UNIVERSITY POLICY

It is the policy of Widener University not to discriminate on the basis of sex, gender, pregnancy status, age, race, national origin or ethnicity, religion, disability, status as a veteran of the Vietnam era or other covered veteran, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, or genetic information in its educational programs, admissions policies, employment practices, financial aid, or other school-administered programs or activities. This policy is enforced under various federal and state laws, including Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Further, in compliance with state and federal laws, Widener University will provide the following information upon request: (a) copies of documents pertinent to the university's accreditations, approvals, or licensing by external agencies or governmental bodies; (b) reports on crime statistics and information on safety policies and procedures; and (c) information regarding gender equity relative to intercollegiate athletic programs—Contact: Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance, Widener University, One University Place, Chester, PA 19013; tel. 610-499-4151. Comments or requests for information regarding services and resources for disabled students should be directed to: Director of Disability Services, Widener University, One University Place, Chester, PA 19013; tel. 610-499-1266; or Dean of Students, Widener University Delaware Law School, P.O. Box 7474, Wilmington, DE 19803; tel. 302-477-2173.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 ("Title IX") prohibits discrimination based on sex and gender in educational programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. Such programs include recruitment, admissions, financial aid and scholarships, athletics, course offerings and access, hiring and retention, and benefits and leave. Title IX also protects students and employees from unlawful sexual harassment (including sexual violence) in university programs and activities. In compliance with Title IX, the university prohibits discrimination and harassment based on sex in employment as well as in all programs and activities.

The university's Title IX coordinator monitors compliance with Title IX and its accompanying regulations. Individuals with questions or concerns about Title IX and/or those who wish to file a complaint of non-compliance may contact the Title IX coordinator or deputy coordinators: The university's Title IX coordinator is Director of Employee Relations Alison Kiss Dougherty, One University Place, Chester, PA 19013; tel. 610-499-1301; e-mail akdougherty@widener.edu. The university has also appointed several deputy Title IX coordinators: For students on the Chester, PA, campus and Extended Learning students: Assistant Dean for Student Development and Engagement Catherine Feminella, One University Place, Chester, PA 19013; tel. 610-499-4392; e-mail cafeminella@widener.edu; or Chief of Campus Safety Kevin Raport, tel. 302-477-2202; e-mail kjraptor@widener.edu. For students and employees on the Wilmington, DE, campus: Dean of Students Susan Goldberg, Widener University Delaware Law School, 4601 Concord Pike, Wilmington, DE 19803; tel. 302-477-2173; e-mail slgoldberg@widener.edu. For students and employees on the Harrisburg, PA, campus: Supervising Attorney and Director, of Student Organizations Mary Catherine Scott, Widener University Commonwealth Law School, 3800 Vartran Way, Harrisburg, PA 17106; tel. 717-541-0320; e-mail mcscoott9055@widener.edu.

The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) is the division of the federal government charged with enforcing compliance with Title IX. Information regarding OCR can be found at: www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html. Questions about Title IX may be directed to OCR as well as to the university's Title IX coordinator or deputy coordinators.

This publication contains information, policies, procedures, regulations, and requirements that were correct at the time of publication. In keeping with the educational mission of the university, the information, policies, procedures, regulations, and requirements contained herein are continually being reviewed, changed, and updated. Consequently, this document cannot be considered binding and must be used solely as an informational guide. Students are responsible for keeping informed of official policies and meeting all relevant requirements.

The university reserves the right and authority at any time to alter any or all of the statements contained herein, to modify the requirements for admission and graduation, to change or discontinue programs of study, to amend any regulation or policy affecting the student body, to increase tuition and fees, to deny admission, to revoke an offer of admission, and to dismiss from the university any student at any time, if it is deemed by the university to be in the best interest of the university, the university community, or the student to do so. The provisions of this publication are subject to change without notice, and nothing in this publication may be considered as setting forth terms of a contract between a student or a prospective student and Widener University.

ACCREDITATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Widener University is a member of the Association for Continuing Higher Education and is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

Widener University’s graduate programs are additionally accredited by the following: AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (School of Business Administration), American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors, and Therapists (Center for Human Sexuality Studies), American Bar Association (School of Law), American Psychological Association (Doctor of Psychology; Clinical Psychology Internship), Commission on Accreditation for Healthcare Management Education (MBA in Healthcare Management), Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (Doctor of Physical Therapy), Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (School of Nursing), Commission on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of Delaware (Delaware Law School), Council on Social Work Education (Center for Social Work Education), National Association for Education of Young Children (Child Development Center), National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Educators (Center for Education), Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing (School of Nursing), Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education Board of the Supreme Court (Commonwealth Law School), Pennsylvania Department of Education (Center for Education), Pennsylvania Department of Welfare (Child Development Center), Pennsylvania Private School Board (Center for Education).

Widener University’s graduate programs hold membership in the following: Academic Council of the American Physical Therapy Association (Institute for Physical Therapy Education), American Society for Engineering Education (School of Engineering), Association of Engineering Colleges of Pennsylvania (School of Engineering), Association of American Law Schools (Delaware Law School and Commonwealth Law School), Greater Philadelphia Engineering Deans Economic Development Council (School of Engineering), Engineering Deans Institute (School of Engineering), Engineering Research Council of the American Association of Engineering Societies (School of Engineering), Engineering Workforce Commission (School of Engineering), National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (Master of Public Administration), National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (Delaware Law School and Commonwealth Law School), National Council for Schools and Programs of Professional Psychology (Institute for Graduate Clinical Psychology), National League for Nursing and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (School of Nursing).
GRADUATE PROGRAM DIRECTORY

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GENERAL DIRECTORY

INFORMATION LINE
610-499-4600

BOOKSTORES
Main Campus, 610-490-7012
Delaware Campus, 302-478-0606
Harrisburg Campus, 717-541-3905

BUSINESS OFFICES
Main Campus, 610-499-4150
Delaware Campus, 302-477-2207
Harrisburg Campus, 717-541-3905

CAMPUS SAFETY
Main Campus, 610-499-4201
Delaware Campus, 302-477-2200
Harrisburg Campus, 717-541-3948

FINANCIAL AID
Main Campus, 610-499-4174
Delaware Campus, 302-478-2209
Harrisburg Campus, 717-541-3961

LIBRARIES
Main Campus, 610-499-4066
Delaware Campus, 302-477-2244
Harrisburg Campus, 717-541-3926

REGISTRAR
Main Campus, 610-499-4142
Delaware Campus, 302-477-2009
Harrisburg Campus, 717-541-3904

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**STUDENT STATUS**

Students are considered to be full-time graduate students when they are enrolled in 9 or more hours of graduate study or when they are enrolled in Dissertation Research. It is recommended that students take no more than 12 semester hours of graduate study. Students in these programs who enroll in at least 5 semester hours of graduate study are considered to be half-time students.

**MATRICULATION**

A matriculated student is one who has been officially admitted to an approved program leading to a graduate degree or certificate.

**SPECIAL STATUS**

A “special status” student is a nonmatriculated student. Special status students typically register for courses for professional development. While a student in this category can take an unlimited number of courses, a student must become matriculated in order to pursue a degree or certification through the Center for Education. Courses completed under special status will not automatically transfer toward a degree or certificate program. No more than six credits should be taken before matriculating.

**GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS**

A limited number of graduate assistantships are available each year for graduate students. Students receive tuition remission for course work and a stipend based on 20 hours of work per week. Graduate assistants work with faculty and administration on special research and administrative projects. For further information, contact the associate dean.

**GRADING SYSTEM**

Grades are recorded as follows:

- A ................. 4.0 points
- A– .................. 3.7
- B+ .................. 3.3
- B .................. 3.0
- B– .................. 2.7
- C+ .................. 2.3
- C .................. 2.0
- C– .................. 1.7
- F ................... 0.0
- I (Incomplete) ........ 0.0
- W (Withdrawal without prejudice) ..... 0.0
- P/NP (Pass/No Pass) .......... 0.0
- AU (Audit—no credit) ........ 0.0

Note: Individual instructors may elect, at their discretion, not to use plus/minus grades.

The grade of I is given when a student has not completed course requirements because of excusable reasons. A student who receives a grade of incomplete must arrange to make up all deficiencies with the instructor issuing the grade. If the work is not made up within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which the incomplete is received, the grade will be automatically converted to F, unless the course in question is a thesis research course or a dissertation research course. Upon completion of the requirements, the instructor will institute a change of grade. (Note: A student does not register again for a course in which the grade of incomplete has been received.) A student cannot be awarded a degree when there is an outstanding incomplete grade on the transcript, even if the incomplete is in a course not required in the degree program.

