qualify for such a waiver. An exception to the minimum rank criteria must be recommended by the president to the Chancellor or designee. Upon approval of such an exception by the Chancellor, the faculty member's recommendation for promotion will go forward to the Board as meeting the minimum rank criteria.

## Nashville State Process for Faculty Promotion

Promotion in rank is in recognition of past achievement of the individual being considered for promotion. In addition, the advancement in rank is in recognition of future potential and a sign of confidence that the individual is capable of even greater accomplishments and of assuming greater responsibilities. The policy is to make promotions strictly on consideration of merit tempered by college and fiscal considerations. The purpose of this policy is to help ensure that promotions are made objectively, equitably, impartially, and in recognition of merit consistent with the following policy guidelines.

The president of the college is responsible for the master staffing plan of the college. In developing such a plan, the president will consider the fiscal impact of each promotion recommended to the Board.

Applicants should feel free to talk with their Instructional Dean, peers, and/or the Vice President of Academic Affairs for additional information about portfolio contents. Materials should be arranged as separate sections within the portfolio, indicated by dividers and sub-dividers to improve readability. Tabs or colored sheets can be used to delineate different sections and subsections. Documentation within Performance Criteria sections 2, 3, and 4 should include annotated lists. The annotation should include a description of the accomplishment and dates. Evaluation of results strengthens the application.

Materials should generally be listed in reverse chronological order with most recent first. Documentation of effective job performance should be included in the portfolio. Verification in the form of actual documents, conference programs, thank-you letters, etc. should not be included in the portfolio, but such materials should be available in the applicant's personal files

Applicants should consult Nashville State Promotion Policy Section: Criteria to be Considered in Promotion Recommendations when assembling promotion portfolios. All required materials must be included. Portfolio information will fall into four general categories:

- Promotion Forms (Six forms listed below)
- Performance Criteria: Teaching
- Performance Criteria: Service and Outreach
- Performance Criteria: Scholarship, Creative Activities, and Research

#### **Required Promotion Forms**

Faculty applying for promotion must complete the six forms listed below and submit them as a part of the portfolio documenting effectiveness as a faculty member.

#### 1. Application Form

Complete all items on the form. The immediate supervisor determines whether the applicant meets all eligibility requirements of TBR and college policy and works with the applicant to prepare a thorough and informative portfolio. Signatures indicate verification of applicant's portfolio materials.

#### 2. Committee Recommendation Form

No action needed other than to include the form in the application.

#### 3. Teaching Experience Form

Full-time college teaching is defined as a) an average of 15 teaching load credits per semester, and b) a minimum of 30 teaching load credits per year. The total years full-time at Nashville State should include credit for prior experience (only if approved in the letter of initial appointment). Include total years completed (as of date promotion will go in effect). Include years of full-time experience at another college.

Part-time teaching is defined as the number of teaching load credits during a semester divided by 15. Part-time teaching at another college may be included as evidence of professional experience. However, part-time college teaching experience may not count for credit toward the

minimum years of eligibility for promotion unless such credit is awarded in the initial appointment letter (Include all experience that is related).

## 4. Related Work Experience Form

Include all work experience that is related to the teaching assignment. High school teaching may count as related work experience only if relevant to the courses taught at Nashville State or as reflected in your personnel records.

#### 5. Performance Criteria Weight Form

Select weightings of consideration for each area within the approved guidelines. Weightings allow a faculty member some selection based on his or her perceptions of particular strengths

#### 6. Evaluation Checklist for Faculty Promotion/Tenure Application

Include this form in the application and ensure that referenced materials are included as appropriate.

## Process and Timeline for Application:

- 1. The individual faculty member will initiate a request for promotion by notifying their Instructional Dean in writing of their intent to submit an application not later than the *September 15* in the year in which they intend to apply. The faculty member may submit an application for promotion during their last year required in rank. The Instructional Dean will verify that the faculty member has served the minimum number of years in rank to be eligible.
- 2. After choosing to apply for promotion, the faculty member will prepare a promotion application to be submitted to their Instructional Dean not later than the *fourth Monday in October*. The promotion application should include documentation on all of the following three categories: Teaching, Service and Outreach, and Scholarship, Creative Activities, and Research. Candidates for promotion should reference the evaluation checklist for faculty promotion distributed by the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs each fall term.
- 3. At any step in the promotion application process, those responsible for reviewing the application may contact the applicant for needed information or clarification of material in the application notebook. Faculty applicants must not approach members of the Campus wide Committee for information. Faculty members serve on this committee as part of their professional service to the college and must not discuss the deliberations of the committee.
- 4. Promotion applications will be reviewed by a Peer Review Committee from the applicant's school. The role of the Peer Review Committee is to support the application by reviewing their materials and making suggestions for improvements. Updates can be made to the application by the applicant prior to submission to the Instructional Dean. This committee will consist of three to five faculty members elected annually from the school.

Members of the Promotion Peer Review Committee must have successfully gone through the promotion process at least once at Nashville State. No individual can serve on both the Peer Review Promotion Committee and the Campus-wide Promotion Review Committee at the same time. The Peer Review Committee will make a recommendation regarding the promotion application and provide the application and their recommendation to the Instructional Dean by the *fourth Monday in November*.

- 5. The Instructional Dean, in consultation with an off-campus Director if needed, will evaluate the candidate's application and prepare a recommendation letter regarding promotion and submit the letter and the application to the Vice President of Academic Affairs (VPAA) by the *third Friday in December*.
- 6. The VPAA will distribute applications for promotion to the Campus-wide Promotion Review Committee by the *first business day in January*. The Promotion Review Committee will consist of nine members, two representatives elected from each Academic School, and one representative from the Faculty Senate. Members of the Promotion Review Committee must have successfully gone through the promotion process at least once at Nashville State. Members will serve staggered, two-year terms. Instructional Deans are not eligible to serve on this committee and no faculty member will serve on both the peer and college-level promotion committees at the same time.
- 7. The Promotion Review Committee selects its own chairperson and will determine the distribution of assignments in order to manage its workload appropriately. The Committee might decide, for example, that each application will be reviewed by three members and presented to the entire Committee by those reviewers. In no case should an application be reviewed by fewer than three members of the Committee. The Promotion Review Committee makes a recommendation concerning the promotion of the faculty applicant and submits the application to the VPAA by the *second Monday in February*.
- 8. The VPAA makes a recommendation concerning promotion of the faculty applicant and submits the application to the President by the *first Monday in March*.
- 9. The President makes a recommendation concerning the promotion of the faculty and the faculty member is notified of the President's decision by the *last Monday in March*.
- 10. A faculty member wishing to appeal the president's recommendation relative to his or her promotion request must do so in writing to the President by the *first Monday in April*. The applicant must state the basis for the appeal and provide evidence that the appeal is justified in writing at the time of the appeal. Appeals may be based only on improper evaluation or unfair and biased evaluation of application.

Improper evaluation shall mean that the decision made was based upon inadequate consideration of materials provided in the portfolio or from determination of inaccurate information provided in the portfolio.

Unfair and biased evaluation shall mean that the decision was based upon factors other than the promotion criteria as stated in this policy.

- 11. If an appeal is filed, a three-person committee will be formed to consider the appeal. Committee membership will consist of one administrator appointed by the President, the Chair of the Faculty Senate, and an additional faculty Senator appointed by the Faculty Senate Chair. No member of the appeal committee may have either submitted a tenure or promotion application in the same year or have served in the promotion review process of the candidate filing the appeal in any capacity.
- 12. The committee will review the appeal request and all promotion recommendations to

determine if the decision was reached in accordance with college policy.

- 13. The committee will submit a report of its findings to the president within five working days after the committee reviews the appeal. After receiving the report from the committee, the president will determine whether or not to rescind or uphold the original recommendation and notify the faculty member of the final decision.
- 14. The President makes a recommendation concerning the promotion of the faculty applicant to the Chancellor during the *third week in April*.
- 15. The Tennessee Board of Regents receives the recommendations and makes a decision regarding the promotion of the faculty applicant during their *Board meeting in June*.
- 16. If approved, the promotion will become effective in the following academic year.

## **Promotion Application Timeline**

4<sup>th</sup> Monday in October Applications due to Instructional Deans for distribution to

Peer Review Committees

4<sup>th</sup> Monday in November Recommendations due to Instructional Deans from Peer Review

Committees

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in December Recommendations due to VPAA for distribution to College

Committee

First business day in January Applications available to College Committee from VPAA 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in February Recommendations due to VPAA from the College Committee

1st Monday in MarchRecommendations due from VPAA to PresidentLast Monday in MarchRecommendations from President due to applicant1st Monday in AprilLast day for Faculty Applicant to file an appeal

3<sup>rd</sup> week in April Campus recommendations due to Tennessee Board of Regents

June Action by the Tennessee Board of Regent

# **Nashville State Process for Faculty Tenure**

Tenure is awarded only by positive action by the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR), pursuant to the requirements and procedures of this policy. The award of tenure is in recognition of the merit of a faculty member and of the assumption that they would meet the long-term staffing needs of the academic school or academic program unit and the college. The continued professional growth and development of faculty is necessary for institutions of higher education to continue to provide educational programs in accordance with the college's mission, goals, and the changing needs of the institution.

Tenure is awarded only to those members of the faculty who have exhibited professional excellence and outstanding abilities sufficient to demonstrate that their future services and performances justify the degree of permanence afforded by academic tenure.

The quality of the faculty of any community college is maintained primarily through the appraisal, by faculty and administrative officers, of each candidate for tenure. Tenure at a TBR community college provides eligible full-time faculty with the assurance of continued employment during the academic year until retirement or dismissal for adequate cause, financial exigency, or curricular reasons, as further discussed herein. TBR does not award tenure in non-

faculty positions. The following TBR policy on tenure is applicable to all community colleges within the system. These are minimum provisions and should be implemented in a manner appropriate to the individual missions, traditions, and needs of the colleges.

## **Tenure Appointments**

Recommendations for or against tenure shall originate from the academic school or program unit in which the faculty member is assigned.

The recommendation for tenure must be made by the President to the Chancellor and by the Chancellor to the Board of Regents. In the event that tenure is awarded by TBR, the President shall furnish to the faculty member written confirmation of the award.

No person [other than the President] shall have any authority to make any representation concerning tenure to any faculty member. Failure to give timely notice of non-recommendation of tenure shall not result in the granting of a tenure appointment, but shall result in the right of the faculty member to another year of service at the college, provided that no tenure appeals remain outstanding due to lack of cooperation and/or appropriate action on the part of the candidate in completing the appeal process.

#### Minimum Eligibility Requirements

Tenure may be awarded only to regular full-time faculty members who:

- Hold academic rank as instructor, assistant professor, associate professor, or professor.
- Have been employed in a tenure-track appointment and have completed the minimum probationary period of service and/or as agreed upon in writing and signed by the President or their designee.
- Have been determined by the college to meet the criteria for tenure and have been so recommended.

#### Length of Probationary Employment

Probationary faculty may be employed on annual tenure-track appointments for a probationary period that may not exceed six (6) years. The faculty member may apply for tenure at the beginning of the sixth year of service, following a probationary period of not less than *five* years, provided that exceptions to the minimum probationary period may be made under special circumstances upon recommendation by the President and approval by the Chancellor. Upon approval of such an exception by the Chancellor, the faculty member's recommendation for tenure will go forward to the Board as meeting the requirements for the probationary period.

#### Calculating the Probationary Period

Only full-time continuous service at a college will be included in determining completion of the probationary period, unless a break in service is approved. Employment during summer terms and in part-time positions shall not be credited toward satisfying the probationary period.

Credit for Prior Service. The minimum probationary period of five years may include credit for prior service when agreed to by the President. The credit is subject to the maximum permissible credit for prior service as noted below:

- Credit toward completion of the probationary period may at the discretion of the President be given for a maximum of three years of previous full-time service at other colleges, universities, or institutes provided that the prior service is relevant to the institution's own needs and criteria. Any credit for prior service that is recognized and agreed to must be confirmed in writing at the time of the initial appointment to a tenure-track position.
- Credit toward completion of the probationary period may, at the discretion of the President, be given for a maximum of three years or previous full-time service in a temporary faculty appointment or term appointment at the same institution or in an earlier tenure-track appointment at the same institution that has been followed by a break in service. Any credit for prior service in a temporary full-time faculty appointment at the same institution or in an earlier tenure-track appointment (at the same institution) that has been followed by a break in service must be recognized and confirmed in writing in the appointment letter to a tenure-track position.

**Leave of Absence.** The period of approved leave of absence shall be excluded from the required probationary period. A faculty member may apply for a maximum of two, non-consecutive, one-year leave increments. Exceptions may be granted by the President of the college in writing prior to the leave of absence. Exceptions may include:

- crediting the leave periods to the probationary period and/or
- granting more than two, non-consecutive one-year increments. Exception (b), per TBR policy, requires approval of the Chancellor of TBR.

"Stopping the Tenure Clock." A faculty member may request to "stop the tenure clock" during their probationary period when circumstances exist that interrupt the faculty member's normal progress toward qualifying for tenure. In such cases, the faculty member may request to "stop the tenure clock" for one year, if they demonstrate that circumstances reasonably warrant the interruption. Reasons will typically be related to a personal or family situation requiring attention and commitment that consumes the time and energy normally addressed to faculty duties and professional development. Examples may include childbirth or adoption, care of dependents, medical conditions or obligations, physical disasters or disruptions, military deployment, or similar circumstances.

