



2023-2024 Academic Year

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[see also Topic Index, page 41]

The catalog of Mercer County Community College, published annually, presents general information about MCCC, general academic regulations, and the college's academic program extant at the date of publication (June, 2023). All catalog content is deemed current and accurate as of this date. The college reserves the right to change the regulations, fees, and other information contained in this publication at any time without prior notice, although such changes will be announced.

Failure to read this publication does not excuse students from the requirements put forth herein.



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609•586•4800

Admissions Office
609•570•3795

**Mailing Address
(both campuses)**
PO Box 17202
Trenton, NJ 08690

West Windsor Campus
1200 Old Trenton Road
West Windsor, NJ 08550

James Kerney Campus
102 North Broad Street
Trenton, NJ 08608
609•570•3139

Mercer County Community College is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

Inclusivity Statement

Mercer County Community College's (MCCC) students, faculty, and staff are diverse. MCCC strives to be inclusive and equitable, which is critical to our educational mission. MCCC seeks to embrace difference, adapt to change, and make scholarly contributions to the community at large. MCCC aims to create supportive and inclusive learning environments where individual differences are understood, respected, appreciated, and recognized as a source of strength.

Equal Opportunity Policy

Mercer County Community College is committed to a policy of equal treatment and opportunity in every respect of its relations with current and prospective faculty and staff members, without regard to race, color, religion, affectional or sexual orientation, gender and/or gender identity or expression, marital or parental status, ethnicity, nationality, veteran or military status, age, disability and any other legally protected basis. This includes, but is not limited to, recruitment, hiring or appointment, selection for training, transfer, layoff, promotion, compensation, and granting of tenure.

Questions regarding the equal opportunity policy and compliance statement may be directed to the Affirmative Action Officer, West Windsor Campus, (609) 570-3272.

Non-Discrimination Notice

In compliance with Title IX requirements, Mercer County Community College does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its education programs and activities.

The college's Title IX Coordinator oversees compliance with all aspects of the sex/gender harassment, discrimination and misconduct policy. The Coordinator reports to the Vice President for Human Resources and is based in the Health and Science building, office HS114. Questions and complaints regarding Title IX may be directed to the Title IX Coordinator or the Office for Civil Rights as follows.

Elizabeth Mizerek, Interim Title IX Coordinator
Mercer County Community College
1200 Old Trenton Road – HS114
West Windsor, NJ 08550

Mail to: PO Box 17202, Trenton NJ 08690
Telephone: (609) 570-3526
E-mail: mizereke@mccc.edu

In the event that an incident involves alleged misconduct by the Title IX Coordinator, reports should be made directly to:

**Barbara Basel, Vice President for Human Resources
Mercer County Community College**
1200 Old Trenton Road – AD224
West Windsor, NJ 08550
Mail to: PO Box 17202, Trenton NJ 08690
Telephone: (609) 570-3272
E-mail: baselb@mccc.edu

Individuals experiencing harassment or discrimination also always have the right to file a formal grievance with government authorities:

**Office for Civil Rights
U.S. Department of Education**
32 Old Slip, 26th Floor
New York, NY 10005-2500
Telephone: (646) 428-3800
Facsimile: (646) 428-3843
E-mail: OCR.NewYork@ed.gov
Web: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html>



Academic Calendar 2023-2024

FALL Semester 2023

April 17	Class registration begins
September 5	Classes begin – 14-week, 7A terms
October 3	Classes begin – 10-week term
October 23	Classes end – 7A term
October 24	Classes begin – 7B term
November 23-24	Thanksgiving Recess (no classes)
December 13	Classes end – 14-week, 10-week, 7B terms
December 14-18	Final exams / Semester ends

WINTER Session 2023-2024

November 13	Class registration begins
December 20	MercerOnline classes begin
January 2	On-campus classes begin
January 16	On-campus classes end
January 23	MercerOnline classes end

SPRING Semester 2024

November 13	Class registration begins
January 23	Classes begin – 14-week, 7A terms
February 20	Classes begin – 10-week term
March 11	Classes end – 7A term
March 12	Classes begin – 7B term
March 18-24	Recess / Spring Break (no classes)
May 6	Classes end – 14-week, 10-week, 7B terms
May 7-13	Final exams / Semester ends
May 24	Commencement

SUMMER Session 2024

March 18	Class registration begins
May 20	Classes begin – U, UA terms
May 27	Holiday (no classes)
June 19	Holiday (no classes)
July 3	Classes end – UA term
July 4	Holiday (no classes)
July 5	Final examinations – UA term
July 8	Classes begin – UB term
August 16	Classes end – U, UB terms
August 19-20	Final exams / Session ends

*The college reserves the right to modify this calendar.
Academic calendars for future years are available on the MCCC website.*

College Overview

Mercer County Community College (MCCC) is a publicly supported two-year college offering associate in arts, associate in science, and associate in fine arts degree programs that lead to transfer to four-year colleges. It also offers associate in applied science degrees in career areas, some of which also lead to transfer; certificates of proficiency in career specializations; and two certificates of proficiency in cooperation with Mercer County Technical Schools.

Through county and state support, the college is

able to provide quality programs and services at the lowest possible cost to reduce economic barriers to attendance. State, federal, and private financial aid programs also are available to individual students.

Mercer is a coeducational institution with an open admissions policy. Students may enroll in credit programs as well as a variety of noncredit programs, and may attend day, evening, and weekend classes at the West Windsor Campus, the James Kerney Campus in Trenton, or through MercerOnline.



GENERAL INFORMATION
complete content at www.mccc.edu/catalog



Mission and Goals

Mercer County Community College is a comprehensive, publicly supported two-year institution focused on learning and student success. The college welcomes students of all ages from a wide variety of backgrounds, abilities, interests, levels of education, and economic circumstances to a challenging and supportive environment dedicated to meeting the educational needs of 21st century global citizens and lifelong learners. Mercer responds to a broad array of community needs, offering programs and services for employers, continuing education and training for the workforce, enrichment for youth, and cultural opportunities for people in the region.

The following goals guide the college's quest to fulfill its mission:

1 We *Ensure* Student Success

- Implement the comprehensive Guided Pathways to Success model* so that students can readily follow the quickest route to completion (*GPS: Mapping Pathways to Student End Goals, Helping Students Enter a Pathway, Keeping Students on the Path, Ensuring that Students are Learning)
- Develop a systematic method for assessing and updating student intentions
- Increase the number of academic programs at the James Kerney Campus
- Increase success rates for low-income students and students of color
- Address the multiple needs of a diverse student body by meeting all students where they are and getting them to where they want to go (e.g., alternative class times, delivery modes, pedagogical models)
- Expand developmental education options to accelerate student transition to, and success in, college-level courses
- Redesign student intake process including advising to be proactive and remotely accessible
- Create actionable data, especially student cohort data, that shows where MCCC's entering students are succeeding and where they are not
- Maximize technology and social media to improve marketing, outreach, and the student experience
- Provide comprehensive evening and weekend college experiences

2 We *Expand* Innovative Partnerships

- Expand partnerships with Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to serve students with low-level college readiness and high need for financial assistance
- Expand dual/concurrent enrollment rates at MCCC
- Increase dual/concurrent enrollment rates specifically at the James Kerney Campus
- Expand the successful college readiness programs for students entering MCCC from county secondary schools
- Expand and improve partnerships with four-year colleges and universities
- Expand the University Center at MCCC and improve the visibility of the Center
- Create and support internships, experiential learning, global education and internationalization, and career planning opportunities for students
- Strengthen workforce development programs through partnerships with the business community and a comprehensive analysis of workforce needs
- Increase engagement with MCCC's alumni
- Enlist alumni and other retired professionals as volunteer mentors for our students
- Strengthen and expand partnerships with international academic institutions, foreign colleges and universities, and provider organizations

3 We *Invest* in Organizational and Professional Effectiveness

- Develop a systematic plan for increasing professional capacity of staff, faculty, and administrators
 - Use data and needs assessment analysis to plan and fund specific professional development activities
 - Incorporate specific details about student learning and support needs in professional development activities
 - Provide specific and concrete steps to improve student learning needs and the student learning experience
- Enhance resources available for the Center for Teaching and Learning based on initiatives with measureable student achievement goals
- Review the college's hiring and promotion policies to strengthen the requirement for professional development that directly links to student success
- Increase investment in technology that supports organizational effectiveness (e.g., communication apps, and Blackboard and Colleague modules related to student success)
- Evaluate the organizational structure on a regular basis to optimize institutional efficiency, integration, and effectiveness
- Implement Human Resource development software
- Develop a Competitor Analysis that shows the number and types of two-year and certificate programs available in a 25-mile radius of MCCC
- Increase college branding and targeted marketing to various student groups
- Improve employee engagement



The West Windsor Campus (WWC)

The 292-acre West Windsor Campus is located approximately six miles north of Trenton on Old Trenton Road in West Windsor / Hamilton Townships, bordering Mercer County Park. The campus consists of 14 buildings, a greenhouse complex, and intercollegiate athletic facilities including a state-of-the-art all-weather soccer venue.