If a course is repeated, both grades will be recorded on the transcript, but only the most recent grade will be used in calculating the grade point average (GPA). When a student is found to have violated Widener’s academic fraud policies, that student is prohibited from exercising the repeat-of-course option to remove the F grade (given as a result of fraud) from the GPA calculation.

If a student fails to meet the degree requirements in a timely manner or if repeated failure has occurred, the center may terminate the graduate program for the student. Conduct inconsistent with the ethical and professional standards of the discipline, whether it occurs before or after matriculation, is grounds for dismissal from the program. Such conduct includes academic fraud. A student dismissed for academic fraud may no longer enroll in the graduate programs of the university and may not apply for admission into another division of the university. Please see the section entitled “Standards for Academic Integrity.”

**GRADING AND DISMISSAL**

Graduate students are expected to maintain satisfactory rates of progress toward their graduate degree. The graduate record for students begins with the first course in which they enroll and includes all subsequent courses.

Students who earn a grade of less than B in courses totaling six semester hours will be subject to academic dismissal. If a student earns a grade of B– or below, the course may be repeated only once. Both grades will be recorded on the transcript, but only the most recent grade will be used in calculating the GPA. When a student is found to have violated Widener’s academic fraud policies, that student is prohibited from exercising the repeat-of-course option to remove the F grade (given as a result of fraud) from the GPA calculation. To graduate, students must achieve an overall GPA of 3.0 on a standard 4.0 system. No student will graduate from education programs with an incomplete grade.

Conduct inconsistent with the ethical and professional standards of the discipline, whether it occurs before or after matriculation, is grounds for dismissal from the program.

**PASS/NO PASS**

Almost all graduate courses will give standard letter grades. Occasionally, the special nature of some courses will require that they be graded on a pass/no pass basis. The decision to grade on a pass/no pass basis will be included on the course syllabus and will apply to only that course. This is not an option for any course except one in which the instructor has determined this to be the appropriate form of grading.

**DROP/ADD POLICY**

Students may withdraw from a course at any time prior to the final examination and receive the grade of W. If a course offered through these programs does not include a final examination, the deadline for withdrawing from the course with a grade of W is the final class meeting of the course.

Graduate students begin the withdrawal process by notifying their advisor of their intent to withdraw, either orally or in writing. The advisor submits a drop/add form, which includes the student’s last date of attendance at an academically related activity, to the Registrar’s Office.
Students may add a course without special permission no later than one week after the semester has begun. If a student wishes to add a course after one week, written permission must be obtained from both the instructor and the dean’s office.

AUDITING
Students will be permitted to audit courses in the graduate program with the approval of the instructor. No grade or credit is given for auditing a course, and examinations need not be taken; however, the registration procedure and fee structure are the same as that for other students.

STANDARDS FOR ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY
The Academic Integrity Policy was approved by the Faculty Council. Additional regulations are excerpted and paraphrased from the “Minutes of the Academic Council.” These regulations explain Widener University’s expectations regarding students’ academic conduct and describe procedures related to those expectations. Exceptions to the regulations may be made only by special action of the school/college academic councils of the Academic Review Board. References in this catalog refer to the Main Campus only.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
Widener University strongly supports the concept of academic integrity and expects students and all other members of the Widener University community to be honest in all academic endeavors. Cheating, plagiarism, and all other forms of academic fraud are unacceptable; they are serious violations of university policy. In some circumstances, students’ conduct may require review under the research integrity policy, the freedom to learn policy, the judicial review policy, and other university policies. Widener University expects all students to be familiar with university policies on academic integrity, as outlined in this catalog. The university will not accept a claim of ignorance—either of the policy itself or of what constitutes academic fraud—as a valid defense against such a charge.

VIOLATIONS OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
Violations of academic integrity constitute academic fraud. Academic fraud consists of any action that serves to undermine the integrity of the academic process or that gives the student an unfair advantage, including:

- inspecting, duplicating or distributing test materials without authorization.
- cheating, attempting to cheat, or assisting others to cheat.
- altering work after it has been submitted for a grade.
- plagiarizing.
- using or attempting to use anything that constitutes unauthorized assistance.
- fabricating, falsifying, distorting, or inventing any information, documentation, or citation.