**Administrative Appointment.** A faculty member appointed to an administrative position may remain eligible for tenure consideration. The faculty member must:

- a. Qualify for tenure under the college's guidelines and maintain a significant involvement in academic pursuits including teaching, service/outreach, and scholarship/creative activities/research.
- b. The time (or prorated portion of time) spent in the administrative position may be

credited toward completion of the probationary period.

**Transfer to another Division or Unit.** When a faculty member is serving a probationary period in a division or an academic program unit and is subsequently transferred to another division or unit, the faculty member may - with the approval of the President - elect to begin a new probationary period on the date on which the transfer occurs. If they do not so elect (and confirms this in writing to the President), time spent in the first appointment shall count toward establishing the minimum and maximum probationary period.

#### Criteria to be Considered in Tenure Recommendations

Criteria for tenure relate to the college's three traditional missions: teaching, service/outreach, and scholarship/creative activities/research. In the community college setting, effective teaching is of paramount importance.

Faculty must assign a weight to each category that determines the relative importance of each in comparison to others within the following guidelines: Teaching (60%-75%), Service and Outreach (10%-30%), and Scholarship, Creative Activities, and Research (10%-30%). Total category weights should sum to 100%.

## **Performance Criteria: Teaching**

Teaching activities shall constitute 60% to 75% of the weight of the total tenure decision, as determined by the applicant.

Effective teaching is an essential qualification for tenure, and tenure should be granted only with clear and documented evidence of a candidate's teaching ability and potential for continued development.

Each of the items listed below must be submitted as evidence of effective teaching and be included in the teaching portfolio.

- Evidence of ability to organize and present subject matter in a logical and meaningful way,
- Evidence of effective strategies to motivate and stimulate student learning,
- Statement of teaching philosophy,
- Course materials (i.e., course syllabi, handouts, exams/evaluation instruments, instructional materials), and
- Results of student evaluations for every course evaluated during the probationary period.

Additional types of documentation may also include:

- 1. Open-ended or other student input,
- 2. Student products,
- 3. Teaching recognition/awards,
- 4. Evidence of professional development in teaching.
- 5. Evidence of disciplinary or interdisciplinary program or curricular development,
- 6. Alumni surveys,
- 7. Student exit interviews,
- 8. Evidence of supervision of student projects and other forms of student mentorships, and

9. Evidence of excellence in teaching or mentoring, or both.

#### Performance Criteria: Service and Outreach

Service and outreach activities shall constitute 10% to 30% of the weight of the total tenure decision, as determined by the applicant.

Service and/or outreach encompass a faculty member's activities in college service, outreach or public service, and professional service.

Evidence of performance in one or more of the following activities should be submitted. Weight and magnitude of importance will be directed by the college's policies and guidelines.

College service refers to activities other than teaching and scholarship performed at the department or college level. It is expected of every faculty member; indeed, colleges could hardly function without conscientious faculty who perform committee work and other administrative responsibilities. College service includes, but is not limited to, serving on departmental committees, advising students, and participating in college activities and on college committees. More extensive citizenship functions such as membership on a specially appointed task force, serving as advisor to a college-wide student organization, and membership on a college search committee should be taken into account in consideration for tenure.

The outreach or public service function is the college's outreach to the community and society at large, with major emphasis on the application of knowledge for the solution of problems with which society is confronted. Outreach primarily involves sharing professional expertise and should directly support the goals and mission of the college. A vital component of the college's mission, public service must be performed at the same high levels of quality that characterize the teaching and research programs.

Professional service refers to the work done for organizations related to the faculty member's discipline or to the teaching profession generally. Service to the profession includes activities such as service on statewide or TBR committees, guest lecturing on other campuses, and other appropriate activities.

## Performance Criteria: Scholarship, Creative Activities, and Research

Scholarship, creative activities, and research shall constitute 10% to 30% of the weight of the total tenure decision, as determined by the applicant.

Candidates for tenure must present documented evidence of their scholarship, creative activities, and/or research.

While each item listed as required under "Teaching" must be included, the weight and magnitude of evidence required for activities in scholarship or creative activities or research will be directed by the college policy and guidelines.

Such evidence should cite typical professional development activities such as presentations at a professional meeting, journal editorship, article and grant proposal review, performances, exhibitions, creative activities, as well as completing books, journal articles, or monographs, and other appropriate activities.

The scholarship of teaching is a valid measure of research capability. It goes beyond doing a good job in the classroom; creative teachers should organize, record, and document their efforts in such a way that their colleagues may share their contributions to the art of teaching.

- Authoring appropriate textbooks or chapters within a book, writing educational articles, making presentations, and using innovative contributions to teaching, constitute scholarship of teaching.
- Performances, compositions, and other artistic creations are examples of appropriate creative activities. Documentation of such activities might include written reviews and evaluations by qualified peers.
- Publications in journals or media of similar quality are considered indicators of professional and/or scholarly activity.
- Publications that are reviewed by peers are more significant than those that are not subjected to such rigorous examination. It should be emphasized that quality is more important than quantity.

## **Exceptions to Minimum Rank Qualifications**

The minimum rank qualifications should be met in every recommendation of tenure, appointment to academic rank, and promotion in academic rank.

The tenure process at Nashville State Community College is as follows:

- 1. In the spring semester before the tenure application process begins, the faculty member may choose to have a preliminary review ad-hoc committee to aid them in creation of a tenure application. This preliminary review ad-hoc committee shall be composed of the faculty mentor, from within the candidate's academic unit who will act as chair of the preliminary review ad-hoc committee, one tenured faculty from outside the academic unit, and the chair or dean of the academic unit where tenure will be granted. The preliminary review ad-hoc committee serves in an advisory capacity only, and their approval of the faculty member's tenure packet in no way guarantees that the faculty member will be granted tenure. Faculty members interested in a preliminary review ad hoc committee should contact their Instructional Dean who will work with the faculty member to create the committee.
- 2. The individual faculty member will initiate the official request for tenure by notifying their Instructional Dean in writing of their intent to apply not later than September 15 in the term in which they intend to apply. The faculty member

may apply for tenure during their last year required in their probationary period. The Instructional Dean will verify that the faculty member has served the minimum number of years in a probationary period to be eligible.

- 3. After choosing to apply for tenure, the faculty member will prepare a tenure application to be submitted to their Instructional Dean not later than the fourth Monday in October. The tenure application should include documentation on all of the following three categories: Teaching, Service and Outreach, and Scholarship, Creative Activities, and Research.
- 4. At any step in the tenure application process, those responsible for reviewing the application may contact the applicant for needed information or clarification of material in the application notebook. Faculty applicants must not approach members of the Campus-wide Tenure Review Committee for information. Faculty members serve on this committees as part of their professional service to the college and must not discuss the deliberations of the committee.
- 5. Tenure applications will be reviewed by a Peer Review Committee from the applicant's school. The role of the Peer Review Committee is to support the applicant by reviewing their materials and making suggestions for improvements that can be made to the application prior to their submission of the application to the Instructional Dean. This Peer Review Committee will consist of three to five tenured faculty members elected annually from the school. No individual can serve on both the Peer Review Committee and the Campus-wide Tenure Review Committee at the same time. The Peer Review Committee will make a recommendation regarding the tenure application and provide the application, with their recommendation, to the Instructional Dean by the fourth Monday in November.
- 6. The Instructional Dean and, in consultation with an off-campus Director as needed, will evaluate the candidate's application and make a recommendation regarding tenure and submit the application to the Vice President of Academic Affairs (VPAA) by the third Friday in December.
- 7. The VPAA will distribute applications for tenure to the Campus-wide Tenure Review Committee by the first business day in January. The Campus-wide Tenure Review Committee consists of five tenured faculty members, one representative from each of the four Academic Schools and one representative elected from the Faculty Senate. The members of the Campus-wide Tenure Committee serve staggered, two-year terms. No faculty member will serve on both the peer review

and campus-wide tenure review committees at the same time.

- 8. The Campus-wide Tenure Review Committee selects its own chairperson. The Campus-wide Tenure Review Committee will determine the distribution of assignments in order to manage its workload appropriately. The Campus-wide Tenure Review Committee might decide, for example, that each application will be reviewed by three members and presented to the entire Campus-wide Tenure Review Committee by those reviewers. In no case should an application be reviewed by fewer than three members of the Campus-wide Tenure Review committee. The Campus-wide Tenure Review Committee makes a recommendation concerning the tenure of the faculty applicant and submits the application to the VPAA by the second Monday in February.
- 9. The VPAA makes a recommendation concerning tenure of the faculty applicant and submits the application to the President by the first Monday in March.
- 10. The President makes a recommendation concerning the tenure of the faculty and the faculty member is notified of the President's decision by the last Monday in March.
- 11. A faculty member wishing to appeal the President's recommendation relative to his or her tenure request must do so in writing by the first Monday in April. The applicant must state the basis for the appeal and provide evidence that the appeal is justified in writing at the time of the appeal. Appeals may be based only on improper evaluation or unfair and biased evaluation of application.
  - a. Improper evaluation shall mean that the decision made was based upon inadequate consideration of materials provided in the portfolio or from determination of inaccurate information provided in the portfolio.
  - b. Unfair and biased evaluation shall mean that the decision was based on factors other than the tenure criteria as stated in this policy.

- 12. If an appeal is filed, a three-person tenure appeal committee will be formed to consider the appeal. Tenure appeal committee membership will consist of one administrator appointed by the President, the Faculty Senate Chair, and an additional faculty Senator appointed by the Faculty Senate Chair. A member of the tenure appeal committee may not have submitted either a tenure or promotion application in the same year or have served in the tenure review process of the candidate filing the appeal in any capacity.
- 13. The tenure appeal committee will review the appeal request and all tenure recommendations to determine if the decision was reached in accordance with college policy.
- 14. The tenure appeal committee will submit a report of its findings to the President within five working days after the tenure appeal committee reviews the appeal. After receiving the report from the tenure appeal committee, the president will determine whether or not to rescind or uphold the original recommendation and notify the faculty member of the final decision.
- 15. The President makes a recommendation concerning the tenure of the faculty applicant to the Chancellor during the third week in April.
- 16. The Tennessee Board of Regents receives the recommendations and decides regarding the tenure of the faculty applicant during their Board meeting in June.
- 17. If approved, tenure will become effective in the following academic year.

## 

4<sup>th</sup> Monday in November Recommendations due to Instructional Deans from Peer Review

Committees

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in December Recommendations due to VPAA for distribution to College

Committee

First business day in January Applications available to College Committee from VPAA 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in February Recommendations due to VPAA from the College Committee

1<sup>st</sup> Monday in March
Last Monday in March
1<sup>st</sup> Monday in April

Recommendations due from VPAA to President
Recommendations from President due to applicant
Last day for Faculty Applicant to file an appeal

3<sup>rd</sup> week in April Campus recommendations due to Tennessee Board of Regents

June Action by the Tennessee Board of Regent

Part-time or adjunct or temporary faculty members are hired on a semester basis as needed and are not eligible for tenure or promotion. If a faculty member desires to terminate their

employment with Nashville State, they shall give notice not later than April 1, if they plan to leave at the end of the academic year, or November 1, if they wish to terminate their employment at the end of the fall semester. It is expected a faculty member shall complete a semester once the semester has begun.

## **Award of Emeritus**

Emeritus/emerita is an honorary title given to already retired faculty or given in anticipation of the retirement of a faculty member to be effective upon retirement. The title is awarded in recognition of their contributions and distinguished service and to encourage their continued association with the college. Faculty members who are awarded this status will retain their rank at the time of retirement followed by the designation "Emeritus/Emerita."

The title carries no formal associated responsibilities or compensation; however, a retired faculty member may volunteer to perform tasks or undertake responsibilities consistent with their expertise and experience. The emeritus/emerita status is conferred for life, subject to the same policies for termination as apply for an active tenured faculty member. See TBR Policy 5:02:01:10 for enabling language.

## **Faculty Load**

A full teaching load for the semester is equal to fifteen (15) teaching load credit (TLC) hours or the equivalent per term for fall and spring semesters. All equivalent teaching load activities (release time) shall be subject to prior review and approval by the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development.

#### **Teaching Load Credits**

Teaching load credits (TLC) are calculated as follows:

*Lecture and Lab classes*: (Student credit hours + contact hours)/2 = TLC Examples:

ENGL 1010 would be (3 SCH+3 contact hours)/2= 3 TLC BIOL 2010 would be (4 SCH + 4 lecture and 2 lab contact hours)/2 = 5 TLC CULA 1320 would be (3 SCH +1 lecture and 4 lab contact hours)/2 = 4 TLC

Applied Music Lessons: individual students in private hour-long applied lessons. Applied lessons are compensated at 0.75 TLC per student

*Clinical Courses*: Compensation for supporting student clinical rotations will vary based on discipline. Any changes to compensation for clinical rotations must be approved in writing by the VPAA.

*Independent Study Courses*: courses that do not lend themselves to traditional classroom or laboratory methods but must be taught in an individual, tutorial, consultative manner are credited to the faculty member on the basis of 0.2 TLC for each student.

