

Academic Governing Council Decision Report

Mandatory New Student Orientation: Policy 8.28

February 16, 2025

Decision

On January 14, 2025 the AGC membership voted to approve modification of the wording of Policy 8.28, the “Mandatory New Student Orientation Policy” as follows:

All students new to GRCC who are seeking a degree or certificate are required to attend a mandatory New Student Orientation session. New student Orientation will be optional for guest, personal interest, current dual enrollment, current early college, middle college students, and transfer students. Students can select the orientation format that best fits their needs.

Sponsors/Champions of Proposed Policy

Co-Chairs: Lori Cook, Executive Director of Enrollment Services; Jose Mora, New Student Orientation Coordinator.

Committee Members: Alexander Bush, New Student Orientation; Erin Burd, Financial Aid; Kaelee Steffens, Academic Advising; Leticia VanAssen, College Success Center; Marisol Blanco, College Success Center; Meredith Harleton, Biological Sciences.

Rationale

The diction and syntax changes serve to clarify the policy content and its intent for all readers. The policy was also reviewed to ensure that it was consistent with the current GRCC Equity Lens for Policy Review utilized by AGC.

Supporting Data

A literature review of student orientation programs was presented. Benchmarking relating to similar orientation programs at Delta, Henry Ford, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Montcalm, Muskegon, Oakland, Schoolcraft, Washtenaw and Wayne County Community Colleges was presented.

Implications for Action

No substantive or procedural changes will be required. Students who are new to the College and meet the criteria of this policy will have a service indicator placed on their account preventing class registration. Students can participate in whichever orientation format or modality made available. Once the mandatory orientation requirement has been completed, the service indicator will be released and students will be able to sign up for classes.

Date of Decision by AGC

Date: January 14, 2025

49 YES

6 Proxy YES

1 Proxy ABSTAIN
2 NO

Section to be Completed by the Provost

Evaluation Plan

The Mandatory New Student Orientation Policy will be evaluated according to the next scheduled review of the policy. This evaluation and review will include feedback from GRCC faculty members and College stakeholders as well as benchmarking from peer institutions.

Next scheduled review of policy: Academic Year 2027-28

Response from Provost

I received this AGC Decision Report on Wednesday, March 12, 2025. I approve of the revised policy statement recommended by the AGC as outlined above. I am charging the Enrollment Services Office, led by the Executive Director of Enrollment Services, to coordinate implementation of this policy revision. This will include updating the policy document, reviewing the procedures, and making updates to the procedures according to the implications for action outlined above, as needed and/or appropriate.

Additionally, if needed, the Enrollment Services Office will update supporting materials/resources related to this policy in our Learning Management System in order to offer Orientation sessions to students in the format that best fits their needs, per the updated policy statement. These actions will be followed by an update to the Academic and Student Affairs Council once the policy document has been reviewed and updated. Additional steps of implementation will include working with the Provost's Office to post the policy document on the appropriate GRCC webpage and a communication plan about the updated policy document. Full implementation of this revised policy statement should be accomplished no later than the start of the next Academic Year in August 2025.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shelia Jones".

March 24, 2025