Each student’s program may have on record additional specific acts particular to a discipline that constitutes academic fraud. These specific acts are specified in relevant handbooks or course syllabi.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM
One of the most common violations of academic integrity is plagiarism. Plagiarism can be intentional or unintentional. However, since each student is responsible for knowing what constitutes plagiarism, unintentional plagiarism is as unacceptable as intentional plagiarism and commission of it will bring the same penalties. In many classes, faculty members will provide their definitions of plagiarism. In classes where a definition is not provided, students will be held to the definition of plagiarism that follows:

Definition of Plagiarism
Plagiarism—submitting the work of others as one’s own—is a serious offense. In the academic world, plagiarism is theft. Information from sources—whether quoted, paraphrased, or summarized—must be given credit through specific citations. When a student paraphrases a work, it is still necessary to cite the original source. Merely rearranging a sentence or changing a few words is not sufficient. The citation style should be appropriate for the discipline and should clearly indicate the beginning and ending of the referenced material. All sources used in the preparation of an academic paper must also be listed with full bibliographic details at the end of the paper, as appropriate in the discipline.

FACULTY AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Every student, faculty member, and administrator is responsible for upholding the highest standards of academic integrity. Every member of the Widener community shall honor the spirit of this policy by refusing to tolerate academic fraud.
- When expectations for a course are not addressed in this policy, it is the responsibility of the instructor to provide students with additional guidelines for what constitutes “authorized” and “unauthorized” assistance.
- It is the responsibility of every student to seek clarification if in doubt about what constitutes “authorized” and “unauthorized” assistance. In cases of collaborative work, all students within the collaborative group may be responsible for “unauthorized” assistance to any individual student within the collaborative group.
- Students are required to obtain permission prior to submitting work, any part of which was previously or will be submitted in another course. The instructor has the option of accepting, rejecting, or requiring modification of the content of previously or simultaneously submitted work.

A student who suspects that a violation of academic integrity has occurred should report that violation to the associate provost or their dean. In this report, the student should describe any action taken, such as talking with the person involved or with a faculty or staff member. Every effort will be made to preserve the anonymity of the student reporting the incident; however, confidentiality cannot be guaranteed.

RESOLUTION AT THE FACULTY/STUDENT LEVEL FOR ACADEMIC FRAUD OCCURRING IN A COURSE

Process and Reporting
A faculty member who becomes aware of possible academic fraud in a course will:
1. Collect and preserve all evidence of the suspected fraud.
2. Inform the suspected student(s) in writing. The faculty member may contact the associate provost for additional support and guidance.
3. Provide the student with the opportunity to respond to the charges within five business days of his/her receipt of, or refusal to accept, notice of the suspected fraud. If the student fails to respond to this opportunity, the student forfeits any right to appeal the decision to the school or college level where the course is taught, and the faculty member will determine the penalty.
4. Discuss the academic fraud with the student and agree to pursue student/faculty resolution. If no such agreement is reached, the faculty member refers the matter to the dean of the school or college level where the course is taught and will be processed at the school/college level.
5. In cases where a faculty member takes action for a case of academic fraud, the faculty member will send a report describing the academic fraud and the penalty being imposed to the student, the dean of the school or college where the course involved is taught, the dean of the school or college where the student is enrolled, and the Office of the Associate
Provost for Graduate Studies and Extended Learning as the office of record. Please contact the associate provost for guidelines and templates for constructing the reports.

If the faculty member is not satisfied with the sanctions available, he or she may refer the case to the dean responsible for the course in question.

If the student does not accept responsibility for the academic fraud or disagrees with the sanction imposed by the faculty member, the student may appeal the outcome at the school or college level according to the process stipulated in the bylaws or student handbook of the school or college where the course is taught.

Penalties
The suggested penalty for academic fraud in any course is failure in the course. However, faculty members may take alternative steps. Penalties available to faculty members include:

- Formal warning.
- Reduction in grade for the assignment.
- Reduction in the grade for the course.
- Failing grade for the assignment.
- A failing grade (F) in the course.
- A failing grade (XF) in the course (a grade of XF will appear on the transcript and be defined on the transcript as failure as a result of academic fraud).