In general, class sections need a minimum of 10 students in order to run without the risk of being cancelled. Low enrollment classes are reviewed in preparation for each term and final decisions regarding offering classes with fewer than 10 students enrolled are made by the VPAA in consultation with AALT and faculty leaders.

A faculty member in the following departments will be considered at load if all classes to which they are assigned have an enrollment average of 10 students (classes cap at 12 - 18).

Culinary Arts		
Civil and Construction Engineering Computer-Aided Drafting		
Electrical Engineering Technology		
English as a Second Language		
Healthcare Management		
Industrial Process Control Technology		
Music Technology		
Visual Communications		

A faculty member in the following departments will be considered at load if all classes to which they are assigned have an enrollment average of 15 students (classes cap above 20 with rare exceptions).

Accounting		
Administration Professional Technology	Logistics, Transportation and Supply Chain	
Art	Mathematics	
Biology	Music	
Business	Paralegal Studies	
Chemistry	Philosophy	
Communication	Physics	
Education	Psychology	
English	Reading	
Geography	Social Work	
History	Sociology	
Hospitality Management		

In situations where faculty course assignments do not meet the average calculation, a faculty member who has one or more low enrollment courses in a given term may have their sections combined to produce appropriate student enrollments or may be reassigned to a higher enrolled class. Faculty must meet classes at the appointed time, location, and mode of delivery.

In general, class sections need a minimum of 10 students in order to run without the risk of being cancelled or reassigned to a part-time faculty member. Low enrollment classes are reviewed in preparation for each term and final decisions regarding offering classes with fewer than 10 students enrolled are made by the VPAA in consultation with AALT and faculty leaders.

#### Class Cancellations Due to Low Enrollment

It is sometimes necessary to cancel scheduled classes when student enrollment does not reach minimum levels. The decision for class cancellation resides in the Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development in consultation with AALT and faculty leadership. Faculty members are not paid for classes that must be canceled. When a class is canceled, enrolled students will be notified by phone or email that the class is canceled and receive a full refund. Any fees directly applicable to the canceled class will also be refunded.

## **Summer Teaching**

Summer teaching is neither expected, required, nor guaranteed. The pay rate for full-time faculty who teach during the summer is 1/32 of the annual salary per TLC taught. Full-time faculty interested in teaching in the summer will be offered teaching opportunities based on the needs of the college. Course assignments at a particular location or in a particular mode of delivery are not guaranteed.

Summer pre-term begins two business days before the summer start date. Faculty responsibilities for the pre-term include 6 hours of availability each day for class preparation and student support.

Faculty that teach in summer will create and share/post their schedules as appropriate (Dean, Director, office door, NS Online) that reflect scheduled instructional time (not to include online course time) and includes contact information for the faculty member. Teaching faculty will be available to respond to student emails and inquiries and meet with students as requested.

Faculty shall respond to student inquiries within 1 business day and make every effort to schedule a meeting time and modality (in office, by phone, or virtual) that is most convenient to the student and within reasonable operating hours.

## **Extra Compensation for Full-time Faculty Overload**

TBR policy on Outside Employment and Extra Compensation (5:01:05:00) states that "full-time employment with the Tennessee Board of Regents demands an individual's full-time professional expertise, commitment, and energies, and the assigned teaching load of a TBR faculty member constitutes a full-time assignment." However, the policy notes that overload assignments may be necessary under certain conditions.

Extra compensation is allowed for services/activities of an extraordinary nature that require an assignment in addition to the employee's full workload and that are entirely outside of their scheduled work hours. If the additional assignment must be conducted during regularly scheduled work hours, additional compensatory hours will be scheduled. If the additional assignment occurs during a scheduled class, it is the faculty member's responsibility to arrange for appropriate coverage or make-up of the class. Written plans for such accommodations shall be approved in advance by the Dean. Extra compensation must not exceed two credit courses per term.

Overload assignments will be based on the needs of the college, which Deans and Directors assess on a semester-by-semester basis. Balancing course offerings in terms of oncampus/online, day/evening, and full-time/adjunct instruction should be considered in making decisions about overload assignments.

All overloads must be documented and justified by Deans or Campus Directors and have the prior approval of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Should it be impossible for a faculty member's load to be held within the maximum teaching load, overload will be paid no later than the spring term for hours above the maximum.

Overload teaching assignments must be:

- 1. Voluntary on the part of the faculty member;
- 2. Performed entirely outside of, and in addition to, normal working assignments and

responsibilities with extra on-campus hours included in the faculty member's schedule;

- 3. Paid at the appropriate rate; and
- 4. Approved by the appropriate supervisor at the school level.

Rates of pay for extra compensation for faculty:

Instructor \$650 per teaching load credit Assistant Professor \$700 per teaching load credit Associate Professor \$750 per teaching load credit Professor \$800 per teaching load credit

#### Non-instructional Assignments for Faculty

Non-Instructional assignments are reductions in teaching load and are considered for faculty who are assigned administrative responsibilities or other special assignments when the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development and/or President has determined a teaching load reduction is warranted. Non-Instructional assignments must reflect the mission, goals, and need of the institution. The President must approve any non-instructional assignment that equates to a 50% basis for a full academic year or on a 100% basis for a term. Requests for released time for faculty should be requested by Deans/Directors and approved by the Vice President for Academic Affairs in advance of the assignment.

The formula for determining the minimum number of work hours for a given alternative assignment is as follows: For a three credit-hour equivalent of release time, a faculty member would receive the total hours for the semester as 7.5 hours (3 hours x 2.5) x the number of weeks in the semester (15). Consequently, a faculty member would be expected to devote 112.5 hours/15 weeks/semester to the alternative assignment for a three-credit teaching reduction.

## **Faculty Absences**

#### Class Cancellations Due to Faculty Absence

The purpose of the leave system is to allow for occasions when an illness, an emergency, or any other interfering event prevents a faculty member from fulfilling their obligation to the College. Given that the faculty's primary obligation is teaching, it is considered within the spirit of the guidelines that faculty schedule appointments and elective procedures in such a way as to minimize the impact on teaching schedules and will make every effort not to miss scheduled classes and not to have classes canceled. However, in the rare situation in which a faculty member must miss class, the faculty member is responsible for developing a plan to make up for course content missed during an absence. A Class Cancellation dynamic form can be obtained from the Instructional Dean or Campus Director. The Dean/Director must approve the plan and keep the form on file. The only exception to this is the unexpected long-term illness or disability of a faculty member, when pre-planning is not possible.

It is permissible to hold class with a substitute instructor, although this is not always appropriate. The substitute must be qualified based on Nashville State Faculty Credentialing guidelines and agreeable to both the faculty member and Dean/Director. It is often appropriate for another faculty member in the same area to cover a class for a colleague rather than to secure a substitute. It is the faculty member's responsibility to work with the supervisor to make appropriate arrangements. Plans must be approved prior to the absence whenever possible.

It is the responsibility of the faculty member who cancels a class to notify all students in that class, using the tools available to them. Required notification channels are:

- Posted notice in the D2L shell for the course
- Email notices to all class enrollees
- Note posted on classroom door for on-ground classes

If an individual faculty member cancels their class, the faculty member must notify students at the earliest possible opportunity but no later than at least two hours before the class begins if at all possible. In this case, faculty members must submit a plan to make up for missed material to the Dean or Director.

When a planned medical situation must be scheduled at a time that conflicts with the teaching schedule, the faculty member should:

• Inform the Dean/Director as soon as possible, at least two weeks in advance of the planned absence from class. A make-up plan using the Class Cancellation form must be sent to and approved by the Dean/Campus Director for all missed classes.

## **Classroom Assignments**

Classes are scheduled in specific rooms at specific hours based upon availability. Faculty will receive their classroom assignments as a part of their teaching schedule. Changing classrooms after the semester has begun is difficult because of limited classroom space. If a faculty member believes that an assigned room is not sufficient for their needs, they should address the issue with the Dean/Campus Director.

# **Workspace Assignment**

Nashville State Community College has established guidelines and procedures for the assignment of faculty and adjunct work spaces. Adjunct faculty typically are not assigned an office but may use the adjunct areas for computer, phone, printing, copying, student consultation, breaks, mailboxes, and other functions. Any change to assigned offices must be approved in writing by the Instructional Dean or Campus Director, and must be approved by the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development.

## **Commencement**

Full-time faculty are required to attend commencement exercises. Faculty are required to wear academic attire, to include academic caps, gowns, and hoods. Faculty who do not own academic attire may contact the bookstore to request rental attire.

In rare instances, a faculty member may be excused from attending Commencement. Permission to be absent may be granted by the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development and excused faculty must use a sick leave to cover the absence.

# **Employment Outside the College/Additional Employment**

#### Appropriateness of Employment

Full-time employees of the College may engage in part-time employment elsewhere provided

such outside work does not interfere with the performance of normal professional responsibilities, have an adverse effect upon the College, or create a conflict between the interests of the College and the employee. The College considers full-time employment to be a full-time commitment. Full-time employees who choose to work outside the College or in another division of the college that is considered outside of their normal job responsibilities must complete the appropriate notification form which may be obtained from their area Dean or Vice President.

Approval for outside employment must be requested from the President using the Nashville State Outside Employment and Extra Assignment Request Form (PDF), annually or by semester, and must have the approval of the Dean/Campus Director and the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development. Faculty and staff must complete a new form before entering into a new business or activity. Forms must be updated annually.

Exceptions to this may be recommended by the appropriate Supervisor. Approvals must be consistent with TBR policies and guidelines and with state law. TCA 49-5-410 limits full-time faculty members to teaching no more than two credit courses per semester for extra pay in an institution of higher education. TCA 49-5-410 also limits faculty to 15 clock hours per week or 400 clock hours per nine-month period for extra pay.

#### Additional employment duties must:

- Be performed entirely outside of, and in addition to, normal assignments and responsibilities.
- Not interfere with assigned duties and responsibilities or with regular institutional operations.
- Be consistent with TBR policies and guidelines and with state law.
- Not constitute a conflict of interest or compete with the institution's education, research, or public service programs.
- Require only a reasonable time commitment from the employee.
- Not be undertaken with an inappropriate claim that the individual is officially representing the institution in connection with the employment.

#### Unacceptable Outside/Additional Employment

In general, outside/additional employment is not permitted if:

- It prevents employees from fully performing their work required of them while employed at the College, including overtime assignments or attending required college activities. In case of any conflict with an outside activity, the employee's obligations to the College must be given priority, with the understanding that the College is their primary employer;
- It involves organizations that are doing or seeking to do business with the College, including actual or potential vendors, customers, or grantors; or
- It violates provisions of the law or College policy.

## **Faculty Evaluations**

Nashville State Community College is committed to regular and meaningful performance management, including conducting annual performance evaluations of all College employees. The primary purpose of the performance evaluation is to provide a formal mechanism that encourages dialogue between the evaluator and staff member, providing

constructive performance feedback and assisting the College in achieving its strategic goals.

During the annual evaluation, full-time faculty and the Dean/Director discuss the following: student evaluations of classroom performance, professional activities, college service, advising responsibilities/performances, and other instructional and institutional responsibilities. Annual goals from the previous year are also reviewed to determine the level of completion of the stated goals and objectives of that plan. During this meeting, the faculty member's final evaluation package is completed and signed by both parties. Faculty members have the opportunity to add a statement to their evaluation if they disagree with the outcome of the evaluation.

The timeline for the annual evaluation of faculty is as follows:

- Faculty to complete self-evaluation and submit to Dean/Director by last day in August.
- **Deans/Directors** to meet with individual faculty members and submit forms to Vice-President Academic Affairs by last day in November.
  - Faculty up for promotion/tenure will receive priority and <u>MUST</u> be received by October 15.
- Vice-President Academic Affairs and Workforce Development to submit fully executed forms to the Office of Human Resources no later than last date before the winter break.

Evaluators should appraise the faculty member's performance using the guidelines on the evaluation form. The performance factor Satisfactory, or "performance consistently meets expected professional standards", should not be considered "marginal" but should be regarded as being reflective of the performer who is fully competent and truly meets the expectations of the position and of the evaluator. When evaluating employees, evaluators should refrain from making any reference to absences due to approved FMLA, medical conditions, disability status or accommodation, Covid-19 related absences, etc. to comply with the College's non-discrimination policies. Please contact HR if you have questions about what is permissible to include in the evaluation.

#### **Evaluation Deficiencies**

Employees whose performance factor rating is Unsatisfactory, or "performance falls below expected professional standards," <u>MUST</u> include a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP). Supervisors should contact HR for more information/further instruction for creating a PIP. Any faculty member whose evaluation in a given year identifies unsatisfactory performance overall or in the area of instruction must work with the Dean to correct those deficiencies. The faculty member and the Dean will work together to develop goals and activities designed to improve the faculty member's performance. These items will be included in the faculty member's annual goals.

# **Classroom Observations**

All faculty (full and part-time) must have a classroom observation completed during their first two terms of employment and on a 3-year cycle thereafter, unless there are concerns that indicate additional observations are needed. Classroom observation of full-time faculty must be completed by the appropriate Instructional Dean and observations of adjunct faculty may be completed by the Instructional Dean, department chair, program coordinator, or program director, or a full-time faculty member designated by the Instructional Dean.

