

## FRESH START POLICY

Finger Lakes Community College has instituted an institution specific policy recognizing the fact that some students may attend the College prior to actually being ready to pursue a college education. Students may attend a semester or two and receive failing or near failing grades. Often the student may stop attending and return many years later only to have the grades from their previous academic endeavor negatively impact their current academic work.

Students returning to Finger Lakes Community College after an absence may petition to have their prior work excluded from the current GPA. Petition forms are available from the Director of Community Standards, at the Center for Advisement and Personal Development, and from the College website. Upon written petition to the Director of Community Standards, students who have been away from the College for five or more years may be granted a "Fresh Start." If a student has less than a five year absence from the College but has extenuating circumstances that warrant a Fresh Start, the student may also petition the Director of Community Standards with appropriate documentation. Fresh Start petitions are granted at the discretion of the Director of Community Standards and/or the Committee on Academic Standing. Greater consideration will be given to candidates demonstrating a large disparity between prior and current academic performance. Students should be aware that Fresh Start petitions which would remove from GPA calculations acceptable (C- or better) grades are unlikely to be granted. Students are discouraged from submitting petitions in an attempt to qualify for scholarships, join organizations, or enter certain academic programs. If the petition is approved, the student will be granted a Fresh Start.

If a student is granted a Fresh Start, the transcript will be modified as follows: grades of S (satisfactory) and C- or better will not be calculated in the GPA but the credit will count towards graduation requirements. The courses and grades would remain on the transcript to reflect an accurate academic history. Courses with grades of D+, D, D-, F, and U will also remain on the transcript to reflect an accurate academic history, but the grades would no longer be calculated into the GPA, and the credit would no longer count towards graduation requirements. Students can be granted only one Fresh Start petition during their academic career at Finger Lakes Community College and must petition no later than the fourth week of the semester following their second semester back at FLCC

### SEE REVERSE FOR PETITION FORM

Send completed petitions to:  
Finger Lakes Community College  
Academic Standards Coordinator (D-356)  
4355 Lakeshore Drive • Canandaigua, NY 14424

**FRESH START PETITION**

The *Fresh Start Policy* allows students' (upon approved petition) to exclude prior academic work from their cumulative grade point average (CGPA) based on a leave of absence from Finger Lakes Community College. Please see reverse for detailed policy statement.

To petition, please complete PART I below, and submit this form with a letter of explanation and any supporting documentation to the Academic Standards Coordinator (D-356).

**PART I: To be Completed by the Student**

(please attach additional sheets and documentation if appropriate)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Student ID No.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address City State Zip Code

I (print name), \_\_\_\_\_, request that my academic work prior to my re-enrollment be excluded from my cumulative grade point average based on the provisions of the *Fresh Start Policy*, for the following reasons (forms without this section completed will be returned to the student; one sentence is not sufficient justification for granting a *Fresh Start*):

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature Date (required)

**PART II: To be Completed by the Academic Standards Coordinator** - I have reviewed the above-named student's petition for a *Fresh Start* and hereby: \_\_\_\_\_ approve \_\_\_\_\_ disapprove the request.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature/date)

**PART III: Office Use Only**  
Academic history updated: \_\_\_\_\_ (signature/date)  
Student notified: \_\_\_\_\_ (signature/date)