The central campus buildings surround a landscaped bi-level quadrangle that provides an informal gathering place for students. Most buildings are connected by a second-floor, glass-enclosed corridor and accommodate the mobility challenged.

The campus is home to Kelsey Theatre, WWFM The Classical Network, the MCCC television network, and the MCCC Art Gallery.

MercerOnline

MCCC's online courses offer students convenient, flexible, quality learning options anytime, anywhere – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. These interactive courses offer and deliver the same learning outcomes as traditional face-to-face classroom courses. Many programs allow students to complete the majority of course requirements online.

Distance learning classes at MCCC are developed and taught by adjunct and full-time faculty. In addition, a dedicated support team provides both online and face-to-face orientations, helping students get off to a great start.

Online courses transferable to other higher education institutions are available during Winter and Summer sessions as well as standard Fall and Spring semesters. Many four-year college students enjoy the savings and convenience of earning credits online at MCCC.

Distance learning is ideal for students capable of using technology, who have easy access to a personal computer with a reliable Internet connection, and possess good time-management skills. Thousands of students each semester opt for MercerOnline classes.

For more information, contact MercerOnline at (609) 570-3389 or email merceronline@mccc.edu



The James Kerney Campus (JKC)

The MCCC James Kerney Campus, a modernized educational facility serving as the educational hub for downtown Trenton, encompasses James Kerney Hall, Trenton Hall, and the JKC Career Center. Trenton Hall houses a fashion design sewing laboratory, art and design studio, Mac PC design laboratory, and photography gallery open to the public.

The campus features state-of-the-art biology and chemistry laboratories, five high-tech computer labs, a healthcare suite, seminar rooms, a multipurpose community room, and Student Commons. Additional student services include the comprehensive Dr. Beverly A. Richardson Learning Center (computers, tutoring, and Testing Center), campus library, and the Center City Café (serving full meals and snacks) staffed by MCCC culinary students.

Students can earn degrees in the MCCC Criminal Justice and Liberal Arts programs entirely at the James Kerney Campus, which is also home to the college's Cybersecurity, Fashion, and Security Systems Technology programs. High School Equivalency (HSE) and English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction and short-term options through the Career Training Institute are also offered, as is a full complement of educational and enrichment programs for the city's youth through Youth College.

Located at 102 North Broad Street between Hanover and Academy Streets, the campus is nestled between the Trenton Public Library, the YWCA, and the Daylight Twilight High School.





Accreditation

Mercer County Community College is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104 (267-284-5000), an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. The State of New Jersey Secretary of Higher Education has authorized the college to award the associate degree.

Aviation Flight Technology is accredited by the Aviation Accreditation Board International.

The Funeral Service A.A.S. degree and Certificate are accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE), 992 Mantua Pike, Suite 108, Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097; 816-233-3747 www.abfse.org.

The Medical Laboratory Technology program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS), 5600 N. River Road, Suite 720, Rosemont IL 60018; 773-714-8880 www.naacls.org.

The MCCC Nursing program is accredited by the New Jersey Board of Nursing, 124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102; 973-504-6430.

The associate degree Nursing program at Mercer County Community College at the West Windsor campus located in West Windsor, New Jersey is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), 3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400, Atlanta, GA 30326; 404-975-5000. The most recent accreditation decision made by the ACEN Board of Commissioners for the associate degree Nursing program is continuing accreditation. View the public information disclosed by the ACEN regarding this program at www.acenursing.us/accreditedprograms/programSearch.htm

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814; 301-652-AOTA www.acoteonline.org.

The Paralegal programs are approved by the American Bar Association (ABA).

The Physical Therapist Assistant program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Ave., Suite 100, Alexandria, VA 22305; 703-706-3245 www.capteonline.org.

The Radiography program and the Radiography Diploma Program concentration of the Health Science program are accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) and the New Jersey Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners.

Advisory Commissions

Many of Mercer's academic programs benefit from advisory commissions that embody appropriate professional backgrounds and expertise. Members provide guidance and serve as a communication link between the college and the community, including professional, occupational, or special service groups. They acquaint the community with available college resources and the college with community needs.

In addition to providing advice, commission members identify technical information, equipment, and facilities necessary to establish programs and resources or to modify existing ones to remain current.

Alumni Relations

No matter where life takes you after your time at Mercer County Community College, alumni remain part of the MCCC community for the rest of their lives. Whether through volunteering, attending events, or financial giving, Mercer's Alumni Relations office provides numerous opportunities to stay connected with fellow alumni and with the college.

Qualification for alumnus status requires completion of 30 credits or more at MCCC, Trenton Junior College, or Trenton School of Industrial Arts. (Graduation is not required.)

Alumni Benefits

The MCCC Alumni Benefits Card entitles alumni to a variety of special services and privileges, including:

- college library borrowing privileges
- Kelsey Theatre student ticket rates
- MCCC Fitness Center membership discount
- Career Services resources and assistance
- discount on the purchase of recreation permits

Alumni may obtain an Alumni Benefits Card by submitting an Alumni Contact Update Form available at www.mccc.edu/alumni or by calling (609) 570-3226 to arrange for card pick-up from the Alumni Relations office, AD112 on the West Windsor Campus.

For more information about these and other alumni opportunities, please visit www.mccc.edu/alumni or email alumni@mccc.edu.

Mercer Students at a Glance

- Approximately 9,000 students enroll in one or more credit courses each year.
- Mercer County residents comprise three-fourths of the student population.
- International students (non-immigrant), contributing to a diverse student population, represent more than 40 countries.
- Enrollment: 70% part-time, 30% full-time; 44% men and 56% women.
- The average age of a full-time student is 22; part-time 26.
- Average student/faculty ratio: 16 to 1.
- More than 50% of Mercer's graduates transfer to senior colleges or universities.

Student Life

Mercer County Community College offers opportunities for students to grow socially and personally as well as intellectually. Students on Mercer's campuses enjoy and benefit from personal development and career-related programs, cultural and entertainment events, and numerous other opportunities for social interaction. Such activities help develop leadership skills and good citizenship, and contribute to a high quality of campus life.

New Student Orientation

Student Life professionals introduce new students to the college at an orientation each Fall and Spring semester. The program acquaints students with the services, policies, responsibilities, and rewards of attending MCCC.

Orientations generally include information about student support programs, a campus tour, and workshops on topics such as choosing a major, study tips, motivation, respecting the rights of others, and career opportunities. Additionally, the orientations offer students structured activities for meeting other students, faculty, college staff, and administrators.

Student Life and Leadership

A variety of activities offers personal enrichment and extracurricular academic enhancement, significantly adding to the student's Mercer experience. Students are encouraged to take part in student organizations, clubs, musical performance groups, and intercollegiate sports teams. Participation helps students develop skills in leadership, communications, community service, civic responsibility, health and wellness, networking, social interests, cultural appreciation, and problem-solving.



Athletics, Fitness and Recreation

Athletics

Mercer County Community College celebrates more than half a century of excellence in community college athletics. Nine teams – men's and women's soccer, basketball, and tennis as well as men's baseball and lacrosse plus women's softball – compete in the Garden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) and Region XIX of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). Scholarship opportunities are available in most sports for entering student-athletes.

The Vikings maintain an impressive record. In the past two decades, almost every Mercer sport has advanced to national tournaments. Seven have done so 26 times since 2010, three in the 2021-2022 season: baseball and men's and women's tennis. Vikings baseball finished as national runners-up twice in the past five years, most recently in 2022, and reached the NJCAA World Series four times in the last 10 years. Men's tennis has qualified for seven of the last 10 national championships.

The men's soccer team has won the national title eight times in its history, most recently in 2004; women's tennis won the title four times: in 1999, 2000, 2002, and 2005; and men's basketball captured the national title twice, in 1973 and 1974. Additionally, MCCC has captured 21 GSAC titles and 18 Region XIX titles since 2010, most recently baseball in 2022.