## **Student Course Evaluations**

The primary use of student evaluation of instruction is as a source of information to maintain quality instruction in all the College's courses. Scores on individual items can offer specific information on areas where faculty may need to make changes in course methodology, course delivery, etc. Student comments can also be a source of valuable feedback.

All classes are evaluated in each fall and spring term. All faculty must include at least one semester's report of student evaluation results in their annual evaluation package.

## **Class Rosters and Engagement Reporting**

Class rosters comprise the official attendance record for every class and include the names and student identification numbers of all students enrolled.

It is imperative that faculty check their myNSCC class rosters <u>once a week during</u> the entire semester. If a student is not on the roster, they are <u>not</u> allowed to attend class. Faculty should send the student to the Student Success Center or their academic advisor immediately and should not let them return to the classroom until the student appears on the roster.

Faculty should pay careful attention to student engagement in the class and are expected to track student engagement through myNSCC.

#### Student Engagement Requirements

Each semester, faculty are required to indicate student engagement through myNSCC and to keep engagement updated throughout the term.

Examples of acceptable evidence of academic engagement:

- Student submission of an academic assignment
- Student attendance in an on-ground or virtual class meeting
- Student submission of an exam
- Documented student participation in an interactive tutorial or computer-aided instruction
- A posting by the student in a discussion forum showing the student's participation in a discussion about academic matters

#### What is the difference between "engagement" and "attendance"?

- "Engagement" is used to determine eligibility for Federal Financial Aid disbursement or the amount of disbursement: Did the student begin the class in any way through physically being there, turning in an assignment, doing a test/quiz, submitting a discussion board, or some other participation activity?
- "Attendance" is what the faculty members keeps for internal records and to determine the extent to which students have met the attendance policy
- myNSCC was built using the term "attendance": Attendance Reporting, Failure Due to Attendance (FA)
- NSCC is not an attendance keeping institution (one that keeps formal records to submit to an external authority), hence the distinction above

#### **Engagement v. Attendance (in theory)**

- Engagement is submitted once
- Attendance is iterative

## **Engagement v. Attendance (in practice)**

- Once the faculty members submits engagement via myNSCC, they will need to check it periodically to make sure that it is still accurate and to monitor to see if any students with an N for engagement need to have that updated to a Y (for students who are now engaging but did not initially)
- You will never change a Y to an N for a student who engaged at some point in the term would
- Attendance records are important for determining an FA v. F

## **Getting it right**

- Grade and engagement must match
- A student who has never engaged would have an N for engagement and must receive an FN
- A student who has engaged would have a Y for engagement and could receive any letter grade, including an F, or an FA

#### Why is it important to get this right?

- Compliance with the U.S. Department of Education
- Financial impact on students
  - They may not receive a timely disbursement of Federal Financial Aid monies if engagement is not reported in first two weeks of the semester
  - o They may have to pay back monies received
  - o Their enrollment reported to the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) Clearinghouse could be incorrect and may affect student loan repayment dates
  - o TBR Census reporting could be inaccurate

#### Field Trips

Instructors are only permitted to take students on field trips after the trip has been approved by the appropriate parties and student waivers have been filed with the appropriate office. Appropriate forms are housed with the Office of Student Life. Approval signatures are required at least two weeks in advance of the trip.

#### **Final Exams**

It is the responsibility of each instructor to develop and/or select quizzes, tests and exams for a course in accordance with the general policy established by the Academic School. For 5-week, 7-week, and 10-week classes, the last date of the course is the scheduled exam time. For 15-week classes, the last week of the semester is set aside for final exams and the normal class schedule will be replaced with a final exam schedule of two hour-time blocks. Final examinations must follow the published final exam schedule. Any change must be approved by the Dean/Director. Instructors not holding a final exam must have the prior approval of the Dean/Director. Exams for online courses should provide a window of time for the final to be completed.

The Final Examination Schedule will be published on the College's Website for each semester.

Every effort will be made to develop a schedule in which no student is required to take more than two final exams in one day. When the schedule requires a student to take more than two final exams in one day, or if a student's final exam conflicts with a class in a non-15 week session, a final exam may be administered in the Testing Center during final exam week at a time mutually agreed on by the student and instructor.

The final examination week is considered a contractual responsibility of all faculty members, both full-time and adjunct. The normal full-time workload during this week is five two-hour time blocks during which assessment will be conducted. Overload courses and laboratory responsibilities may modify the "examination week" workload.

## Grading, Reporting, and Record Keeping

The following grading system is used at Nashville State

<u>Grade</u>	Values per Semester Credit Hour	Quality Points/Grade Points
A	Superior	4
В	Excellent	3
C	Average	2
D	Passing, but below average	1
F	Failure	0
FA	Failure, Attendance-Related (unofficial withdrawal)	0
FN	Failure, Never Attended Class (unofficial withdrawal)	0
P	Pass	0
S	Satisfactory	0
U	Unsatisfactory	0

Other marks which may appear on the grade report and/or transcripts are as follows:

- W Withdrawal withdrawal from course initiated by the student.
- Incomplete The "I" indicates that the student has not completed all of the course work due to such extenuating circumstances as personal illness, death in the family, or other justifiable reasons. If the "I" grade is not removed by the deadline, it will be automatically changed to an "F". The deadlines for removal are in the Records Office and listed on Academic Calendars found in the catalog and all printed schedules.
- X Continuation The "X" indicates the student attempted a remedial or developmental course, but progress was not sufficient to warrant a grade. It carries no connotation of failure. It indicates the student, upon the advice of the instructor, should register for the same course and takes more time to earn a grade. The "X" grade is restricted to use in the R/D courses. An overall maximum of 15 semester hours of "X" is allowed. Veterans who are receiving educational benefits cannot be awarded an "X" grade in any course.
- AU Audit- No grade or credit awarded.
- NR No grade reported. This grade is assigned when a grade is not issued by the instructor of the course.

Grades of "W", "I", "X", "AU", and "NR" have no grade point value and are not used in computing grade point average.

#### Grade Point Average

The academic standing of a student is expressed in terms of a quality point average (QPA)/grade point average (GPA). When a course is completed, the number of grade points earned is determined by multiplying the credit hours earned for that course by the grade points assigned to the letter grade earned. Examples on calculating a GPA are found on the Records Office website: www.nscc.edu/records.

### **Repeating Courses**

For the purpose of raising a grade point average, a student may only repeat a course in which the previous grade earned is "C" or lower. Students may be permitted to repeat a course in which a grade of "B" or higher was earned only with the approval of the chief academic officer as an exception to this policy.

When a course is repeated for the first time, the highest grade is used in the calculation of the student's quality/grade point average. The grade earned in the third and subsequent attempts will be used in calculating the QPA/GPA. The credit hours earned by repeating a course will be counted only one time in the cumulative total hours earned. In all instances, the highest grade earned is used to determine whether the student meets graduation requirements.

Veterans repeating courses for which they have passing grades (D or higher) are advised to speak with the College's VA certifying official concerning eligibility for benefits since the VA typically does not pay to repeat a course that has been successfully completed.

#### **Grade Reporting and Record-Keeping**

Faculty are required to enter their final grades for the semester using myNSCC. Instructors must maintain, either electronically or on paper, detailed grade records. Grade records must document engagement throughout the semester, all grades earned in the class, and all grades identified by assignment (e.g., test, homework, paper).

Adjunct and non-returning faculty members must provide the office of the Instructional Dean or Campus Director with a paper copy and/or electronic file of class grades and student engagement records by the due date for final grades for that semester/term. Deans/Directors may also ask full-time, continuing faculty members to turn in their final grades. Class grade records must be maintained for a minimum period of one year from the end of the class.

# Student Course Engagement Record-Keeping and Reporting

Faculty shall communicate to all students the importance of prompt and regular class attendance and participation to achieve course outcomes and promote student retention/success. Faculty members are required to confirm that each student on the class roll has engaged in the course (e.g., completing an assignment, attendance at a class session or clinical placement, taking an examination/quiz, etc.) for the purposes of verifying enrollment. This verification is entered into myNSCC.

Engagement reporting opens the second week of classes and then is monitored each week for the remainder of the term. Faculty will receive an email from the Office of Financial Aid requesting the entry of the student's engagement status for every student on the class roster. At the end of the semester faculty will be required to enter the last date of meaningful course engagement for all students who did not successfully complete the class and who have not engaged in the class

since the last day to withdraw.

- Log-in to msNSCC, faulty services, then "engagement reporting."
- Choose the term, then the course/section you are entering.
- For every student, you will enter Y or N.
- Once a Y has been submitted, it is never changed.
- An N can and should be updated any time after a student engages through the end of the term.

#### **Grade Changes**

Normally, grades may be changed only by the instructor who assigned the original grade. If a grade needs to be changed, a "Change of Grade" dynamic form (which can be completed through myNSCC) must be completed by the instructor. Students may appeal their grade in the semester following the one in which the grade is posted. The process for grade appeal can be found in the Nashville State Student Handbook. Faculty should keep careful records of all grades given for student assessments during the course of the semester as validation of the student's final grade.

# **Incomplete Grades**

The grade of "I" (Incomplete) is awarded only when the instructor has determined that illness or unforeseen circumstances prevented the student from completing all course requirements. The student should have completed most of the course requirements (roughly 80%) and be beyond the deadline for receiving a "W" grade.

It is the faculty's responsibility to complete a form entitled "Request for Grade of Incomplete," which requires signatures of the student and the instructor. Forms to request an incomplete grade are available from the Records Office or from Instructional Deans. The form must include those assignments that remain for the student to complete the course and the date by which those assignments should be completed, not to exceed six weeks into the subsequent term. Once the form is received, the Dean will input the "I" grade into the student's record.

The student is not required to register for the course again, but must make up the work before the instructor's deadline. The instructor will change the "I" to a letter grade within fifteen working days from the date that the student completes all remaining course requirements. If the "I" grade is not removed by the deadline, it will be automatically change to an "F". The deadlines for removal are in the Records Office and listed on Academic Calendars found in the catalog and all printed schedules.

#### **Grade Appeal**

A student who believes that an error has been made in the grade assigned for a course may appeal their grade. The appeal must be initiated during the semester immediately following the semester in which the grade was posted (summer semester will be considered in determining the following semester).

Grade appeals are allowed only when

- 1) the instructor has not used criteria stated in the course syllabus,
- 2) has applied criteria inequitably, or
- 3) has made errors in the calculation or recording of a grade.

In all cases, the student will assume the burden of proof with respect to these issues.

### **Steps for a Grade Appeal**

- 1. The student must try to consult with the instructor to provide a satisfactory resolution to the appeal. The student must also document his/her contact, or attempts to contact, the instructor. The Student Grade Appeal Form for documenting this step may be obtained from the division Dean, any satellite campus, or www.nscc.edu. The only exception to this step in the process is in the case that the instructor is no longer employed at the college or is unavailable so that it is impossible to contact the instructor. In the event the student cannot contact the instructor, the student may contact the instructor's division Dean who will attempt to contact the instructor. If both parties are unable to contact the instructor, the Dean may act on the instructor's behalf in reviewing the grade appeal.
- 2. If the appeal cannot be resolved between the student and the instructor, the student may appeal, in writing, to the appropriate division Dean. To continue the appeal, the student must present the completed Student Grade Appeal Form to the appropriate supervisor. The Dean will attempt to resolve the appeal in consultation with the instructor and/or the student. This step must be completed during the semester following the semester in which the grade was earned and must be documented using the Student Grade Appeal Form. Both the student and the faculty member will be notified of the decision of the Dean/ in writing, to include the grade appeal form.
- 3. Both the student and faculty member have 10 business days from the Dean's response to appeal the decision. To continue the appeal further, the student or faculty member must present a copy of the completed Student Grade Appeal Form which clearly explains the basis of the appeal, the evidence of the appeal, supporting documentation, and the signatures of the instructor and Instructional Dean to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development. The Vice President will utilize any resources available to resolve the grade conflict within 15 business days from the date submitted to the office.
- 4. The Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development will notify the student, the instructor and the Instructional Dean of their decision in writing, to include the grade appeal form. Both the student and faculty member have 10 business days from the Vice President's response to appeal the decision, in writing, through a hearing of an Academic Appeals Committee. To appeal, the student or faculty must present a copy of the completed Student Grade Appeal Form which clearly explains the basis of the appeal, the evidence of the appeal, supporting documentation, and the signatures of the instructor, Instructional Dean and Vice President of Academic Affairs. Appeals should be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs.

The Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs will call a meeting of the Academic Appeal Committee with, at a minimum, faculty representation from all academic divisions. If necessary, the presence of a non-voting content specialist can be requested by the committee once supporting documentation has been reviewed. The Academic Appeals Committee Chair shall notify the student, the instructor, and the Vice President of Academic Affairs of the time and location of the hearing in writing. The committee shall have the power to allow the assigned grade to stand or to be changed. Its decision must be formally announced to all parties in writing. The time schedule allowed for completion of the action of the Committee shall be 15 business days. The hearing committee procedures will provide due process as outlined in the Nashville State Student Code of Conduct. Pending resolution of the appeal, consequences of the contested grade will stand.

5. Appeal of decisions of the Academic Appeals Committee can be made in writing within

10 business days, by any party, to the President, whose decision will be final.