Offenses Subject to Expulsion
All reports of academic fraud will be reviewed by the associate provost to verify whether reports have been received indicating that the student has been found responsible for any other act of academic fraud. In cases where the associate provost finds that the case is a repeat offense for which the student has received a failing grade (F or XF) in a course for each offense or a case in which a student has stolen or attempted to steal an examination, the associate provost will expel the student from the university. The student may appeal cases resulting in expulsion to the Academic Review Board.

RESOLUTION AT THE SCHOOL/COLLEGE LEVEL

Process and Reporting
When a faculty member or any other employee of the university becomes aware of possible academic fraud occurring outside a course, the faculty member or employee will:

1. Collect and preserve all evidence of the suspected fraud.
2. Refer the matter to the dean of the school or college where the student is enrolled.

When a case of academic fraud occurring in a course is referred to the dean of the school or college where the course is taught or when a case of academic fraud occurring outside a course is referred to the dean of the school or college where the student is enrolled:

1. The dean will notify the student and the associate provost in writing of the charge of academic fraud, the penalty to be imposed, and all rights of appeal, if any.
2. If a student wishes to contest the charge of academic fraud or disagrees with the sanction imposed, the student may do so according to the process stipulated in the bylaws or student handbook of the school or college where the course is taught. In such a case, the student will also be informed of the process as stipulated by the school or college.
3. In cases where the penalty results in dismissal of the student from the school or college, the student may appeal the decision at the university level in writing to the Academic Review Board via the associate provost.

Penalties
The maximum penalty imposed in school or college resolution for individuals convicted of academic fraud shall be dismissal from the school or college. Lesser penalties may include:

- Formal warning.
- Reduction in grade for the assignment.
- Reduction in the grade for the course.
- Failing grade for the assignment.
- Failing grade (F) in the course.
- A failing grade (XF) in the course (a grade of XF will appear on the transcript and be defined on the transcript as failure as a result of academic fraud).
- Required attendance at an academic integrity workshop or tutorial.

Offenses Subject to Expulsion
All reports of academic fraud will be reviewed by the associate provost to verify whether reports have been received indicating that the student has been found responsible for any other act of academic fraud. In cases where the associate provost finds that the case is a repeat offense where the student has received a failing grade (F or XF) in a course for each offense or a case where a student has stolen or attempted to steal an examination, the associate provost will expel the student from the university. The student may appeal cases resulting in expulsion to the Academic Review Board.

RESOLUTION AT THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL—REPEAT OFFENSES / THEFT OF EXAMINATION MATERIALS

Process
The associate provost will review all reports of academic fraud.

1. If the associate provost finds the case is a repeat offense where the student has received a failing grade (F or XF) in a course for each offense, the associate provost will expel the student from the university. The student may appeal the case to the Academic Review Board.
2. If the associate provost finds the case is a repeat offense where the student has not received a failing grade for both offenses, the case will be referred to the Academic Review Board.
3. If the student has stolen or attempted to steal an examination, the associate provost will expel the student from the university. The student may appeal the case to the Academic Review Board.

Penalties
The maximum penalty imposed by the Academic Review Board for individuals convicted of academic fraud shall be expulsion from the university. Penalties include:

- An XF grade in the course (a grade of XF will appear on the transcript and be defined on the transcript as failure as a result of academic fraud).
- Removal of the privilege of representing the university in extracurricular activities, including athletics, as well as the privilege of running for or holding office in any student organization that is allowed to use university facilities or receives university funds.
- Suspension from the university for up to one academic year. Students suspended for academic fraud cannot transfer into Widener any credits earned during the suspension.
- Dismissal from the university. Students dismissed for academic fraud must apply for readmission according to the Academic Review Board guidelines. Readmission applications by students suspended for academic fraud must be approved by the Academic Review Board.
- Expulsion from the university without the opportunity for readmission.
Reporting
The associate provost will send a report describing the academic fraud and the penalty being imposed to the student, the affected faculty members, the dean of the school or college where the course involved is taught, and the dean of the school or college where the student is enrolled, as well as maintain a copy as the office of record.