Multiple MCCC student athletes earn All-Region and All-Conference honors each year. More than 250 have been named NJCAA All-Americans. An MCCC player has been selected in seven of the last 12 Major League Baseball drafts.

Mercer's student-athletes know they must complement their athletic accomplishments by performing in the classroom. Each is expected to meet academic requirements and participate in academic monitoring. All are offered support services to help them succeed. Many earn academic achievement honors at the regional and national level.

Graduation and transfer rates for Mercer's student-athletes are consistently higher than the averages college-wide. Many receive scholarships to continue their academic and athletic careers at major colleges and universities throughout the United States.





Fitness and Recreation

All students are encouraged to take advantage of Mercer’s facilities for personal health and fitness as well as recreational enjoyment. The MCCC Fitness Center is equipped with fitness essentials including strength and cardiovascular apparatus: treadmills, elliptical, bikes, and more. Students also have use of a six-lane, 25-meter swimming pool, tennis courts, and gymnasium during scheduled hours, and may participate in ongoing, free fitness classes including yoga and Zumba.

International Students

Mercer County Community College is proud to welcome a diverse international student population from more than 40 countries.

To support international students, the college offers specialized services including English as a Second Language (ESL) courses and core subjects taught specifically for an international population. The International Student Organization (ISO) provides a supportive community and fosters cultural diversity on campus, while the office of International Student Services offers guidance and information on immigration, academics, cultural adjustment, and personal concerns.

Toward helping new international students adjust to life in the United States, orientation sessions and ongoing workshops provide valuable information on American culture, college life, and immigration regulations.



Organizations

Student Government Association

The Student Government Association (SGA) is the student governing body for all enrolled students. As an elected member, a student has the opportunity to apply leadership skills and to work on programs and activities that contribute to college life.

The SGA oversees the formation of new clubs and operations of existing clubs, which includes regulating their funding. SGA members play an important role in college-wide governance as members of college standing committees.

Student Activities, Entertainment

Striving to create a sense of community, the Student Activities Board (SAB) at the West Windsor Campus and Student Entertainment Council (SEC) at the James Kerney Campus plan and implement programs of social, cultural, recreational, and educational interest.

Clubs

The college supports a generous variety of student clubs. Many are organized around a specific program of study; others are service or social clubs which allow members to take part in programs and activities with other students who share similar interests. All clubs give members the opportunity to get to know other students. New clubs form regularly, based on current student interests. For a full listing, see the college website.

Performance Groups

Music and dance participation includes the college chorus, jazz band, chamber ensemble, symphonic band, and dance ensemble.

Student Radio

Viking 89, the college’s all-student radio station, broadcasts from the West Windsor campus Student Center. Providing daily musical entertainment and announcements during Fall and Spring semesters at 89.1 FM (HD-3), the station offers hands-on experience in radio production and announcing.

Campus Life for MCCC Students Living at Rider University

While attending Mercer County Community College, students can experience campus life and benefit from living at Rider University in Lawrenceville, NJ.

A unique arrangement between the two schools affords Mercer students a wide range of essential student services at Rider including reduced rate housing along with various meal plans, access to college resources and attractions, transportation, healthcare, and more.

For further details visit www.mccc.edu/housing or email ombuds@mccc.edu.

Student Services and Resources

Counseling and Wellness Center

The Counseling and Wellness Center offers free, confidential individual counseling to enrolled students. Services are provided by licensed mental health professionals and supervised graduate-level interns. The counselors help students resolve personal difficulties and acquire skills, abilities, and knowledge that will allow them to take full advantage of their college experience and make effective and satisfying life choices. Visit www.mccc.edu/counseling for more information.

Tutoring Services / Learning Centers

Tutoring Services fosters student success by helping students master the material and concepts taught in the classroom. This is achieved primarily via active tutoring sessions led by professional, peer, and volunteer tutors highly qualified in a wide variety of academic subjects and skills. Supplemental support includes study groups, workshops, study halls, and test preparation. For student convenience, tutors are available in multiple learning centers and other locations (some discipline-specific) at both campuses and online.

Visit www.mccc.edu/tutoring for more information including specific locations and schedules.

Computer Labs

MCCC is equipped with nearly 1600 computers for student use in more than 75 labs. Specialized Mac and PC-based labs support the studies of architecture, computer networking, cybersecurity, digital media arts, fashion design, game design, and mathematics.

Libraries at both campuses offer wi-fi access in addition to open computer labs. There, students have Internet access, print capability, and use of the latest Microsoft Office products and curriculum-specific applications. Attendants are available to answer questions and assist users. In addition, laptops and iPads can be signed out for in-library use.



Libraries

The libraries of Mercer County Community College offer a wide array of services and resources to complement and support academic programs and the learning needs of students, faculty, and staff.

A library is located on both the West Windsor and James Kerney campuses as well as at the Dempster Fire Training Center. Additionally, the library maintains a significant online presence through its website (www.mccc.edu/student_library) in support of MercerOnline and other currently enrolled students who choose the convenience of remote access to electronic library holdings and services including books, periodicals, images, legal resources, and reports.

Reference services are provided in-person, by telephone, e-mail, chat, and via instant messaging. Information literacy instruction for any course is offered in classes or online.

Educational Opportunity Fund

Funded by the state, the Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) assists eligible low-income, academically under-prepared New Jersey residents to attend college.

EOF is designed to assist participants in developing attitudes, skills, and abilities that enable them to achieve their educational goals. Students who are accepted into the EOF program are given personal counseling, academic advisement, tutoring, and supplemental instruction. Participants also benefit from cultural/educational enrichment activities, leadership development, tours of four-year colleges, as well as grants to those who qualify.

Military and Veterans Services

The MCCC Military and Veterans Services office assists veterans, military servicemembers, spouses, dependents, and supporters in a wide range of matters: college admissions, class registration, GI Bill® benefits, student advocacy, and more.

Located on the second floor of the West Windsor Campus Student Center, the office also coordinates with outside agencies to provide counseling and help with VA disability claims. A Veterans Lounge located in SC200 offers resources and other amenities for veteran students to relax and socialize.





Career Services

Career Services assists students with their career goals. They can meet with a career counselor to learn about different jobs, select the right major, figure out what they're good at, and get help with resumes and interviews. The office also conducts workshops for students to learn about various career-related topics.

Among other resources available, Career Services provides a website called Career Coach that helps students assess their skills and plan for their career goals. Job listings include both full- and part-time positions as well as internships, and MCCC students can access postings from local employers and national job boards on College Central Network at www.collegecentral.com/mccc.

Career Services also invites employers to visit campus, including participation at periodic job fairs where they and MCCC students can all at once meet and discuss opportunities.

Testing Centers

Academic Testing Centers on both campuses provide students, faculty, staff, and the community with examination services. Whether for courses taught on campus or online, instructors utilize these facilities for computer-scored and instructor-graded tests. Students may take tests arranged by their instructors. Admission to the Testing Centers requires a student photo ID, obtained at the Security ID station upon class enrollment.

The Testing Centers administer course placement testing for new students. The West Windsor Campus Testing Center also administers tests for "credit by examination" programs including the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) and DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) to earn college credits in a variety of courses. In addition, proctoring is available for distance learning programs nationwide.

Visit www.mccc.edu/testing for more information, including hours and policies.

Student Housing Opportunity

While attending Mercer County Community College, students can experience campus life and benefit from living at Rider University in Lawrenceville, NJ.

A unique arrangement between the two schools affords Mercer students a wide range of essential student services at Rider including reduced rate housing along with various meal plans, access to college resources and attractions, transportation, healthcare, and more.

For further details visit www.mccc.edu/housing or email ombuds@mccc.edu.

Center for Accessibility Resources

Mercer County Community College is deeply committed to ensuring student success. The mission of the Center for Accessibility Resources (C.A.R.) is to work collaboratively with faculty and students toward the development of accessible and inclusive learning environments characterized by student engagement fostering intellectual and personal growth.

The college recognizes disability as an aspect of diversity and the Center works to ensure inclusive learning environments both by encouraging the college community to examine accessibility and through the delivery of effective academic accommodations to qualified individuals.

C.A.R. facilitates the success of students with disabilities by providing intensive support including:

- outreach to incoming students prior to admission;
- a scheduled comprehensive intake interview;
- ongoing advisement and registration assistance;
- appropriate academic modifications;
- free academic tutoring through the college's Learning Centers;
- development of self-advocacy skills.