# **Academic Status Update (Formerly called Early Alert)**

The Academic Alert system is an important student success and retention tool that is referred to as an "Academic Status Update". Using the system demonstrates to students that we care about their success, and it provides them with the supports they need. It is a retention strategy intended to offer support when a student faces challenges.

Faculty are required to use the Academic Alert system to notify students' advisors early, and often, of concerns as the students' progress through their course work. The Academic Alert is not to be used for non-academic needs; use the CARE form for those needs.

Faculty must submit an Academic Status Update every day for the first two weeks of the semester for any student who is absent or does not participate. Student Success Advisors will contact their students and AVP Student Affairs will contact the students with a faculty advisor.

Starting the 3rd week of class, any student who was marked as Never Attended for census purposes no longer needs to have an alert submitted. For all other students, faculty should use the alert system as recommended above. Success Advisors and faculty advisors will reach out when a student receives an alert to see what assistance and support can be offered.

- Log in to myNSCC, faculty services, then Academic Status Update
- Choose the term, then the class/section of student reporting.
  - o Enter student information as appropriate
- Hit submit

# **Student Withdrawal from a Class**

A student may withdraw from a class until the census date of the semester is completed and receive no grade. After that point, the student may withdraw until two-thirds of the course is completed and incur a "W" grade. If a student officially withdraws or is administratively withdrawn they will no longer appear on the course roster. Please refer to the academic calendar for specific dates that apply to these percentages each term.

# **Pre-Requisites and Co-Requisites**

Pre-requisites are preparatory courses or placement tests that must be successfully completed before students are allowed to enroll in a course. These requirements are enforced by the registration system; students attempting to register for a class will not be allowed to register if they are missing these pre-requisites. The course description, located in the catalog or advising sheet, will dictate the pre-requisite course(s) or required placement level. Some course descriptions list co-requisites. These are classes the students must take concurrently. Students must take the courses in the same part of term in the same semester.

# **Class Schedules**

Deans and Campus Directors are responsible for formulating the college's class schedule and

ensuring its effectiveness and efficiency. The Academic AVPs will provide Deans and Campus Directors with enrollment data from previous semesters and suggestions for minimum seat numbers, modality, and offering times. The data is used to inform the decisions of the Dean and Campus Director. Deans and Campus Directors consult with Department Chairs, Program Coordinators, and Program Directors during the formation of the schedule. Deans and Directors are responsible for the creation of the class schedules and may add or delete sections as they deem appropriate considering both effectiveness for students and efficiency for the college. The ultimate authority for the class schedule rests with the VPAA.

Deans, Campus Directors, and other staff may not teach during hours considered as a part of their regular work day which normally occurs between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., unless the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development approves an adjustment to the regular work day schedule.

#### **Class Size**

Class sizes are different according to the nature of the subject and/or size of the teaching facility. The maximum enrollment for a class will be determined by the Vice President for Academic Affairs with input from Deans/Directors.

# **Professional Development**

The intent of professional development at Nashville State is to encourage and to provide opportunities for faculty and staff that will extend knowledge in their own and related disciplines, improve instructional effectiveness, improve job performance, promote the sharing of ideas and information among faculty, and enrich the Nashville State work environment.

All faculty are responsible for their own continued professional development and shall participate in a variety of scholarly and academic activities that enhance instructional effectiveness. These activities may include the pursuit of additional degrees; advanced training; attendance at professional conferences, on-campus in-services, and/or workshops; and other professional endeavors. Development activities may also be recommended for a faculty member by the immediate supervisor in order to address weaknesses and evaluation deficiencies or to support career development.

Each year in March, the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development will call for professional development requests from faculty and academic affairs staff. Faculty should complete a Form X and submit to their Dean/Campus Director before May 25. Deans and Campus Directors will review and send approved requests to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development by June 1 each year. Additional professional development requests will be reviewed throughout the year pending available funds.

# Professional Development Guidelines and Procedures

Professional development funds are approved for an individual for a specific activity. Funds
cannot be shifted to another activity or another person. Should need arise for an individual to
replace the funded attendee, a new request may be submitted with a justification provided for
the replacement of the funded attendee. Such requests will be submitted to the Vice President
of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development for consideration well in advance of the
activity.

- Faculty and staff must provide an overview of how their requested professional development funds will support their professional development plan.
- Multiple individuals attending a conference, workshop or seminar that is not a local event must have the approval of the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development in advance. Such considerations will be based on the overall benefit that participation of multiple individuals would have on enhancing student success.
- Program and school funds are for activities directly related to job performance. Funds for such activities as employee travel to off-campus sites, attendance at required meetings, or support of activities in the discipline or school budget should not be requested through professional development funds but should be a part of budget development discussions.
- Funds allocated in support of education at another TBR or UT institution should use form PC-191. Funds allocated for education at a non-TBR or non-UT institution may not exceed current TBR designated rates.

### **Professional Development Priorities**

All activities must first have a statement indicating how the activity provides direct benefit or support for student learning (Form X). Each statement will be reviewed and weighted for its benefit to the college.

### Priority 1: Program-Required Credential

The category includes any type of education/training/professional development activities, including additional degrees and technical training, for an employee who was qualified for a job when they were hired, but now must acquire additional expertise and/or credentials because of increased industry/accreditation standards. The purpose is to protect quality dedicated faculty from job loss, avoid possible program accreditation problems, and/or allow the college to offer essential services/instruction. All requests for priority 1 must be forwarded to the president for approval.

#### *Priority 2: Workshops/Conferences/Seminars*

The category supports the participation in workshops, conferences, and seminars which are related to the employee's job.

Sub Priority 2A: Individuals who are holding national, state or regional leadership roles in professional organizations will be given strong consideration. Individuals who are presenting at national, state, or regional conferences or workshops will be given strong consideration.

Sub Priority 2B: Individuals who are attending professional workshops, conference of seminars will be given due consideration. The effort at this level will be focused on equitable distributions of resources across areas of the college and within the various units of the college.

#### Priority 3: Institutional Training Programs

The category of training will provide organizational and professional development activities, typically on campus, for a significant number of college employees. The training must focus on enhancing the performance of the college employees and have a relationship to supporting student success.

### Priority 4: Additional Degrees

The category supports the earning of additional advanced degrees which are related to an

employee's position.

#### *Priority 5: Other Requests*

The category is for any request that is not addressed in the earlier priorities. Within this priority first consideration would go to training or education credentials that are desirable but not essential to a person's assignment.

## **Faculty Meetings and Committees**

Meetings provide an important forum for the communication and implementation of policies and procedures as well as participation in activities at Nashville State. Faculty are encouraged to attend Faculty Senate meetings. Faculty are required to attend Academic School and campus meetings. Academic School meetings are held 10:00 am -12:00 pm the first Friday of every month. Campus meetings are held 10:00 am -12:00 pm the third Friday of every month. Faculty who teach at extended campuses should attend both meetings. Faculty who have to miss these meetings should notify their supervisors in advance and take leave for missed time.

Faculty participation in committee activities contributes to shared governance and the growth and enhancement of Nashville State's programs. Committee members are sometimes elected by faculty or recommended through the Faculty Senate, although other channels of appointment may be used. Committee membership principles are driven by appropriate faculty representation and continuity of experience and expertise. Faculty should have an opportunity to decline committee appointments to a shared governance committee whenever appropriate.

# **Confidentiality of Student Records**

Nashville State Community College works in compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended to protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable educational records of students and former students.

Students have:

- 1. The right to inspect and review information contained in the student's education records
- 2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights.
- 3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.
- 4. The right to file with the U.S. Department of Education a complaint concerning alleged failures by Nashville State to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

"Directory information" concerning students is treated as public information and may be released to outside parties unless otherwise requested by the student. A student who desires not to have any or all directory information released must complete the appropriate form in the Records Office. The request shall remain in effect unless or until revoked by the student.

"Directory information" includes student name, address, telephone number, student ID, major field of study, participation in recognized activities, dates of attendance, full-time/part-time status, degrees and awards received, and the most recent educational institution attended by the student.

Graduating/transferring students desiring non-disclosure after leaving Nashville State Community College must complete the request prior to the end of their last term. The request for non-disclosure will remain in effect until revoked by the student.

Nashville State does not make a practice of supplying student lists to third parties. Nashville State reserves the right to limit distribution to on-campus departmental requests.

Each faculty and staff member employed by the Board of Regents or its institutions is individually responsible for complying with the Buckley Amendment, and violations may subject the faculty or staff member to disciplinary action. Appropriate references to this policy shall be included in each faculty and staff handbook and shall be included in orientation sessions for new employees who work with or have access to student records.

Students wishing to review their educational records should submit to the Director of Records and Registration a written request, which identifies as precisely as possible the record or records he or she wishes to inspect

## **Getting Paid**

It is the policy of Nashville State Community College that the College will maintain a competitive compensation program consistent with available fiscal resources and in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations pertaining to wage and hour practices. The College reviews and establishes the annual salary scales for all employees and is committed to maintaining competitive compensation for all employee groups as compared to similar public institutions in the state and region. To establish fair and competitive compensation, the College will periodically review salaries internally and externally.

Employees are paid hourly or on salary depending on what type of contract/agreement they have with Nashville State Community College and all employees are paid monthly. The workweek is Saturday through Friday. For payroll to pay an employee, payroll must receive a Personnel Action Form (PAF) or an Extra Compensation Form from Human Resources. The different types and how they are paid is explained below.

Adjunct Faculty – Fall and spring semester contracts are divided into equal payments depending on the length of the contract and are paid the last day of the month, with the exception of December. Spring and fall semester contracts will receive their first payment at the end of February and September, respectively. For summer semester, if they teach a full 10-week summer session and it crosses fiscal years, their June paycheck will be based on the percentage of the 10-week session that is prior to June 30. The remainder of the contract will be paid in 2 equal payments. For example, for date classes start (May 24) until grades are due (August 2). There are 28 days from May 24-June 30; therefore, their June payment would be 55% of the total contract. The remaining 45% would be divided equally between July and August.

# **Tuition Assistance**

Full-time regular employees of Nashville State are eligible to enroll in one credit course per term at any state of Tennessee public postsecondary institution (TBR or UT system), with fees waived for the employee. In addition, dependents of employees of Nashville State may be eligible for a 50% discount on tuition and fees at public college or university in the state of Tennessee.

Interested employees should check with the Office of Human Resources to determine eligibility and process for approval. Approval of the supervisor and the Human Resources Office is required in advance each semester. Approval will be contingent upon satisfactory job performance. The Human Resources Office will provide application forms for this benefit.

# **Expenditure of College Funds**

The Office of Business and Finance maintains a procurement procedure, which may be in electronic format, setting forth all processes and procedures for the procurement of goods and services to ensure that all procurements are in compliance with federal and state laws, regulations, and all applicable Nashville State Policies and Guidelines.

All merchandise or services being purchased or reviewed for purchase from outside of the institution must be processed and ordered by the purchasing department. The VP of business and Finance, and the Director of Purchasing are the only personnel that are authorized to commit college funds for purchase.

Exceptions to the above requirement are the following:

- Library subscriptions, interlibrary loan charges, on-line data base charges
- Payments to students (i.e. refunds and Foundation support)
- Fees for official/government inspections, such as of elevators
- Postage, freight and shipping charges
- Student club expenditures (i.e., agency accounts)
- Classified advertisements
- Awards, grants, and professional development funding provided by the Nashville State Foundation
- Facility fees for special courses
- Payments to TBR, campus food services, and the campus bookstore
- Payroll
- Petty cash reimbursement to the custodian of the petty cash fund
- Fee waiver payments to UT and TBR schools
- Airfare for travel on college business
- Other exceptions approved by the VP Business and Finance

College monies may be expended only by authorized College personnel through completion and approval of a Purchase Requisition or a Direct payment.

Note: Nashville State is not responsible for payment for any merchandise or service ordered without the submission and processing of a requisition and creation of a purchase order prior to placing an order.

Requisitions that total \$10,000 or more must be processed by a bid. A bid request is submitted to three (3) vendors, or to the number on the bid list. Requisitions that total \$50,000 or more must be processed by written bid. If possible, fifteen (15) vendors will be sent bids. Bidders have 14 working days to respond. After 14 working days, all bids that have been received will be opened, logged, and returned to the staff for review. When the bid package is returned to the Purchasing office with a recommendation, the bid will be reviewed by the VP Business and Finance and, if appropriate, a purchase order will be issued.

Note: A bid is not required if purchasing from a State or TBR contract.

### Travel Expenses and Reimbursement

Travel that may be authorized, and pursuant to which expense may be reimbursed, shall be limited to the following:

- Travel that is necessary for the proper execution of official Nashville State educational, research, or other institutional objectives;
- Travel to and from meetings and conferences of a professional nature, which will increase the attending employee's usefulness to the College;
- Blanket Authorization If an employee is routinely traveling for the purpose of official business for the college he/she may obtain in-state blanket authorization.
- If an employee that does not have Blanket Authorization will need to submit a Travel Approval Form before any travel takes place.