STUDENT APPEALS/DECISIONS—EXPULSION/DISMISSAL
When a student is expelled or dismissed by the associate provost, the student may initiate his or her appeal to the Academic Review Board by notifying the associate provost in writing of the request for an appeal, together with a concise statement of the grounds for the appeal.

Written notice of the student's request for appeal, together with the concise statement of the student's grounds for the appeal, must be received by the associate provost no more than ten business days following the decision of the faculty, school/college, or university.

When a case is referred to the Academic Review Board, the associate provost shall notify the student in writing of the time and location for the Academic Review Board hearing.

The membership of the Academic Review Board consists of the provost, the associate provost, the dean, the chair of the faculty, and the chair of the Faculty Council Academic Affairs Committee; provided, however, that any majority of the foregoing members shall constitute a quorum for purposes of conducting any matters to come before the Academic Review Board pursuant to these standards. Any faculty member on the Academic Review Board involved in the original accusations will not participate in deliberations in that case.

At an appeal before the Academic Review Board, the student shall have the opportunity to be heard and the right to produce witnesses or introduce evidence subject to the reasonable discretion of the Academic Review Board. The student may also be accompanied by a representative of his or her choosing who may not participate in the appeal. The Academic Review Board shall not be subject to any evidentiary rules but shall accept or reject evidence in its sound discretion. All appeals shall be closed to the public and no stenographic record shall be required unless requested at the expense of the requesting party. In the absence of a stenographic record, the Academic Review Board shall provide, in its sole discretion, either a recorded record or notes of the proceedings taken by a member of the Academic Review Board.

The results of all appeals to the Academic Review Board, permitted in the Academic Integrity Policy, shall be final.

Any matter submitted to a faculty member, the school/college, or the university for decision or review under this policy will be decided in a timely manner and the parties will use their best efforts to conclude the proceedings within the semester in which the alleged offense has occurred or the appeal is received, provided, however, that any delay in the proceedings will in no way operate as a waiver of the university's right to assess any or all of the sanctions permitted hereunder. References to the associate provost also includes his/her designee, except with respect to membership on the Academic Review Board.

ACADEMIC REVIEW BOARD
The Academic Review Board consists of the provost, the associate provost, the deans of each school/college, the vice chair of the University Council, and the chair of the University Council Academic Affairs Committee. Duties of the board include (1) hearing petitions for the waiver of academic regulations that transcend a single school or college (e.g., distribution or residency requirements, walk-through policy), and (2) serving as the appeal body in cases of an alleged violation of procedure in school/college Academic Council hearings.

ACADEMIC GRIEVANCE APPEAL PROCEDURE
If a student has a grievance concerning a class in which he or she is enrolled, he/she will first try to resolve the problem with the instructor of the class. If a student has a grievance concerning an academic requirement of the program (e.g., comprehensive examination, final clinical oral examination, clinical placements), he/she will first try to resolve the problem with the director of the program. If it is impossible to resolve the matter at this initial level, the grievance must be placed in writing. Then the student may appeal to the next higher level. The student should inquire in the office of the dean responsible for the course or program in question for the proper appeal procedure if the student's grievance is not resolved to the student's satisfaction after initial appeal to the instructor or the program director.

ANNUAL NOTICETO STUDENTS REGARDING EDUCATION RECORDS
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords eligible students certain rights with respect to their education records. (An “eligible student” under FERPA is a student who is 18 years of age or older or who attends a postsecondary institution.) These rights include:

• The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days after the day the university receives a request for access. A student should submit to the registrar, dean, head of the academic department, or other appropriate official, a written request that identifies the record(s) the student wishes to inspect. The university official will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the university official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.

• The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights under FERPA.

A student who wishes to ask the university to amend a record should write the university official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record the student wants changed, and specify why it should be changed.

If the university decides not to amend the record as requested, the university will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student’s right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

• The right to provide written consent before the university discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

The university discloses education records without a student’s prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to university officials with legitimate educational interests. A university official is a person employed by the university in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position (including, without limitation, law enforcement unit personnel, health staff, athletic coaches and trainers, and admissions counselors and recruiters); a person serving on the board of trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee. A university official also may include a volunteer or
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND AWARDING OF DEGREES

Students are responsible for knowing and meeting curriculum requirements as shown in this bulletin.