Mercer County Community College complies with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). For information on Universal Design for Learning, meeting the needs of students with disabilities, or the provision of academic accommodations, please visit www.mccc.edu/student_services_needs

MyMercer Student Portal

Students can browse courses, register for classes, make payments, explore and monitor financial aid, view and print class schedules, grades and transcripts, and take advantage of many additional online services and features once signed in to their individual account at the college's student portal, MyMercer.



www.mccc.edu/mymercer

Instructions to determine the username and password required for MyMercer sign-in is available at www.mccc.edu/mymercer. Students are encouraged to bookmark this MyMercer entry page to stay connected and informed.



Enrollment

Admission to Mercer County Community College is open to anyone who can benefit from a post-secondary education. MCCC's student body is diverse and includes both young adults as well as older learners.

Students may attend classes during the day, evening, or on weekends at the West Windsor or James Kerney campuses, or online through MercerOnline. They may enroll full- or part-time toward earning a degree or certificate, or simply take a few classes.

Mercer welcomes applicants from other New Jersey counties and from other states and countries but reserves the right to limit such enrollments in programs with limited staff and physical capacity.

How to Apply

Prospective students must complete an admission application and have high school and/or college transcripts, or GED scores, and immunization records sent to the Enrollment office. SAT or ACT scores may also be sent. Although not required for admission, the results of SAT or ACT assessment may be used for course placement.

Applicants are encouraged to apply online via the college website (www.mccc.edu). Applications are also available at the Enrollment Center on each campus. The college accepts applications throughout the year.

Immunization

State law requires each student matriculated in a degree program to provide a valid record of immunization for or immunity from measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) as well as hepatitis and the meningococcal vaccine. Students must complete the Immunization Record form available from the Enrollment Center and have it signed by their physician.

Students who attended elementary and secondary school in New Jersey may be able to obtain a copy of their immunization record from their high school. A copy of this record is acceptable in place of the college Immunization Record form.

Additionally, the law provides for exemption from submitting an Immunization Record form if a student was born before 1957, has a medical reason for not being immunized, or has a religious objection to immunizations. Students wishing to apply for an exemption may do so at the Enrollment Center.

College Skills Placement Testing

Students enrolling at Mercer may be required to take a college skills placement test, available at the Testing Center on both campuses. Placement test results do not affect admission to the college; however, scores will determine eligibility for certain courses and programs.

English as a Second Language Placement Testing

Students whose native language is not English and those wishing to enroll in English as a Second Language (ESL) courses should complete the ESL placement test. Contact the office of International Student Services for more information.

Academic Advising

Each new student meets with an advisor to develop educational plans, consider majors, have test scores explained, and build a class schedule. The student will also learn about appropriate support services, transfer details, college costs, and possible financial resources.

In addition, it is essential that students work with a faculty advisor for assistance in making educational choices and selecting courses that meet graduation and transfer requirements.

From the day of admission until the day of graduation, Mercer is dedicated to helping its students get the most from their college experience.

Admission Assistance

Help is available at every step in the admission process. Students are encouraged to visit the college and meet with staff and faculty. To arrange a campus tour or for additional information or assistance, contact the Enrollment office at either Mercer County Community College campus:

West Windsor Campus
1200 Old Trenton Road
West Windsor, New Jersey 08550
(609) 570-3244
E-mail: admiss@mccc.edu

James Kerney Campus
102 North Broad Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08608
(609) 570-3139



Credits from Other Educational and Life Experiences

Advanced Standing

Mercer will grant advanced standing for demonstrated knowledge gained from courses taken in high school that are equivalent to collegiate entry-level courses. Advanced standing may be granted in foreign languages, mathematics, and other disciplines. Check individual programs for specific information, and contact the Enrollment office to determine eligibility.

Advanced Placement

Students who complete Advanced Placement courses during high school and pass Advanced Placement tests at the 3 level or higher are eligible for course credit in the following disciplines:

- Art
- Biology
- Calculus
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Economics
- English
- French
- German
- Government and Politics
- History
- Latin
- Music
- Physics
- Psychology
- Spanish

Credit for Nontraditional Learning Experience

Mercer recognizes that learning in the classroom is only part of the learning that takes place in the modern world. Credit may be granted by examinations and other demonstrations of knowledge or skills acquired outside the traditional classroom. These include appropriate life and work experience through military schools, proprietary schools, or training programs.

Detailed information about credits awarded for nontraditional learning experience is available from the Enrollment office. Mercer reserves the right to deny inappropriate credit requests.

Veterans may wish to have their military training and experience evaluated for possible college credit. Those wishing to do so should contact the Military and Veterans Services office and submit Joint Service Transcript (JST) or Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) transcripts for evaluation.



Transfer Credits from Other Colleges

Many students use transfer credits earned at other accredited colleges to complete some of their program requirements for a Mercer degree or certificate. In most programs, transfer credits and/or credits awarded by other nontraditional means may be applied, except that a minimum of 15 credits, including those for at least two sophomore-level courses in the major, must be earned at Mercer. Only courses in which a grade of C or better was earned are eligible for transfer credits.

To have credits from another college reviewed for transfer, the student must request that college to send an official transcript of his or her coursework to Mercer's Enrollment office. Foreign transcripts will require, at the student's expense, translation and evaluation by an approved outside agency.

Approved transfer credits are entered on the student's transcript only after the student has been accepted in their chosen degree program and is enrolled in classes at Mercer.

College Opportunity for Young Adults with Intellectual Disabilities

The MCCC DREAM Program provides opportunities for students characterized by limitations in both intellectual and adaptive behavior, requiring significant supports to navigate the post-secondary environment. Upon successful application and acceptance to the program, identified students aged 17 to 25 pursue individual goals in an inclusive and supportive college setting.

Along with classes uniquely designed for DREAM Program participants, students take actual college courses based on placement and may be permitted to audit classes in areas of interest. Students work closely with program staff each semester to establish and evaluate goals, build schedules, arrange for mandatory job shadowing experiences, and identify community supports.

Participation in the DREAM Program is generally limited to four semesters. Thereafter, students can continue to pursue academic or vocational goals by taking credit or noncredit classes at MCCC but are no longer eligible for the additional DREAM Program supports.

For more information, visit the MCCC DREAM Program in LB207 on the West Windsor Campus; (609) 570-3422.



Developmental Studies

Enrollment in Academic Foundation Courses

If scores on academic placement tests in reading, writing, or mathematics do not meet the standards for college-level work, students are required to take foundation courses before taking courses that require proficiency in those skill areas. Full-time students are expected to complete these courses during their first year, typically in the first semester. Part-time students must enroll in at least one of their required foundation courses each semester.

A variety of 0-level foundation courses allows each student to choose a path that best fits their interests. Academic advisors, individually assigned, help foundation students navigate their choices, while supportive faculty helps them connect with campus academic and social networks.

Class options involve accelerated and computer-based modular classes as well as traditional foundation reading, writing, and mathematics courses. Details on the college's 0-level foundation courses can be found among English and Mathematics course descriptions at www.mccc.edu/catalog/catalog_courses.

ENGLISH

Mercer offers two levels of developmental English. Students who would benefit from the most support place into ENG 023 / 033. They may be able to participate in the READY Program and qualify for ENG 101 in one semester. READY is an immersive and rigorous experience that engages students in an accelerated, yet

highly supported, academic program.

Students placing into ENG 024 / 034 often need somewhat less of an intensive experience and are permitted to enroll in ENG 101 upon successful completion of these courses. Still, some students will benefit from two semesters of developmental English.

All placement decisions are made using multiple measures, including students' own self-assessment of where they would expect to be most successful.

MATHEMATICS

MAT 037, MAT 038, MAT 042, MAT 044

Foundation courses in mathematics provide students with the skills and concepts needed to succeed in mathematics and in other disciplines.

MAT 037 (Beginning Algebra) and MAT 038 (Intermediate Algebra for STEM) are offered in a classroom setting using a variety of instructional strategies.

MAT 042 (Foundation Math for Non-STEM) and MAT 044 (Foundation Math for STEM) offer students a self-paced, modularized approach to the required curriculum. Students work in a lab setting with the support of faculty and tutors available to assist individuals or small groups as necessary.

Students may complete more than one course in a semester. Those failing to complete the course curriculum in one term can start the following term where they left off, rather than repeating the beginning of the course.

DEVELOPMENTAL MATH, READING, AND COMPOSITION

Placement test scores (see page 12) determine if these courses are required.

FIRST SEMESTER

Code	Course (lecture/lab hours)	Credits
CSW 100	College Success and Personal Wellness (2/0)†	2
ENG 023	Introduction to College Composition I (4/0)	4
ENG 033	Introduction to College Reading I (4/0)	4
MAT —	mathematics course ¹	3-4
		<hr/> 13-14

¹ In consultation with an academic advisor, select mathematics course based on requirements of intended degree program.