### https://fa.nscc.edu/finance/travel/faqs/

- A Non-Travel/Direct Payment Request form allows reimbursement to the employee of all allowable expenses not relating to travel or this form also allows reimbursement to vendors.
- A <u>Request for Travel Approval (Tim's Magic Box)</u> must be completed to obtain authorization for an employee to travel. The request form must be processed before the travel begins.
- A <u>Claim for Travel Expenses (Tim's Magic Box)</u> must be submitted within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed. This form allows reimbursement to the employee of all allowable expenses. A memo of explanation for the delay must accompany all claim forms submitted after 30 days of the travel.
- You will be reimbursed after adequately accounting for travel expenses by giving a statement of expenses showing dates and destinations of business travel along with documentary evidence. Original receipts are required for all major travel expenses, including airfare, hotel, and car rentals. All reimbursements are made through direct deposit. For first-time requestors, please submit the Direct Deposit Form in Dynamic Forms.

Per TBR Policy, the Nashville State Travel Office Procurement card can only to be used where the payment of registration fees and required advance payment for airline or hotel payments is mandated the conference organizer.

The majority of registration fees for conferences require pre-payment in advance to secure reserved spaces. The Nashville State Travel Office procurement card can be used to pay these fees since payment if required in advance.

Airline fee payments require payment in advance to secure reserved spots. The Nashville State Travel Office procurement card can also be used in this event to secure prepayment of these fees.

Hotel stays can only be pre-paid with the Nashville State Travel Office procurement card when the conference/travel being attended includes the hotel stay as part of the registration fee and is required to be paid in advance. All other hotel reservations will have to secured and paid by the conference participant using their personal financial sources. Reimbursement will be made after

the actual travel event has transpired.

### Non-Travel / Direct Payment Request/Reimbursement

Payments to vendors and reimbursements to employees or individuals for non-travel related expenses may be processed via the Non-Travel/Direct Payment process. Complete a Non-Travel/Direct Payment from in SciQuest, attach the invoice or receipts, and submit to the Travel and Budget Department via SciQuest.

- Emergency Purchases under \$500
- Business Expense Reimbursements (non-travel)
- Dues/Memberships/Accreditation Fees
- Webinar Registration/Tests/Certifications
- Background Check Services
- Guest Speakers Honorarium
- Permit/License fees (excluding software licenses)
- Insurance (Student Liability)
- Student Scholarships (Foundation)
- Student Stipends & Awards
- S. Postage Meter Request (No Stamps)
- Advertising (Newspaper, Online, etc.)
- Sports Fees
- Field Trip Fees
- Reimbursement to individuals for non-travel related supplies, approved food purchases and services purchased up to \$50 per transaction. Any request for reimbursement above \$50.00 should include an approved memo explaining why the item could not be purchased using normal purchasing channels.

Non-travel business-related purchases for a department must be made directly by Nashville State Community College (direct purchase) to receive sales tax exemption. This means that the only acceptable forms of payment are the College issued purchasing card and College issued check. The sales tax exemption CANNOT be used when an employee pays for items with personal funds (cash, check or credit card) even if the employee will be reimbursed by the College later.

#### Supplies for Office and Classroom

Each academic school has an annual operating budget for supplies.

Please follow the purchase requisition process for ordering these supplies and avoid making purchases directly with the vendor and/or with personal funds that would result in a direct reimbursement. This should only be done as a last resort and have prior written approval from a supervisor to proceed.

### Budget Process/TAF

As a State entity, Nashville State is required to submit a balanced budget. Revenue must be equal or greater than expenditures. The budget process for the next fiscal year is completed February through March and the final budget is sent to TBR in April.

Technology Access Fee (TAF) funding requests are made during the Spring budget process. TAF funds must be spent on student related technology.

A revised budget process is completed in August through September and the final revised budget

is sent to TBR in October. During this process, the budget is updated based on new budget requests, actual fall enrollment numbers, and revised spending projections.

# **Section 3: Instructional Support and Student Services**

The services, information, and resources listed below will aid faculty in carrying out their teaching responsibilities.

# **The Teaching Center**

The Teaching Center, located in Weld building, room W-78, is designed by faculty for faculty. It seeks to promote a culturally-responsive environment that values excellence in teaching, collaboration, research, and engagement in order to positively impact student success. The mission of Nashville State's Teaching Center is to support full and part-time faculty in their pursuit of instructional excellence. The focus of the Center is to share information and create training opportunities that directly affect the classroom. We seek to serve both faculty and the college as part of a culturally responsive community that is committed to equity, innovation, collaboration, learning, and engagement.

- orientation for new adjunct instructors;
- consultation, advice, and course observation on request;
- library of books about teaching and learning topics;
- professional development workshops throughout the year;
- training and support for accessible course resources;

To learn more, please stop by the Teaching Center or visit the webpage <a href="https://ww2.nscc.edu/theteachingcenter/">https://ww2.nscc.edu/theteachingcenter/</a>, or email <a href="theteachingcenter@nscc.edu">theteachingcenter@nscc.edu</a>.

# Office of Online Learning

The Office of Online Learning (OOL) is committed to supporting online education at Nashville State Community College for all faculty, staff, and students interested in utilizing NS Online/D2L and supported technologies for online learning to promote collaborative, interactive, and creative learning experiences for all users. Utilizing Universal Design strategies to generate authentic learning experiences for our online learners, OOL works with faculty to develop quality online content applying foundational pedagogical theories, innovative technology, and sound instructional design principles. Our goal is to build a supportive campus network to meet the needs of our online faculty members and improve our online student learning experiences.

The Office of Online Learning is available to assist all faculty with NS Online/D2L courses, utilizing technology for learning and supported tools, such as lecture capture software, video conferencing, accessibility issues, support for developing multimedia content, meeting accessibility standards for online learning, and are available to discuss strategies for delivering online courses.

- a. D2L
- b. TurnItIn

- c. Publisher Integration
- d. ePortfolio
- e. Lockdown Browser
- f. Virtual Classroom
- g. YouTube
- h. Zoom
- i. Yuja
- j. Yuja Verity (proctoring)
- k. Scantron

## Quality Course Design Certification (QCDC) Development and Review Process

Faculty designing courses for online delivery can participate the Quality Course Design Certification (QCDC) as a means of professional development and work alongside instructional designers and peers in course development related to online pedagogy and best practices related to online learning. This online course, developed by the Office of Online Learning, is planned to be offered every semester and involves at least 30 hours of coursework leading into course development. Participants will be expected to complete the course achieving at least 85% earn QCDC certification. The process is completed in three phases.

- Design phase: Completion of the QCDC course at 85% or higher, including creation of course syllabus and course map (part of course outcomes).
- Development phase: A fully developed online course that meets the standards defined by the Office of Online Learning as determined through a completed course evaluation (OSCQR rubric). Total time expectation for completion is approximately 12 weeks (6 weeks for QCDC course and 6 weeks of course development and review).
- Review phase: A continuous process to meet OSCQR rubric standards at 85% or better including adaptations of course map and acceptable scores for accessibility.

### Learning Tools Interoperability (LTI)

The Office of Online Learning (OOL) has implemented a Learning Tools Interoperability (LTI) approval process for addition of all external tool integrations into D2L. The approval process for each tool will include a review of Functionality, Accessibility, Security, Compliance with University policies, Cost, and other factors. Faculty should consult OOL before considering an LTI integration when working with vendors. Be advised the review process could take several weeks. Please verify the request is not supplied by our existing vendors (Edit Course > External Learning Tools).

A Learning Tool Interoperability (LTI) is an external piece of software that can be plugged into the learning management system (D2L) to extend its functionality. Each LTI has a different license agreement, and different access to data from D2L which involves a review process.

Full-time Faculty or Instructional Deans submit the request form to OOL. Vendors must provide information on licensing, accessibility, privacy, security, cost, etc...

Fall Semester Deadline: June 1

Spring Semester Deadline: November 1 Summer Semester Deadline: March 1 Production installation is three times a year - targeted one week prior to start of semester (Fall, Spring, start of Summer).

When an LTI Request is submitted, OOL will:

- 1. Review the request and may contact you for additional information, suggestions for alternatives, or issues with the request,
- 2. Approve/deny the request for Procurement processing.

For requests that do not fall into this category, or if you are uncertain, please submit your request to <u>online.learning@nscc.edu</u>.

### TN eCampus

Students who need online courses to remain on track for degree completion or to maintain fullor part-time status can fill schedule gaps through the TN eCampus partnership. All thirteen community colleges and several locally governed public universities in Tennessee participate in course delivery through the online partnership which launched in fall 2001.

The courses are rigorously designed and academically equivalent to those offered at physical campus locations. A variety of student support resources are available, including an online bookstore, 24/7 technical support, tutoring, test proctoring and disability services, to help students excel in an online learning environment.

Students pay their home institutions tuition plus an additional administrative fee to TBR for eCampus courses. For additional information regarding TNeCampus please visit their website at <a href="https://tnecampus.org/">https://tnecampus.org/</a>.

The Director of Online Learning is the student liaison for TN eCampus. Questions and concerns regarding eCampus courses, including grade appeals for eCampus courses, should be directed to the Director of Online Learning.

Office of Online Learning
Weld Building, W-101
615-353-3259
OnlineLearning@nscc.edu

# **Academic Testing Center**

The mission of the Nashville State Community College Testing Center is to support the academic goals of the College by providing a multitude and variety of testing services in a quiet, secure, and proctored testing environment.

The Testing Center provides a secure proctored environment for testing at Nashville State Community College to protect the integrity of all tests. The Nashville State Community College Testing Center maintains and adheres to all standards set forth by the National College Testing Association (NCTA). The Testing Center provides Accuplacer placement testing, CLEP College Level Examination Program, Graduate Exit Exams, and other proctored testing.

**Please note:** Testing on all campuses requires an appointment. Students must register a minimum of two business days in advance.

#### **Testing Center Information**

The Testing Center is available to answer questions by emailing <u>Testing.Center@nscc.edu</u> or by phone at 615-353-3564.

## **Testing with Accommodations**

Students who require accommodated testing are required to make appointments a minimum of two business days in advance with the Access Center.

For learning more about testing with accommodations, please email AccessCenter@nscc.edu or call 615-353-3363.

If a student is registered with the Access Center to receive disability testing accommodations, they must schedule a testing appointment with accommodations.

### **Welcome Center**

The Welcome Center is the first point of contact for new students and serves as a one stop shop for all students. The center provides students help with admission to Nashville State, campus tours, new student orientation, enrollment guidance from Student Service Specialists, professional development and job searching with Career Service Specialists, as well as help with financial aid, Records, and dual enrollment. The Welcome Center also provides information for academic and social supports and refers students to other offices as needed.

No appointment is necessary for in-person support. Welcome Center support is available at all campus locations, please refer to the website for hours.

#### Virtual Welcome Center

Students can connect with Welcome Center staff virtually by using the Virtual Welcome Center zoom link is located at https://www.nscc.edu/admissions/welcome-center

#### How it works:

When the student joins, they will be placed in a Zoom waiting room and a staff member will admit them to the room. There may be a queue if staff is assisting other students. If the student is unable to wait, they may email admissions@nscc.edu, call 615-353-3215, or visit one of the campuses.

#### Career Services

The Nashville State Career Services Office offers assistance through resume reviews and mock interviews, job searching, and internships scheduled by appointment. Appointments are scheduled through <a href="College Central Network">College Central Network</a> (<a href="https://www.collegecentral.com/nashvillestate/">https://www.collegecentral.com/nashvillestate/</a>) Students must activate their account to make an appointment with Nashville State staff.

Career counseling is available to assist students who are undecided about their program of study. Staff can help undecided students make important educational and career decisions and learn how Nashville State can help facilitate their vocational goals. Additionally, students are encouraged to utilize the YouScience Profile designed to help students leverage their aptitudes and abilities. The YouScience Profile is the only online platform that measures aptitudes and interests and then matches them to majors and careers that fit best. Students will take this assessment as part of NSCC 1010, but any student who wishes to take the assessment can do so by requesting a code from Career Services.

Located in the Welcome Center on the 2nd Floor of S-Building at the White Bridge Campus.

Phone: 615-353-3248 Fax: 615-353-3254 careerservices@nscc.edu

## **Student Success Center**

The Student Success Center connects students to resources and opportunities to maximize their success at Nashville State.

#### Location

W-90, Weld Building, White Bridge Campus. Student Success Advisors are available at all campus locations.

<u>Student Success Advisors</u> provide support and mentorship to all new students, provide guidance on academic goals and plans, connect students to campus and community resources, and guide students through non-academic challenges.

<u>Student Resource Managers</u> works with the Nashville State students to provide emotional support and facilitate community resource connections.

# **Access Center**

Nashville State Community College provides reasonable accommodations to students with documented physical, emotional, or learning condition in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and its amendments. All accommodations are based upon documentation that must be provided by a licensed or certified professional. Access Center staff are professionals trained in evaluating medical/ADA educational documentation to determine appropriate and reasonable accommodations for students. The Access Center coordinates the provision of reasonable accommodations which are determined on an individual basis.

The Access Center ensures that all students can use their accommodations correctly and appropriately with each class. The most essential form for all accommodations is the Faculty Notification Letter (FNL) that is sent out at the beginning of each semester. This document ensures that professors know and understand each student's accommodations in their classroom. The form includes an acknowledgment system to help professors know about their student's accommodations. The directions for this acknowledgment system is on the top of the FNL.

