

CAMPUS CLOSING DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER & EMERGENCY CONDITIONS

I. Policy Section

14.0 Risk Management

II. Policy Subsection

14.5 Campus Closing Due to Inclement Weather & Emergency Conditions

III. Policy Statement

It is the policy of Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC) to maintain normal operations on all regularly scheduled days; therefore, the College rarely closes because of inclement weather conditions. If and when the College does delay or close a campus due to inclement weather, all affected buildings will be closed. In the event of non-weather related issues (such as power outages, mechanical failures, etc.) impacting campus safety and security, the College may need to temporarily close some or all of a campus.

IV. Reason for the Policy

Safety and security for all students, employees, visitors, and protection of college assets.

V. Entities Affected by this Policy

GRCC students, employees, contractors, vendors, contracted employees, volunteers, and guests at Grand Rapids Community College; all properties owned, operated, leased, or maintained by Grand Rapids Community College.

VI. Who Should Read this Policy

All Employees
Students
Members of the Public
Board of Trustees
Contracted employees and service providers

VII. Related Documents

[Campus Closing Procedures](#)

VIII. Contacts

Policy Owner: GRCC Chief of Police
GRCC Director of Communications
GRCC Executive Director of Operational Planning

IX. Definitions

- A. GRCC Kent County – Refers to the downtown Main and DeVos Campus, Tassell MTEC, and all Kent County Regional Centers.
- B. Main Campus – Refers to the following buildings: Cook Academic Hall, Raleigh J. Finkelstein Hall, Calkins Science Center, Wisner-Bottrall Applied Technology Center, Student Center, Ford Fieldhouse and Natatorium, College Park Plaza, Alfred P Smith Music Center, Learning Resource Center, Spectrum Theater, Phyllis Fratzke Early Childhood Learning Laboratory.
- C. DeVos Campus – Refers to the following buildings: Administration Building, Sneden Hall, White Hall, Ender Hall, and Custer Alumni House.
- D. GRCC Ottawa County – Refers to GRCC Lakeshore Campus
- E. Regional Centers – Refers to non-GRCC operated facilities where GRCC offers classes.

X. Procedures

- A. GRCC Police and Facilities personnel assess campus conditions, including additional information from city, county, and state resources as needed. Factors considered in the decision include:
 - 1. Inclement Weather
 - a. Overall road conditions, particularly main routes through the entire region, rather than localized conditions. Weather conditions can vary greatly throughout the service district.
 - b. Whether campus parking lots, sidewalks, and entries can be kept cleared for access
 - c. Whether law enforcement officials are requesting that travel be limited

- d. Current weather conditions and anticipated length of storm
- 2. Non-Weather Related Issues:
 - a. In the event of non-weather related issues impacting campus safety and security, such as power outages, mechanical failures, etc., the College confers with local authorities regarding the amount of time necessary to restore services.
- B. The GRCC Chief of Police (or designee) contacts the College President (or designee) and a decision is made. The decision to close GRCC (or specific locations) will be made as early as possible, with 5:30 AM to 6:00 AM being the target.
 - 1. In the event the College does close, all custodial employees are to report as scheduled unless notified by their supervisor that reporting is not necessary. Maintenance staff are required to contact the Associate Director of Facilities Management one hour prior to their starting time regarding if/when to report. Students and other employees need not report.
 - 2. In the event the College implements a delayed start, all custodial and GRCC Police employees are to report as scheduled. The college will reopen, and employees are expected to report at 10:00 AM. Classes that begin at 11:00 AM or later will be held as scheduled.
- C. If the College does not close in the morning, and weather conditions and circumstances worsen throughout the day, a determination to close for evening activities will occur by 3:00 PM. In such circumstances, second and third shift custodial staff must contact their building manager no later than one hour prior to the start of their shift to determine if they are required to report.
- D. When normal operations will be impacted, the Communications Department is notified and communication procedures are implemented. Communications and announcement are sent via:
 - 1. The Emergency Notification system (Email, Text, Text-to-Voice call)
 - 2. The College web page(s)
 - 3. Local media

For more information, go to: [Campus Closing Procedures](#)

XI. Forms

N/A

XII. Effective Date

April 22, 2003

XIII. Policy History

Revised February, 2015

Revised October, 2019

Updated building names - November, 2021

Revised February, 2023

XIV. Next Review/Revision Date

October, 2027