² Students who successfully complete their CSW 100 requirement in the first semester should consult academic advisor to select another course.

† Some exemptions apply. Consult academic advisor for details.

TO DO THIS SEMESTER

- ✓ Meet with your faculty advisor to make an academic plan.
- ✓ Check your MercerMail daily.
- ✓ Contact professors with questions and use their office hours to develop a connection.
- ✓ Use Learning Centers or eTutoring to maximize your success.

SECOND SEMESTER

Code	Course (lecture/lab hours)	Credits
CSW 100	College Success and Personal Wellness (2/0)†	2
— —	General Education elective	
OR ²		
ENG 024	Introduction to College Composition II (4/0)	4
ENG 034	Introduction to College Reading II (4/0)	4
MAT —	mathematics course ¹	3-4
		<hr/> 13-14

TO DO THIS SEMESTER

- ✓ Meet with your faculty advisor to make an academic plan.
- ✓ Check your MercerMail daily.
- ✓ Contact professors with questions and use their office hours to develop a connection.
- ✓ Use Learning Centers or eTutoring to maximize your success.



Choosing a Program

Mercer offers a wide variety of programs which lead directly to employment or to transfer to other colleges for further education. Professional staff and faculty are available to assist students in selecting programs most suited to their needs and goals. (See sections on Programs of Study, Career Services, and Transfer to Four-Year Colleges.)

It is important for students to select their program of study carefully and to consider the following:

- What careers interest me?
- Is a four-year college education in my future?
- What credits will I be able to transfer to a four-year college?
- Which college program will provide the best training for the career I want?
- What are the academic requirements of the program that is best for me? Given my abilities and interests, am I being realistic?
- How can I plan my financial resources and meet personal responsibilities so that I can go to college?
- What college services and financial programs are available to me?

Program Acceptance

Acceptance in a particular program is based on an applicant's qualifications as evidenced by transcripts of previous academic work, professional recommendations, level of interest, and estimated potential for success. Student enrollment in certain programs is limited due to available facilities and staff. Preference for space in these programs is given to Mercer County residents and early applicants.

Mercer County Community College will not discriminate against any applicant on the basis of personal beliefs or characteristics such as political views, religion, national or ethnic origin, race, color, gender, sexual orientation, age, marital status, veteran status, or disability unrelated to job or program requirements.

Students who are undecided about which degree program to choose or who want to take some courses before choosing a degree program may register for individual courses provided any specified entry requirements (prerequisites and corequisites) are met. Those unsure about a major field of study should indicate a general interest. The admission process cannot continue until a major field or interest area has been declared.

Students who are under 18 years of age must submit written approval from a parent or guardian and school counselor to the Enrollment office before they will be permitted to register for courses.

Changing Programs

Students are permitted to switch from one program to another provided that admission requirements for the new program are satisfied and space is available. (See page 26 for procedure.) NOTE: Students who change their program of study must complete all requirements listed in the academic catalog in effect at the time of the program change.

The Academic Year

Mercer's courses are offered frequently enough to allow students to progress toward their degrees or certificates in a reasonable period of time. However, not every course can be offered every semester and term. For student convenience, day, evening, and weekend classes are available throughout the year. Classes are held on both MCCC campuses, at off-campus sites, and through MercerOnline.

Most classes in the regular Fall and Spring semesters meet for 14 weeks, while a variety of accelerated courses meet for seven or 10 weeks. Winter Session, beginning in mid-December, offers accelerated two- and six-week courses. Summer terms begin in late May and early July. Classes in shorter terms meet more hours per week in order to cover the material of a typical full semester.

Full-Time Study

For full-time status, students must take 12 or more course credits in a semester. While 12 is the minimum course load for a student to be considered full-time for financial aid purposes, completing most academic programs in four semesters requires taking at least 15 credits each semester.

A typical full-time credit load can range from 12 to 18 credits. Students wishing to carry more must obtain approval from their advisor or academic division.

Part-Time Study

Part-time students take 11 or fewer course credits in a semester. They benefit from the same facilities and services as full-time students and have access to the same faculty and most programs of study. They complete program requirements in varying periods of time, depending on the number of credits required by the program and the number of credits completed each semester.

Part-time students may take up to 10 years to complete the coursework for most programs. Some technical programs, however, require that coursework be completed within five years.

Advisement staff is available at both campuses during evening hours to assist part-time evening students with course and program selection as well as career planning.





Transfer to Four-Year Colleges

Many MCCC students transfer to colleges and universities throughout the country each year, and Mercer has agreements with a number of institutions for guaranteed transfer admission.

Planning is key to ensure a smooth transition to a four-year institution. It's important for community college students to select an associate degree program that aligns with their anticipated bachelor's degree major to ensure a successful transfer.

Students who plan to transfer should contact MCCC's Transfer Services for help selecting courses and identifying transfer institutions that suit their individual needs and educational goals. To aid in this process, Mercer offers transfer workshops and "transfer day" events with representatives from area colleges and universities. MCCC Transfer Services maintains regular contact with transfer institutions.

Transfer Within New Jersey

Many four-year colleges and universities in New Jersey have adopted "Transfer and Articulation Principles" and a "General Education Foundation" to help maximize transfer credits for courses taken at community colleges. Although Mercer's degree programs align with these statewide agreements, admission to a four-year institution is not guaranteed, and admission requirements vary.

Students can transfer their academic credits from a completed community college Associate of Arts (A.A.) or Associate of Science (A.S.) degree program to Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or Bachelor of Science (B.S.) programs, respectively, as half of the credits required for a four-year degree.

Using the online information system NJ Transfer (www.njtransfer.org), students can check the transferability of their Mercer courses and plan a program of study that will transfer to the New Jersey college of their choice.

The University Center at Mercer: Advanced Degrees on Campus

Extending beyond opportunities for two-year associate degrees, Mercer County Community College maintains agreements with other New Jersey institutions of higher education to allow students to earn bachelor's and even master's degrees on-site at MCCC's West Windsor campus.

For information on these and other such programs, contact Transfer Services or the related academic division at Mercer.

Fairleigh Dickinson University

- B.A., Hospitality and Tourism Management
- B.A., Individualized Studies with specializations in...
 - Business
 - Technology Management

Master Degree Program:

- Master of Hospitality Management Studies

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

- B.A., Business Administration
- B.S., Criminal Justice
- B.S., Labor and Employment Relations
- RN to B.S., Nursing
- B.A., Political Science
- B.S., Public Health

William Paterson University

- B.A., Early Childhood Education Pre K to 3rd Grade
- B.A., Early Childhood Education Pre K to 3rd Grade for Teachers of Students with Disabilities
- B.A., Liberal Studies: English, History, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology
- B.A., Psychology



Registration

Register for Classes

Online

Continuing and returning students can register online via the college website (www.mccc.edu).

In-Person

Students can register in person during normal operating hours at the Enrollment Center on the West Windsor Campus or at the Student Services office on the James Kerney Campus

Student Records

Student Identifier

The MCCC admissions application requires a Social Security number, for federal and state reporting purposes only. Once enrolled, students are assigned a unique student identifier (for the college's administrative system only – not for student use), which appears on each student's class schedule as well as on instructor class rosters.



Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their academic records. For more information on specific provisions of the Act, refer to the “Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities” section in the Student Handbook.

The college has designated the following student information as public or Directory Information. Such information may be disclosed by the college for any purpose.

- name, address, phone number, email address
- dates/semesters of attendance
- enrollment status (full-time or part-time)
- major field of study
- degrees and awards received
- previous institution(s) attended
- participation in officially recognized sports and activities
- weight and height of athletic team members

Mercer County Community College forwards education records to other institutions that have requested the records and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled, so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment.

Currently enrolled students may withhold disclosure of any category of information under FERPA. To withhold disclosure, students must send written notification to the Enrollment office within the first three weeks of the semester in which the withholding of Directory Information is to take effect. Request forms are available at the Enrollment Center.

The college assumes that failure on the part of any student to specifically request the withholding of categories of Directory Information indicates approval for disclosure.

Certification of Enrollment

Students needing official certification of their enrollment at MCCC may obtain it from the Student Records office during normal hours of operation (or by emailing registrar@mccc.edu) after the add/drop period for the requested term has ended.

Transcripts

Students can immediately access *unofficial* transcripts from “Student Self-Service” in the MyMercer portal (see page 11) up until two years after their last semester at the college. Thereafter, students must request *official* transcripts.