The Access Center can also help registered students with testing accommodations and advising

appointments.

Students may request accommodations by completing the online request form at https://yukon.accessiblelearning.com/NSCC/Default.aspx. After the application is submitted, an intake interview appointment will be scheduled with the Access Center. If applicable, the student will complete the Access Center process (application, submission of documentation, and interactive discussion).

Faculty will be notified by email if a student registered in their class has approved accommodations.

# **Records Office**

The Records Office provides services to the community, faculty, staff, students, and other agencies by informing and safeguarding student academic records in accordance with the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) records policies.

The Records Office:

- Maintains both academic and continuing education records
- Evaluates credentials for graduation eligibility
- Assists with activities associated with commencement, creation and maintenance of graduation lists
- Processes diploma orders and mailing, and various notifications to students who have applied for graduation
- Processes student request for copies of documents
- Process Veterans Administration education benefits

Located in the Welcome Center on the 2nd Floor of S-Building at the White Bridge Campus

Phone: 615-353-3197 Fax: 615-353-3302 Email: records@nscc.edu

# **CARE Referrals**

CARE referrals are utilized at Nashville State to notify staff of any non-academic needs/supports that our students may have.

Link to **CARE** form.

#### CARE Referral Guidelines

Although some of our students may need disciplinary action for student code of conduct issues, the CARE referral allows Nashville State staff to provide emotional and/or resource support. For example, submit a "care referral" if a student:

- Displays emotional issues that cause distress in the classroom
- Discloses personal issues that affect learning
- Expresses thoughts of self-harm or harm to others
- Experiences anxiety, depression, etc. and intervention is necessary
- Needs general emotional support
- Lacks basic necessities of life (food, clothing, shelter).

#### **Urgent Situations**

If a student is planning to harm themselves or others, please contact Mobile Crisis (615-726-0125) and Nashville State Security (615-353-3273 - Main Campus) for safety reasons.

Employees are also obligated to report elder abuse, child abuse, and/or sexual misconduct to the appropriate agencies.

In honoring the safety of students, Nashville State cannot guarantee confidentiality. However, care referrals will not be a part of a student's academic transcript for Nashville State.

If in doubt about whether or not the situation is serious, please err on the side of caution and file a report.

### What Happens After I Submit a Referral

When a care referral is submitted, the Student Resource Manager (SRM) makes every effort to help our students, faculty, and staff feel safe and supported. The SRM is here to help a student address problems, find resources, and cope with the stresses of life. By filling out a CARE referral, you continue to make Nashville State Community College a caring community committed to student success.

NOTE: The SRM does not provide crisis intervention. Please allow up to 48 hours to respond to referrals.

### Nashville State Suicide Prevention Plan

Nashville State Community College is committed to the mental health wellness of our students, faculty and staff. As such, and in compliance with the requirements of T.C.A. § 49-7-172, Nashville State has developed a suicide prevention plan that engages in a variety of initiatives to improve and provide crisis services.

Nashville State's Suicide Prevention Plan will be disseminated to faculty, staff, and students each academic year. Faculty and staff receive an annual email that includes a web link, <a href="http://ww2.nscc.edu/careteam/">http://ww2.nscc.edu/careteam/</a> that is located on the "Faculty & Staff" page of NSCC's website. Information for students will be located under the "Current Student" page of NSCC's website, <a href="https://www.nscc.edu/current-students/on-campus-resources/access-center">https://www.nscc.edu/current-students/on-campus-resources/access-center</a>. Information for the Nashville State community is also available at <a href="https://www.nsccf.org/community-resources/">https://www.nsccf.org/community-resources/</a>

#### **Prevention**

Nashville State has developed a comprehensive approach to increase mental health awareness through efforts of prevention. The Student Resource Manager partners with local agencies to provide information and training opportunities to all students and staff.

#### Contact

NSCC's contact for suicide prevention work is the Associate Vice President, Student Affairs, 615-353-3148.

# **Prevention Components & Resources**

Key components of NSCC's suicide prevention work include:

- Promotion of the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, Crisis Text Line, and campus/community resources are made available through:
  - o NSCC's website, <a href="https://www.nscc.edu/current-students/on-campus-resources/student-support-services">https://www.nscc.edu/current-students/on-campus-resources/student-support-services</a>, and
  - o NSCC's Foundation website, https://www.nsccf.org/community-resources/

Additional methods, such posters and orientation packets.

- Utilizing community resources and agencies to provide prevention services for NSCC community members. NSCC has established relationships with the following Mental Health facilities for the purpose of providing prevention education, training and/or prevention screenings.
  - o Recuro telehealth services
  - o <a href="http://tspn.org/">http://tspn.org/</a>
  - Faculty and Staff can utilize the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) 24/7 at Here4TN.com, 855-437-3486, or contact NSCC Human Resources Department

Information regarding such relationships at NSCC is available <a href="https://www.nscc.edu/current-students/on-campus-resources/student-support-services">https://www.nscc.edu/current-students/on-campus-resources/student-support-services</a>. That website will have available a comprehensive list of partners and services available to members of the Nashville State community which may include crisis referral services, prevention screenings, training programs, etc. Any campus member interested in accessing the services/agencies and training noted above, or for more information about NSCC's suicide prevention efforts should contact Dr. Julie Williams, Associate Vice President, Student Affairs, Julie.williams@nscc.edu or 615-353-3148.

#### <u>Intervention</u>

There is no typical suicidal person. No age group, ethnicity, or background is immune. Fortunately, many troubled individuals display behaviors deliberately or inadvertently signal their suicidal intent. Recognizing the <u>warning signs</u> (<a href="http://tspn.org/warning-signs">http://tspn.org/warning-signs</a>) and learning what to do next may help save a life.

#### Contact

If someone exhibits behavioral patterns that may indicate possible risk for suicide, they should be watched closely. If they appear numerous or severe, seek professional help at once. The Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988(call or text) provides access to trained telephone counselors, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If a student, faculty, or staff member encounters a suicidal student, faculty, or staff member, the following individual should be contacted immediately:

Nashville State Campus Police at 615-353-3273,

then Dr. Julie Williams, Associate Vice President, Student Affairs, <u>Julie.williams@nscc.edu</u> or 615-353-3148,

and complete a referral at http://ww2.nscc.edu/careteam/ or 911 if the situation is crisis.

Should the incident occur after hours, or the above noted individual is not available, the following should be contacted immediately: 911

If the suicidal person has plans and access to a lethal means, is planning to make an attempt very soon, or is currently in the process of making an attempt, this individual is in imminent danger and should not be left alone. Get the person help immediately. Determine who can get there quickly and keep the individual safe.

Should you have this concern, you should immediately call 911 and Nashville State Police.

#### **Intervention Resources**

Nashville State has established relationships with the following local Mental Health facilities for the purpose of crisis referral services.

 Mental Health Coop Crisis Line provides immediate phone conversation and inperson intervention if needed. This includes Emergency Psychiatric Services. Call 855-CRISIS-1 (855-274-7471) and you will be routed to a trained crisis specialist in your area.

The safety and wellbeing of our students, faculty, and staff is of the utmost importance. In situations that require immediate action because of safety or other concerns, Nashville State will take any

### Crisis/Counseling

Nashville State, in coordination with the TN Board of Regents, has partnered with Recuro to provide low-cost teletherapy services to our students. If a student is unable to pay for mental health services, please have them contact the Student Success Center at StudentSuccess@nscc.edu or 615-353-3655.

# **Learning Resources Center**

#### The John E. Mayfield Library

The Mayfield Library provides access to materials and services which support the instructional and administrative objectives of the College and which stimulate and nurture the interests of students, staff, and faculty. Library staff work closely with the teaching faculty to provide students with the material and knowledge they need to conduct research. The mission of the Library is:

- To provide a collection of materials and services that will meet the needs of students in degree and certificate programs.
- To assist students and faculty in using all available resources and services.
- To provide recreational reading materials and information needed by students and faculty.
- To provide library orientation for all users in cooperation with the teaching faculty. Although the Library exists primarily for the use of the faculty and students of the College, materials are accessible to the community. Both print and nonprint materials are loaned to businesses and educational institutions. The staff will try to borrow from other libraries any material needed by faculty and students not available in this collection.

For access to all resources and services, please visit <a href="https://www.nscc.edu/library">https://www.nscc.edu/library</a>. Faculty services are available at <a href="https://nscc.libguides.com/libraryinstruction">https://nscc.libguides.com/libraryinstruction</a>. Please feel free to email

library@nscc.edu for additional information.

### **Tutoring**

Tutors are available on campus as well as virtually. The current tutoring schedule can be found at <a href="https://www.nscc.edu/current-students/on-campus-resources/learning-center-and-tutoring">https://www.nscc.edu/current-students/on-campus-resources/learning-center-and-tutoring</a>. The College also has a subscription to a third-party, online tutoring service, which provides more online tutoring subjects and times.

Embedded tutors connect directly with a specific class and work closely with the instructor to provide additional assistance to students to help with understanding course concepts and promote student engagement. The embedded tutor program is an option for some classes, especially composition. Contact the Coordinator of the Learning Center to discuss the benefits of adding an embedded tutor.

## Open Computer Lab for Students

White Bridge Road campus, the Learning Center in the K building currently serves as the Open Lab. The hours of the lab are the same as the hours of the Learning Center.

# **Additional Programs and Services**

It is the responsibility of faculty and staff associated with Academic Affairs to become familiar with the wide variety of programs and services that help the College achieve its mission and goals. The following are examples of these programs and services, and faculty and staff are encouraged to consult the College Catalog, website, and other campus publications for additional program information.

#### Dual Enrollment

Dual enrollment classes allow high school students to take Nashville State college-level classes. High school students in dual enrollment classes are typically awarded both high school and college credit for a college-level class. To be eligible for dual enrollment classes, a student must meet the following criteria:

- Junior or senior in high school
- Minimum sub-score of 19 on the ACT in Math and Reading and 18 on the English portion\*
- Prerequisites of the desired course(s) met as needed
- Written permission from the high school principal and parents or guardians
- Provide proof of citizenship or lawful presence if the student is 18 years old or older at application.

\*Continuing into the 2022-23 academic year, dual enrollment students with an unweighted cumulative GPA of 3.60 or higher will be able to have prerequisites waived for courses that require them to be at the college level in the subject areas of reading, writing, and math. The HS GPA can be used in place of ACT, SAT, or Accuplacer scores. If a dual enrollment student has an unweighted cumulative HS GPA of 2.8-3.59, and also a B or higher in the subject area of the college-level course they are wanting to take, they can also have prerequisites waived, provided they have approval from their high school principal (or their designee, such as a high school counselor).

#### Early College

Nashville State and Metro Nashville Public Schools (MNPS) have established two Early College high school programs through which a student may be able to earn an Associate's degree and a High School diploma in the same term. Early College opportunities can be found on the Nashville State White Bridge Road campus and at Whites Creek High School in Nashville, Tennessee.

### **Dual Credit**

Dual credit allows high school students to earn college credit for select career and technical education (CTE) high school classes by taking a Dual Credit exam or approved industry certification. College credit is earned by passing a comprehensive test that covers the competencies of the college course. College credit earned through the Dual Credit program may transfer to other post-secondary institutions at their discretion. Course equivalencies can be found in the Nashville State catalog.

#### **Prison Education Programs**

Nashville State began offering classes to incarcerated students in 2014. Students taking classes at the Turney Center Industrial Complex in Only, TN can earn an Associate of Science degree in either Political Science or Business Administration. Students taking classes at Riverbend Maximum Security Institution or the Debra Johnson Rehabilitation Center in Nashville, Tennessee can earn an Associate of Science degree in Business Administration. Faculty interested in teaching in these programs should contact their dean.

# **Campus Security**

### If there is an Emergency, Dial 911

The Police and Security Services Department provides 24-hour, 365-day service for all campuses via monitoring of security cameras and/or physically patrolling the campus. The department is augmented by a closed-circuit television system, hand-held portable radios, and cell phones.

In the event of a crime or security violation on campus, call Police and Security immediately at 615-353-3273. The on-duty officer can be reached at this number and will respond to your location.

### **Security Services**

- **Escort Services:** The Safety and Security Department provides escort services upon request to students and staff.
- **Battery Service:** We are equipped to jump-start vehicles due to dead batteries.
- Lock-Outs: If you locked your keys in the car we will attempt to pop your lock. You will have to sign a liability release form, unless you have power locks. Because of the complicated wiring in those vehicles, we cannot attempt to unlock the vehicles.
- Crime Prevention Presentations: Crime prevention presentations are conducted annually to such groups as physical plant staff; international students; student government; students, faculty and staff; and other recognized student organizations.
- **Hate Crimes:** The federal Right-To-Know Act requires the reporting of all incidents where prejudice against race, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnicity is employed during the

commission of murder, forcible rape, aggravated assault, and violation or arrest relating to weapons, drugs, or alcohol. Annual reports reflect all incidents reported in any of these categories.

- **Printed Crime Prevention Materials:** Crime prevention brochures are distributed at crime prevention presentations and at various locations throughout the campus.
- Electronic Alarm Systems: A sophisticated electronic monitoring system located in the Department of Safety and Security has a comprehensive network of intrusion on devices and alarm systems.
- Closed-Circuit Television System: This system provides instant access to all campus buildings.
- **Facilities Surveys:** Security personnel conduct comprehensive surveys of exterior lighting, exterior doors and grounds.
- Rape Awareness, Education, and Prevention: In cooperation with the Dean of Student Services, the department provides rape awareness education and prevention presentations to the campus community.