Those who expect to receive a graduate degree should make clear their intentions to their advisors. A student who completes requirements for the degree at the conclusion of either summer session will be awarded the degree in August of that year; the student must submit a graduation petition online via CampusCruiser by March 1. A student who completes requirements for the degree at the conclusion of the fall semester will be awarded the degree in December of that year; the student must submit a graduation petition online via CampusCruiser by July 1. A student who completes requirements for the degree at the conclusion of the spring semester will be awarded the degree in May of that year; the student must submit a graduation petition online via CampusCruiser by November 1 of the previous year. The university holds only one formal commencement in the spring to which August, December, and May graduates are invited.

A student who petitions for graduation and who, for whatever reason, is not awarded the degree, must re-petition.

TRANSCRIPTS

Students in good financial standing may have copies of their transcripts forwarded to employers, agents, or institutions of higher education by contacting the Office of the Registrar.

FINANCIAL AID

Widener University offers a wide range of financial aid programs. Financial information is available on the university’s website and on CampusCruiser.

CAMPUS SAFETY

CAMPUS SECURITY AND FIRE SAFETY REPORTS

Widener is committed to the safety and security of all members of the Widener University community. The university’s annual Campus Safety and Fire Safety Reports are on the Widener website and contain information on campus security and personal safety, including crime prevention, university law enforcement authority, crime reporting policies, disciplinary procedures, and other campus security matters. The Campus Safety Reports contain statistics for the three previous calendar years on reported crimes that occurred on campus, in certain off-campus buildings and property owned and controlled by the university, and on public property within or immediately adjacent to and accessible from campus.

The Fire Safety Report contains information on fire safety systems in on-campus student housing facilities, the number of fire drills held during the previous year, the university’s policies on portable electrical appliances, smoking, and open flames in student housing facilities, the university’s procedures for student housing evacuation in the case of a fire, policies regarding fire safety education and training programs provided to students and employees, a listing of persons or organizations to which fires should be reported, and plans for future improvements in fire safety. It also contains statistics for the three most recent calendar years concerning the number of fires and cause of each fire in each on-campus student housing facility, the number of persons who received fire-related injuries that resulted in treatment at a medical facility, the number of deaths related to a fire, and the value of property damage caused by a fire.

The annual Campus Safety and Fire Safety Reports are available online at www.widener.edu/campussafety. If you would like a printed copy of these reports, contact the Campus Safety Office at 610-499-4203 to have a copy mailed to you. The information in these reports is required by law and is provided by the Campus Safety Office.
MASTER OF EDUCATION IN ALLIED HEALTH EDUCATION

The master of education (MEd) in allied health education is an online program designed for health professionals who wish to teach in colleges or schools housing allied health programs, hospital-based programs, and community health related fields. It prepares students for expanded roles in teaching and educational administration related to the allied health professions. Graduates of this program will:

- Be prepared to lead and work in an allied health field in a community college, hospital-based program, community setting, or other education institution.
- Apply the pedagogy needed to function as educators in academic, clinical, and community settings.
- Become sensitive to the health care environment in which they work, so that they can positively lead change.
- Know the importance and differentiation among certification, licensure, registration, and accreditation.

GOALS

The MEd in allied health education program has a commitment to the development of advanced learning experiences that are appropriate to the needs of practicing professionals and provide opportunities for professional enrichment and development.

ADMISSION

Application for admission to the MEd in allied health education program should be made through the graduate admissions website: www.widener.edu/admissions.

A bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education is a prerequisite for admission to graduate study. The following requirements must be met for admission:

- Complete the application form.
- Have an official transcript sent from all previous graduate and undergraduate programs.
- Submit two letters of recommendation from colleagues, supervisors, or college professors.
- Complete a writing sample. Contact the Writing Center at 610-499-4332 to schedule an appointment.

International Students

International students should consult the International Student Services web page at www.widener.edu for international graduate student guidelines or contact the Office of International Student Services at Widener University, One University Place, Chester, PA 19013; phone: 610-499-4499.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for the master of education in allied health education degree, the candidate must:

- Complete all the degree requirements within a total of six calendar years from the date of matriculation.
- Complete at least 30 semester hours of credit in the graduate program, including transfer credit and replacements for waived courses.