All requests for *official* transcripts must be submitted through the Parchment Storefront, accessed at www.mccc.edu/student_transcripts. Refunds are not issued for eTranscripts, due to the near real-time processing and delivery of orders.

Transcripts are not released if the student has outstanding financial obligations with the college.



Tuition and Fees

Tuition and fees are established by the Mercer County Community College Board of Trustees. The lowest tuition rates apply to residents of Mercer County, New Jersey. Different rates apply to out-of-county residents, out-of-state residents, and non-U.S. citizens. Tuition is charged on a per credit (or credit-equivalent) hour basis.

The college reserves the right to change tuition or fees at any time by action of the Board of Trustees. Current tuition rates and fees are available on the college website and at the Enrollment Center.

In addition to tuition and fees, students are responsible for purchasing books and other class supplies.

Residency Requirements

In-county tuition rates apply to students who have resided in New Jersey for 12 months and maintain a permanent residence in Mercer County. The college recognizes Mercer County students in active military service as residents of the county.

Students who are not citizens or permanent residents of the United States are charged out-of-state tuition and fees unless they meet certain legal guidelines.

To appeal residency status, contact the Enrollment office.

New Jersey Chargeback Program for Out-of-County Residents

New Jersey residents who live outside of Mercer County and wish to attend MCCC can apply for chargeback tuition support. Chargeback enables a student to pay in-county tuition rates. The difference in tuition will be paid by the student's home county.

Chargeback requests may be approved by the home county for the following reasons:

- The county's community college does not offer the student's chosen program or course.
- The county's community college does not have space available in the chosen program or course.

To apply for and be awarded a chargeback, the student must do the following:

- Obtain a chargeback form from the MCCC Enrollment office.
- Complete the form and take it to the home-county community college (if there is one) for approval.
- Submit the form to the county treasurer in the home county for approval.
- Bring the completed and approved form to MCCC's Enrollment or Bursar offices prior to the first day of classes.

Once approved, chargeback eligibility will not be lost if the student's home county community college establishes the same program in which the student already is enrolled at Mercer. Nor will eligibility be lost if space becomes available at that college after the student was earlier denied registration there. Eligibility may be lost, however, if the student changes to an MCCC program also offered at their home county community college.

Students who are unable to obtain chargeback assistance from their home county may still attend Mercer but must pay out-of-county tuition rates. Out-of-state students are not eligible for chargeback assistance, and chargeback assistance does not apply to foundation courses.

Program-Sharing Agreement

Mercer and Bucks County residents can enroll in, at a reasonable cost, academic programs not offered at their home county community college. A program-sharing agreement between Mercer County Community College and Bucks County Community College enables students to take basic courses at their home institution and specialized courses to earn their degree at the other college. Students are charged out-of-county instead of out-of-state rates.

Fees

College Fee

The college fee supports student activities, athletics, student publications, identification cards, and other college expenses that benefit students.

Technology Fee

The technology fee helps to offset the cost of college technological resources that support students' learning and related services.

Registration Fees

A registration fee is charged to all credit students each semester to offset the college's registration system expenses. A late registration fee is charged for course registration after the start of each semester.

Course Fees

In addition to tuition, most courses with laboratory, studio, or clinical components and/or open lab support have special fees which cover extra costs of equipment, supplies, or instruction.

A listing of current course fees may be obtained at the Enrollment Center on each campus.

Flight Training Fees

Fees for MCCC's Aviation Flight Technology A.A.S. degree program vary depending upon program coursework required towards certification and licensing, and are subject to change without notice. Specifics are available from the Aviation program director in the Business, Technology, and Professional Studies division.



Payment of Financial Obligations

All tuition and fees are due at the time of registration. Students are responsible for obtaining the necessary funds before registering, or for making payment plan arrangements and/or applying for tuition waivers (see below). Additional payment assistance may be sought through the Financial Aid office.

Payments may be made online by credit card, or in person by check or cash.

No student will be enrolled, graduated, or cleared to receive an academic transcript until they have fully paid all college accounts or have made satisfactory arrangements with the Bursar office.

Payment Plans

Flexible payment plans are available for all semesters. Options and further details may be obtained at the Bursar office on either the West Windsor or James Kerney campus or on the college website.

Fines

Fines are charged for overdue library books (paid at the Library front desk), parking violations (paid at Bursar office), and misuse of lockers (paid at the Security office).

Additional information can be found in the “Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities” available at the Student Activities office.

Refund Policy

Deadlines for course refund eligibility differ according to term length, as follows:

- 14-week terms: Full refunds are available for classes dropped within the *first seven days* of the associated term start date (NOT the *class* start date).
- Terms shorter than 14 weeks: Full refunds are available for classes dropped within the *first two days* of the associated term start date (NOT the *class* start date).

A course dropped anytime after its applicable refund eligibility period will be processed as a withdrawal. (See withdrawal information, page 25.) No refund of tuition or fees will be made to a student who is withdrawn from a course by an instructor for non-attendance or who has been dismissed from the college for cause.

Please be aware that dropped or withdrawn classes can cause adjustments to financial aid awards, which may result in the student owing an account balance.

Tuition Waivers

Pursuant to New Jersey law, certain persons who otherwise meet course requirements are permitted to enroll in credit classes at MCCC without payment of tuition, on a space-available basis, provided tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required to offer the class. All students are required to pay for books, course materials, and fees in excess of tuition.

Students may not apply a waiver to and will not be reimbursed for any course registration previously paid.

National Guard

National Guard members who have completed Initial Active Duty Training and are members in good standing, or the children or surviving spouse of a member killed in the performance of their duty, may enroll for up to 15 credits per semester with tuition waived provided they:

- have applied at www.fafsa.ed.gov for all state and federal financial aid for which they may be eligible;
- have enrolled in a program of study and are in good academic standing.

(See page 24 for associated financial aid application requirements.)

Volunteer First Responders

Active volunteer fire, first aid, or rescue squad members in good standing, or their dependent children and spouses, may enroll in courses with a maximum \$600 in tuition waived annually, not to exceed \$2,400 for the member, children and spouse over a four-year period, provided they:

- reside in a municipality that has agreed by the enactment of a resolution to participate in the program;
- maintain a 2.00 grade point average throughout the program;
- execute an agreement to continue service as a volunteer for a period of at least four years.

Local fire companies and rescue squads can provide additional information.

Unemployment

Persons who are presently unemployed or have been seeking full-time employment during the past two years may be eligible to enroll in classes, with tuition waived, on a space-available basis. College fees in excess of tuition must be paid at the time of registration. Expenses for textbooks and other class materials are also the student's responsibility.

Students must have applied at www.fafsa.ed.gov for all state and federal financial aid for which they may be eligible. Forms and additional information may be found at your local unemployment offices.

Senior Citizens

Mercer County residents aged 65 or older are eligible to enroll in classes, with tuition waived, on a space-available basis after paying students have registered. College fees in excess of tuition must be paid at the time of registration. Expenses for textbooks and other class materials similarly are the student's responsibility.

Residents of New Jersey counties other than Mercer who are 65 or older may enroll in classes on a space-available basis, paying the college's in-county tuition rate plus applicable fees.

Eligible students must register in person, with proof of age, at either the West Windsor or James Kerney campus. Contact the Enrollment office (for credit courses) and The Center for Continuing Studies (non-credit) for further details.

The federal government, the state of New Jersey, and Mercer County Community College offer eligible students a range of financial aid opportunities. A student or applicant wishing to be considered for financial aid should apply as early as possible. This can be done even before completing an MCCC admission application.

Most student financial aid is provided in the form of federal- and state-funded grant programs. This money is specifically awarded for education-related expenses including tuition, fees, books, and indirect costs such as living expenses and transportation. Eligibility depends upon financial need.

Specific programs and their eligibility requirements are outlined in the tables on pages 22 and 23.

How to Apply

To be considered for all federal, state and MCCC financial aid, students must complete the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** online at www.studentaid.gov. The FAFSA must be submitted each year, and becomes available online each year on October 1 for the upcoming school year. The federal school code for MCCC is **002641**, and applicants must include MCCC on their list of schools.

To ensure that financial aid is packaged before tuition and fees are due, applications and supporting documents should be submitted before April 15 for the full academic year or the Fall semester, and before February 15 for the Spring semester only. Students who submit applications after these dates should be prepared to pay semester tuition and fees themselves with the possibility of receiving financial aid after the semester begins. If eligible for aid, the student will receive an appropriate refund.