### **Crime Reporting**

Numerous efforts are made to advise the campus community on a timely basis about campus crime and crime-related problems. These efforts include the following:

- **Annual Report:** A comprehensive annual report of crime-related information is compiled, published, and widely distributed. This annual report is available to any member of the campus community. Download the Annual Security Report
- **Daily Crime Log:** Download Daily Crime Log
- **Special Alert:** If circumstances warrant, specially printed crime alerts are prepared and distributed to the appropriate persons.

### **Emergency Preparedness**

The College's Emergency Preparedness Plan outlines procedures to improve the protection of lives and property through the effective use of college resources. The plan's purpose is to mitigate the potential effects of the various hazards that might impact Nashville State, to prepare for the implementation of measures which will preserve life and minimize damage, to respond effectively to the needs of the campus community during emergencies, and to provide a recovery system to return Nashville State and its community to a normal status as soon as possible after such emergencies.

The College's Emergency Preparedness Plan can be found on the Safety and Security webpage at <a href="https://www.nscc.edu/faculty-staff/human-resources.php">https://www.nscc.edu/faculty-staff/human-resources.php</a>.

# **Technology Services Division**

Technology Services Department at Nashville State Community College supports faculty, staff, and students in their use of technology products that Technology Services Division acquires, manages, and maintains for the operation of the college throughout its service areas.

The Technology Services Division maintains a Service Desk Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Hours may change on demand. Please check with the website for the most accurate times). The TSD Service Desk supports our students with Self-Service, student Email, and password assistance. Students can reach the Service Desk by calling 629-216-3300 or emailing <a href="ServiceDesk@nscc.edu">ServiceDesk@nscc.edu</a>. College faculty and staff can submit work orders through the college email address <a href="ServiceDesk@nscc.edu">ServiceDesk@nscc.edu</a>. (<a href="https://servicedesk.nscc.edu/wp//)</a>

The Technology Services Division provides various services to faculty and instructional schools including the following:

- Assistance in determining hardware and software needs for the school and the individual faculty member;
- Technical support in the repair and service of existing hardware recommended by TSD and housed in the school or in faculty offices;
- Consultation with schools and faculty concerning effective hardware and/or software configuration used for instruction in student labs (e.g., "open lab" in the Library and specialized labs as used by Health Sciences); and
- Implementation of the master plan of the College for instructional technology.

# **Center for Workforce Development and Continuing Education**

The Center for Workforce Development and Continuing Education at Nashville State Community College provides tailored education and training for professional advancement as well as personal enrichment courses and workshops for the community. The Workforce Development Department has served the local businesses and the greater Nashville community for over 30 years and has broad range of experience in business and industry.

The Center for Workforce Development and Continuing Education offers courses for those who may not be seeking a degree, but instead want to upgrade their skills to begin or advance their career, need recertification to maintain a license, start their own business, develop a new hobby, or simply learn something new and interesting to enrich their life. High quality programs are taught by experts in the field. Certificates of completion, continuing education units (CEUs), and preparation for professional certification in many areas are provided.

Learn more at <a href="https://www.nscc.edu/academics/workforce-development-and-continuing-education/index.php">https://www.nscc.edu/academics/workforce-development-and-continuing-education/index.php</a> or email workforce@nscc.edu with questions.

# Office of Institutional Research

The Office of Institutional Research (IR) is responsible for the following:

- 1. Coordinate and facilitate strategic initiatives.
- 2. Serve as the primary repository of institutional data.
- 3. Publish institutional information.
- 4. Comply with state and federal reporting requirements.
- 5. Respond to external surveys and questionnaires.
- 6. Support the institution's accreditation initiatives.

Ethical considerations within Institutional Research.

The Office of IR:

- Will not release individual student information.
- Will take all reasonable steps to ensure the accuracy of data gathered from individuals, groups, offices, or agencies.
- Will apply all reasonable means to prevent the loss of data and documentation.
- Will make every effort to anticipate and prevent misunderstandings and the possible misuse of information.

The implementation and coordination of the College's planning, research and evaluation processes that support institutional effectiveness, accountability, assessment and facilities development.

### Conducting Surveys

Individuals or groups wishing to administer research and opinion surveys to college faculty, staff, student body and/or the public at large must be approved by the College's Institutional Review Board (IRB). The first point of contact for requesting IRB approval is the AVPAA. Classroom based survey research is at the discretion of the individual faculty.

# **Nashville State Foundation**

The Nashville State Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that exists to provide support for Nashville State's students, faculty, and staff. Funds raised by the Nashville State Foundation support campus needs, such as student scholarships, facility improvements, and other needs as they arise.

The Nashville State Foundation is governed by a Board of Trustees composed of volunteers from across Nashville State's primary service area. These Trustees each serve three-year terms, act as advocates for Nashville State in the community, and assist in fundraising and other development activities.

Support for the Nashville State Foundation is solicited from the business community, alumni, and employees and is vital to the continued growth and excellence of the institution. For more information, please email at foundation@nscc.edu.

### Solicitation and Acceptance of Gifts

Nashville State recognizes the importance of gifts to the college that are consistent with its mission and that help it reach its goals. Gifts and/or donations to the colleges, including in-kind donations may be accepted only by the President, Vice Presidents, Executive Director of Development, and the Comptroller. Solicitation of gifts which may require a commitment of college resources must be approved by the President. Certain gifts must have the approval of the Tennessee Board of Regents and/or the Chancellor. Only the Board and/or Chancellor may accept a gift if Board and/or Chancellor's acceptance is a condition set by the donor. Only the Chancellor and Board may accept gifts of real property.

An employee who is offered an in-kind gift for the college must complete an "In-Kind Donation to Nashville State" form and obtain the designated signatures prior to obligating the college to accept the gift. An exception to this policy is the college's library which may accept published materials.

#### Gifts to the Nashville State Foundation

Gifts, both cash and in-kind, to the Nashville State Foundation may be received by the

Foundation's Chair, Secretary, and/or Treasurer. Information on all such gifts shall be forwarded to the Foundation Office in the form of copies of checks, donors' letters, receipts, and acknowledgments. The Development Office shall maintain records of gifts to the Foundation separate from records of gifts to the college.

The offer of in-kind gifts to the Foundation shall follow a pre- approval process similar to the one for the college, with the Foundation Secretary maintaining and recording the appropriate forms.

#### Charitable Solicitation Policy

TBR Policy 1:03:02:50 prohibits solicitation on all property owned or used by an institution. There are many reasons for the policy, including protecting the academic setting and workplace from disruption.

Nashville State's Solicitation Policy applies to affiliated and non-affiliated entities and individuals. It regulates solicitation for commercial and charitable purposes. College affiliated entities and groups are not hampered in their fundraising as long as the funds are collected to meet the expenses of the organization or group. Per TBR policy, an affiliated entity is an officially registered student, student group, or student organization. The College's Honor Society and Student Government Association. Faculty Senate, Staff Assembly, and Administrative Assembly are examples of college affiliated groups.

The College does not permit charitable cash solicitations on campus. Charitable solicitations for goods (e.g. food, clothing, shoes, etc.) are permitted if approved by the Campus Fundraising Committee. The College must treat all charitable entities, regardless of the cause they represent, the same and according to policy. Therefore, whether an entity or group is soliciting for the boy/girl scouts, little/big leagues, churches, food banks, etc., the proper authorization must be secured.

College affiliated entities and groups must secure a recommendation from the Campus Fundraising Committee and approval from the Vice President for Business and Finance before approaching students and employees on behalf of a commercial and/or charitable cause. The Charitable Solicitation Request for Approval forms should be submitted to the Chairperson of the Campus Fundraising Committee.

Student affiliated organizations must obtain approval through the Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management prior to submitting requests to the Charitable Solicitation Committee. No affiliated organization may solicit for funds unless it has been authorized to have a fund. Any affiliated organization soliciting for funds without such authorization must cease solicitation immediately.

Any individual or group that intends to solicit funds for the Nashville State Foundation should first contact the Nashville State Development Office. Because the Foundation must comply with all 501 C (3) requirements when raising funds, it is imperative that any solicitation be coordinated with the Development Office to ensure that all IRS requirements are satisfied.

For any affiliated entity or group that sells merchandise, sales tax must be charged, collected, and remitted in accordance with Tennessee law. For more information, please contact the Nashville State Business Office.

# **Grants**

Grant funded activities are wonderful ways to explore new programming for the college and to form alliances with other institutions and organizations. Before developing a full grant proposal and/or committing to participate in a grant with another institution or organization, employees should reach out to the Director of Grants Development.

# **Communications & Marketing**

Nashville State's Office of Communications and Marketing seeks to enhance communication and facilitate information sharing about the College both internally and externally. Its primary functions are to serve as the gatekeeper for the release of information to the media and other external audiences, support student recruitment efforts, plan and direct all College marketing efforts, assist in building and maintaining good working relationships with local and state elected officials, and to foster internal communications. Communications and Marketing produces or approves all college promotional and marketing materials. This includes the Nashville State website, most institutional videos, and all college-related social media content.

As the primary gatekeeper for the release of College information to the media, the Office of Communications and Marketing is responsible for the preparation and dissemination of all press releases and media announcements on behalf of the College. This office acts as the liaison between the College and the media, and requests that all media inquiries be initiated here. College faculty or staff members who are contacted by news reporters or other media officials should contact the Associate Vice President of Marketing and Communications before speaking to the press or disseminating college-related information to the media.

Academic schools planning to develop program brochures and other promotional materials must consult with the Office of Communications and Marketing for assistance in creating a design that is compatible with the College brand. Approval is required before promotional materials can be printed and distributed to the public.

A Nashville State Brand Management Guide is now available to assist staff and faculty in submitting requests and preparing documents for publication. This guide is available online at the faculty/staff webpage or by clicking <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

### Social Media Guidelines

Nashville State Communications and Marketing is responsible for the maintenance and monitoring of official college accounts on several social media sites. The official sites serve as a way to provide announcements and information about upcoming events and activities, promote a sense of community and College spirit, along with showcasing student, alumni, faculty and staff successes. You can follow and interact on any of these official College pages:

- Twitter: @NashvilleState
- Facebook: <u>@NashvilleState</u>
- Instagram: <u>@NashvilleState</u>
- LinkedIn (personal): @NashvilleStateCC
- LinkedIn (business): @Nashville-State-Community-College

• YouTube: <u>@NashvilleState</u>

College staff and faculty administering institutional social media accounts are expected to follow established social media guidelines and procedures. Please note that faculty, staff, and students are NOT permitted to establish their own department, program, or club social media accounts without written approval from the Office of Communications and Marketing.

#### The Nashville State Voice

The Nashville State Voice is a monthly digital internal newsletter that is sent via email. You can submit photos and/or stories to possibly be included directly to <a href="cliff.rockstead@nscc.edu">cliff.rockstead@nscc.edu</a>. The Nashville State Voice contains stories about faculty, staff, students, alum, programs, events, and the College's involvement in our communities.

### **Email Signature Guidelines**

Uniform email signatures are an important asset to any organization.

Nashville State signatures are designed to:

- Create an image of unity across the College's many functions.
- Ensure the brand is being properly represented in conversations with prospective students and the external community.
- Communicate the professional nature of the College and its employees.

It is important that every employee of Nashville State, no matter the department or role, adopts the standard signature to effectively represent Nashville State Community College. If additional information needs to be inserted beyond what was provided, please feel free to include. You can find additional information about formatting in the brand guidelines book.

#### College Letterhead Stationery and Logo

Nashville State Community College letterhead stationery and logo is an official emblem of the College and should be used only for approved or authorized college business. Neither the College letterhead nor logo may be altered. Use of college letterhead stationery in conducting correspondence, for example, implies that the College has endorsed any ideas or actions contained therein. To avoid legal responsibility for unauthorized use of its letterhead stationery and logo, the College has provided the following directives.

#### College letterhead stationery may not be used as:

- Personal stationery by an employee;
- An implication that an action or activity has College approval when it does not;
- A conveyance for an outside remunerative or non-remunerative activity;
- An espousal of personal or professional belief, opinion, or cause not held by the College; or
- An attempt to represent or imply a position by the College on any social, political or professional issue not approved by the College.

#### Mail and Receiving Services

Mailboxes for the White Bridge Road campus faculty and staff are located in the Weld building. A box for official College-business outgoing mail is also located in this area. Make sure that all outgoing mail has the organization number written on it. Outgoing mail is picked up daily by 2:30 P.M.

Mail bins for all off-site campuses are located in the Student Services Building Lobby at the

security desk. The off-site campus mail courier will be following the schedule below for delivering mail between campuses:

- Monday- Courier service to Clarksville, Waverly, Dickson
- Tuesday- Courier Service to Southeast Campus
- Wed- N/A
- Thursday- Courier service to Clarksville, Waverly, Dickson
- Friday- Courier Service to Southeast Campus

In addition, the courier leaves the main campus at 9:00 on the days they travel.

### College ID

All employees and students of the college must have a college ID.