Please note that a waiver of any required courses for the master’s degree must be approved in writing by the major advisor and the dean of the school. No credit is granted for waived courses.

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TRANSFER CREDIT

Students who have been officially admitted to the master of education program may transfer a maximum of six semester hours of graduate course work. A grade of B or better, or Pass (only if taken on a Pass/No Pass grading system) must be achieved if transfer credit is to be awarded, and the course work must be recent (within seven calendar years). For this transfer process to occur, students must file official transcripts from all other graduate institutions in which course work was completed and must meet with their advisor for a transcript analysis. Under no circumstances will an in-service education credit that was awarded through a state education department or professional association be transferred as graduate credit. Research courses can only be approved for transfer credit by a member of the research committee following a syllabus review.

ADVISORS

Matriculated students have assigned advisors and must contact their advisors for advising plans.
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ALLH 530 ISSUES IN DIVERSITY AND CULTURE FOR ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
This course provides in-depth study of the differing populations allied health professionals may encounter in a clinical or educational setting and the relationship between these populations and their attitudes toward health care and its delivery. Major topics include race, culture, gender, socio-economic status, and sexual orientation. Current world issues in health are addressed. 3 semester hours

ALLH 540 LEGAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES IN HEALTH CARE
This course provides broad-based knowledge of legal and ethical issues in health care. Issues facing individual health care providers, managers of clinics and hospitals, and major health care corporations are explored. 3 semester hours

ALLH 550 HEALTH CARE EDUCATION
This course educates students about the history of health care education. Current practices covering classroom, laboratory, and clinical allied health education are reviewed. The impacts of accreditation and public policy are also incorporated into how these effect educational practices. 3 semester hours

ALLH 620 TRENDS IN HEALTH CARE
The course explores how public policy, the media, and advancements in health care have impacted the industry. The impact of the above is also discussed in relation to various segments of the population. 3 semester hours

ALLH 630 ASSESSMENT IN ALLIED HEALTH CARE EDUCATION
Assessment methods designed for health care education are discussed. These methods include classroom, laboratory, and clinical assessments with an emphasis on competency-based assessment. Program assessment is also discussed, and general assessment techniques and methods are reviewed as well. 3 semester hours

ALLH 640 HEALTH CARE POLICY
This course examines how public health care policy is developed. The roles of government, professional organizations, practitioners, media, and the public are discussed. The history of health care policy development is reviewed, as well as the impact of policy on the consumer. 3 semester hours

ALLH 650 PORTFOLIO PROJECT IN ALLIED HEALTH
Throughout the master’s program, students must maintain a portfolio that documents evidence of their competencies in allied health education. A professional portfolio serves as an extension of an official vita and can be used to demonstrate the expertise gained and tangible proof of their skills and experiences in education. This portfolio includes a reflection paper on each master-level course taken, a least two signature assignments from each course, peer analysis of each assignment, and a final thesis that details the personal impact of the program and how it will benefit the student and his/her profession in the future. 3 semester hours

ED 510 APPLICATIONS OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH
This course teaches students modern techniques for conducting educational research. They will understand research methods in education so they can apply recent developments in their own teaching environments. 3 semester hours

ED 583 THE EDUCATION OF ADULTS FROM A DEVELOPMENTAL PERSPECTIVE
This course provides students with an introduction to the field of adult education within the context of adult learning and development. The course explores the foundations of adult education with a review of the philosophical concepts and their application to the practice of educating adults. Newly emerging theories of late adolescent and adult development provide a rich and comprehensive perspective on the educational motives and needs of adult students, as lifelong learning and mass education become realities. This course examines the implications of adult development theories for education, with particular attention to the increasing numbers of adult students in various educational institutions. 3 semester hours

PRWR 580 PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION FOR ALLIED HEALTH
Allied health professionals need to communicate efficiently and effectively with various audiences— particularly laypersons, administrators, and practitioners. This course examines the types of writing particular to the fields of health and medicine. Students critique, plan, prepare, and revise documents from fields such as medicine, pharmacy, physical therapy, and nursing. Multimedia techniques are also covered. (This graduate-level course is cross-listed with PRWR 380, Writing for Health and Medicine, at the undergraduate level; additional work is required for graduate credit.) 3 semester hours