After submitting the FAFSA, students are expected to monitor the Financial Aid Self-Service section of their MyMercer portal and their MCCC email account for updates. Students may be required to submit additional documents or information to the college's Financial Aid office to determine their eligibility once the FAFSA has been received.

General Eligibility Requirements

Federal Aid

For federal financial aid eligibility, students must:

- be United States citizens or eligible noncitizens;
- be accepted in a program of study leading to a degree or certificate;
- possess a high school diploma or state-recognized equivalent such as a General Educational Development (GED) certificate;
- not be in default status on a student loan or owe a refund on any Title IV federal aid program;
- maintain satisfactory academic progress;
- attempt a course a maximum of two times.

State Aid

To be eligible for financial aid from the state of New Jersey, students must comply with the general eligibility requirements and also must be:

- New Jersey residents for at least one year;
- enrolled for at least 6 credits;
- able to demonstrate financial need according to the state's need analysis system.

DACA Students

Applicants must:

- complete the Alternative Application at hesaa.org; and
- have attended a New Jersey high school for at least three years; and
- have graduated from a New Jersey high school or received a GED in New Jersey; and
- complete a Non-Resident Affidavit;
- if male, be registered for Selective Service;
- be enrolled for at least 6 credits.

Academic Requirements

Financial aid is awarded only to students who have declared a major in an approved degree or certificate program and who are making Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). Students who fail to meet all of the prescribed standards for SAP will be placed on SAP Warning for one semester. Students who meet the terms of SAP Warning will be placed on probation and will continue to be eligible for financial aid. Students who do not meet the terms of SAP Warning will be ineligible for financial aid.

Applicants denied financial aid due to unsatisfactory academic progress have the right to appeal for reinstatement of eligibility, explaining any relevant extenuating circumstances. Appeals must be completed with a Success Coach who will subsequently submit the appeal along with relevant supporting documents to the Financial Aid office. The SAP Committee will review the appeal and notify the student by email once a decision has been made.

Students failing SAP or whose appeals have been denied may work towards once again meeting SAP standards by enrolling at their own expense and completing all courses attempted. Students whose appeals are approved will be placed on probation.

For any semester in which a student is on SAP Warning or probation, they must earn a minimum term GPA of 2.00 and must not receive any failures (F), withdrawals (W), incompletes (I), or "no credit" (NC) grades of any kind.

Federal regulations permit financial aid to be awarded for no more than 30 semester hours of noncredit remedial coursework. Once attempted, no additional remedial courses will qualify for financial aid. English as a Second Language (ESL) courses are exempt from the remedial course limit.

Academic eligibility for all New Jersey financial aid programs is governed by the same standards of progress described above.



The chart below outlines the *minimum* standards of satisfactory academic progress to receive financial aid at Mercer County Community College.

Minimum Standards of Progress to Qualify for Financial Aid		
Cumulative Credits Attempted	Completion Rate	Cumulative GPA
0 to 8	00 %	0.00
9 to 19	50 %	1.60
20 to 29	50 %	1.70
30 to 39	60 %	1.80
40 to 47	60 %	1.90
48 or more	67 %	2.00

Special Circumstances

Federal financial aid is based on a formula created by the U.S. Department of Education to determine a student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The FAFSA uses prior-prior year income information to determine EFC and eligibility for federal financial aid. After filing the FAFSA, some students realize their EFC may not accurately reflect their current financial situation due to extenuating circumstances that have led to a significant decrease in household income or a significant increase in household expenses.

The federal government allows students to request that the Financial Aid office review these extenuating circumstances to see if they warrant an adjustment of the information determining the student's EFC. Circumstances that may warrant an adjustment include (but are not limited to) loss/change of employment, divorce/separation, death of a parent/spouse, disability of student/parent/spouse, and loss of benefits.

Students who think they may qualify for a Special Circumstances Review should contact the Financial Aid office.

Work-Study on Campus

The Federal Work-Study Program is a federally funded program administered by MCCC to promote access to on-campus employment to help offset educational expenses. Students may work up to 15 to 20 hours per week during Fall and Spring semesters and must be enrolled at least half-time per semester. If program funds are available, students may also work up to 15 to 20 hours during Summer terms. Students interested in participating should email seo@mccc.edu.

MCCC Scholarships

The MCCC Foundation, civic groups, professional societies, local corporations, and generous individuals support an array of student scholarships awarded for both the Fall and Spring semesters. Recipients are recognized at annual ceremonies – continuing students at the annual Honors Recognition reception, graduating students at the Spring Honors Convocation.

More information on MCCC-sourced scholarships is available at www.mccc.edu/scholarships. Students may apply for one or more by submitting a single application online at www.mccc.edu/apply4awards. Applications for continuing students are accepted February 1 through October 31; applications for graduating students are accepted February 1 until April 1.

Note: Some scholarships require students to complete the FAFSA before they can be considered for an award, regardless of their financial standing.

Federal and State Aid

Listings of federal and state financial aid programs along with eligibility requirements and application instructions (effective at time of publication) appear on pages 22 and 23. Visit the MCCC Financial Aid website for the most up-to-date information.



Scholarships are payments to support a student's education that **do not need to be repaid**.

Mercer County Community College and the MCCC Foundation make more than \$950,000 in scholarship support available annually in a wide variety of academic areas. Award amounts vary – **\$6500 the largest, \$1200 average**.

Whether you are a new, continuing or graduating student, **YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE** for one or more of our **265 scholarship opportunities**. Some do not even require completion of the FAFSA!

The next application period opens February 2024. It's easy and quick.

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE WITH YOUR APPLICATION

OFFICE OF COLLEGE ADVANCEMENT

Phone | 609.570.3293

Email | scholarships@mccc.edu

More Information: www.mccc.edu/scholarships

To Apply: www.mccc.edu/apply4awards

Mercer County Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, military status, disability, national origin, gender identity or expression, or genetic information.



Federal Aid Programs

Program	Special Eligibility Requirements	Award Amounts	Program Information	How to Apply
Federal Pell Grants	Applicants must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate financial need • Take at least 1 credit of program-required coursework 	Up to \$6345 per year	Students who have earned B.A. or B.S. degrees not eligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), listing MCCC as a college you plan to attend • Submit any other required information/documents to the MCCC Financial Aid office
Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG)	Applicants must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate financial need • Apply on or before Apr. 15 (Sept. 15 for Spring only) 	\$400-\$800 per year at MCCC	Priority to students with the lowest family contribution who are eligible for Pell	
Federal Work Study Program (FWS)	Applicants must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate financial need • Take at least 6 credits of program-required coursework 	Determined by hourly rate of pay and number of hours per week, generally from \$800 to \$3000 per year	Employment is on- or off-campus; students may work a maximum of 14 hours per week when classes are in session and 28 hours per week during semester breaks depending upon FWS budget	

William D. Ford Direct Loan Program

Program	Special Eligibility Requirements	Award Amounts	Program Information	How to Apply
Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan	Applicants must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take at least 6 credits of program-required coursework • Demonstrate unmet financial need 	Up to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$3500 (0-29 completed credits) • \$4500 (30 or more completed credits) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repayment begins six months after leaving school • Interest rates vary by year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as federal aid programs • Accept desired loan(s) through MyMercer student portal • Complete Master Promissory Note and Entrance Counseling at studentaid.gov
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan	Applicants must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take at least 6 credits of program-required coursework 	Up to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$6000 (0-29 completed credits) • \$6000 (30 or more completed credits) * Combined Stafford Loan totals may not exceed stated limit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repayment of interest begins immediately unless lender agrees to accrue it • Interest rates vary by year 	

Other Sources

Program	Award Amounts and Eligibility	Program Information	How to Apply
Scholarship and loan programs from foundations, companies, unions, clubs, associations, high schools	Vary by program	Libraries, high schools, guidance offices, scholarship publications	Varies by program

New Jersey State Aid Programs

Program	Special Eligibility Requirements	Award Amounts	Program Information	How to Apply
NJ STARS (Student Tuition Assistance Reward Scholarship)	Applicants must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rank in the top 15 percent of their high school class at the end of their junior or senior year Demonstrate college readiness Enroll in at least 12 credits 	Tuition for up to 18 credits per semester, up to five semesters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For high-achieving New Jersey high school students; <i>not</i> based on financial need 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File the FAFSA Complete all requirements on state portal Have your high school mail official transcript with class rank to Financial Aid office
Tuition Aid Grant (TAG)	See NJ state aid requirements under the “General Eligibility Requirements” section (page 20)	Up to \$2790 per year at MCCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students who have earned degrees are not eligible at MCCC Students may receive five semesters of funding; EOF-funded students may receive eight semesters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File the FAFSA Complete all requirements on state portal
Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG)	Applicants must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have a household AGI between \$0 and \$65,000 Enroll in at least 6 credits 	Tuition and eligible fees for up to 18 credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students may receive up to five semesters of funding Students with any prior degree ineligible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File the FAFSA Complete all requirements on state portal
Educational Opportunity Fund Grant (EOF)	Applicants must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be full-time students Be historically disadvantaged both educationally and economically 	Up to \$1050 per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special counseling services available Some students may be allowed part-time enrollment with EOF director’s approval 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File the FAFSA Complete all requirements on state portal Submit an application to the EOF office

Mercer County Community College Programs

Program	Special Eligibility Requirements	Award Amounts	Program Information	How to Apply
Grant in Aid (GIA)	Applicants must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be talented students who benefit the college community 	Vary	Students must be recommended	Faculty/staff recommendation only
Private and Foundation Scholarship	Applicants must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate merit and/or need Complete the general online application 	\$200-\$6500 per year at MCCC	Scholarship funding is donated by businesses, organizations, and individuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Submit online AwardSpring application at www.mccc.edu/apply4awards
Foundation Athletic Scholarship	Applicants must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be outstanding athletes 	\$100 to full tuition and fees	Must be recommended by MCCC coach or athletic director	Contact the MCCC Athletics Department



GENERAL INFORMATION

complete content at www.mccc.edu/catalog

Military and Veterans Benefits

Veterans and eligible dependents wishing to apply U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs GI Bill® education benefits or Military Tuition Assistance should contact the MCCC Military and Veterans Services office. New students should bring their original Discharge Document (DD form 214 / copy 4) or a Notice of Basic Eligibility (NOBE).

The staff will assist veterans in completing necessary paperwork required each semester. Alternatively, the application may be completed online at www.gibill.va.gov. If filing online, print and bring a copy of your application to the Military and Veterans Services office.

Initial application for benefits should be completed as far as possible in advance of registration for classes. Returning students must submit a copy of their class schedules to the Military and Veterans Services office for certification with the Veterans Administration. Any changes in enrollment status or change of major must be reported to the Military and Veterans Services office as soon as they occur.

- **Veterans Benefits and Transition Act of 2018 - Chapter 31**
- **Post 9-11 GI Bill® - Chapter 33**

As part of the Veterans Benefits and Transition Act of 2018, any individual entitled to educational assistance under Chapter 31, Veteran Readiness and Employment (VRE), or Chapter 33 of the Post 9-11 GI Bill®, will be permitted to attend and participate in any course for which enrolled during the period beginning on the date on which the individual provides the MCCC Office of Military and Veterans Services a certificate of eligibility for entitlement to educational assistance under Chapter 31 or 33.

Note that a “certificate of eligibility” can also include a “Statement of Benefits” obtained from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) website – eBenefits – or confirmation from a Chapter 31 VRE Counselor and ending on the earlier of the following dates:

1. the date on which payment from the VA is made to MCCC
2. 90 days after the date the institution certified tuition and fees following the receipt of the certificate of eligibility

MCCC will not impose any penalty -- including the assessment of late fees, the denial of access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities, or the requirement that a covered individual borrow additional funds -- on any covered individual because of the individual’s inability to meet his or her financial obligations to the institution due to the delayed disbursement funding from the VA under Chapter 31 or 33.

Covered individuals must provide the following documents to the MCCC Office of Military and Veterans Services prior to the first day of class:

1. a VA Certificate of Eligibility for entitlement to education benefits
2. a properly completed *Request for Military & Veteran Certification Form*

Any questions should be submitted to the MCCC Office of Military and Veterans Services at vets@mccc.edu



New Jersey National Guard Tuition Waiver Program

New applicants for the National Guard Tuition Waiver Program should complete their paperwork six to eight weeks before registration. All National Guard students, both new and returning, must submit an original Commander’s Letter of Certification (NJDMAVA form 621-2-R15Nov00) each time they register for courses. This letter must be dated no more than 60 days prior to registering for courses – up to a maximum of 16 credits per semester. For any additional credits, Guard personnel must pay full tuition and fees.

All applicants, new and returning, must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) annually. In addition, National Guard students must complete and submit an application to MCCC and take the college skills placement test.

All veterans and National Guard students may submit appropriate documents to be evaluated for the possible awarding of credits for military training. Contact the Military and Veterans Services office for additional information.

Academic Policies and Regulations

Attendance

Regulations

Mercer County Community College does not have a “cut system.” Students are expected to attend all classes of every course on their schedules. Only illness or serious personal matters may be considered adequate reasons for absence.

It is the prerogative of the instructor to excuse absences for valid reasons, provided the student will be able to fulfill all course requirements.

Students in the Medical Laboratory Technology and Radiography programs must arrange with the program coordinator to make up all missed laboratory and clinical hours. Students in nursing courses are required to attend all lecture, recitation, college laboratory, and clinical laboratory sessions.

The college is required by law to maintain attendance reports on students who are funded by Veterans benefits, Social Security payments and various other federal, state, or private scholarship programs.

Attendance Verification and Progress Grades

Student performance in classes is monitored throughout the semester. If a student’s attendance has been infrequent or performance unsatisfactory, he or she may receive notification in the mail. At any time, the instructor may withdraw the student from class as a result of insufficient attendance.

Students who receive an unsatisfactory progress report are encouraged to see their instructor, advisor, and/or counselor and to take the steps necessary to complete the course successfully by the end of the semester.

Withdrawal from Courses

To receive a W grade for any course, a student should consult with the course instructor or an appropriate division representative and then withdraw officially before two-thirds of the course has been completed by submitting a withdrawal form to the Enrollment office. Withdrawal after this point results in a grade other than W (usually F) unless the registrar determines that the student was unable to continue due to extraordinary circumstances beyond the student’s control.

At any time before two-thirds of the course has been completed, the instructor may also withdraw, with a WI grade, any student who has been absent excessively. A student withdrawn by the instructor for excessive absence will not be entitled to any refund of tuition or fees. The student may appeal this action.

It is the responsibility of students sponsored or receiving financial aid to report any change of status (e.g., full-time to part-time) to the sponsoring agency. The college has the same responsibility. Some agencies adjust the amount of benefits; others may cancel the benefits entirely.

Withdrawal from a course does not necessarily release the student from any academic integrity violation consequences.

Repeating Courses

Students may repeat courses. The most recent grade is the student’s official grade for the course unless the grade is S, NC, X, W, WI, or WA. Only the most recent grade will be used in QPA calculations, although any prior grade will also appear on the transcript. A student who wishes to take a course for the third (or more) time is required to obtain formal, written approval from the appropriate division dean unless otherwise specified.

Auditing a Course

A student who wishes to attend a class regularly but does not wish to receive a grade or credit for the course may request permission to register as an auditor. To receive permission to audit, the student should meet all admission requirements expected of students enrolled in the course, including any course prerequisites and corequisites.

Audit students must pay the same tuition and fees for the entire course as students receiving credit. Attendance requirements for auditors are determined by the course instructor. Intention to audit a course should be declared at registration and to the instructor in the first class session. The appropriate form must be completed and submitted during registration.

Changing from an audit to a credit basis during the semester is not permitted. Credit for audited courses cannot be established at a later date except by enrolling in the course for credit in a subsequent semester and satisfying all course requirements.





Independent Study

In addition to earning credits through formal courses, students may earn credit through approved independent study. Independent study is available for many but not all MCCC courses or for a specific plan of study in a course discipline.

Students plan specific activities and goals with the help of a cooperating faculty member and receive approval for their plans from the applicable academic division dean. The Independent Study Agreement Form is available from the Enrollment office and from academic division offices. The student is responsible for bringing the approved form to the Enrollment office for official enrollment purposes.

In general, independent study courses should correspond to standard semester lengths so that registration and grading for them can be accomplished within a designated registration period. Should the student take longer than a semester to complete the course, the student will be given an “I” grade when semester grades are processed, subject to change upon completion of the course.

The following guidelines are applicable:

- A student must have completed 15 credits with a minimum quality point average (QPA) of 2.75 to be considered eligible for independent study.
- A student may select no more than one course by independent study during a semester.
- A maximum of four courses may be taken by independent study in degree programs.
- Courses by independent study must be sponsored by full-time members of the faculty whenever possible.
- Students may not select more than two courses by independent study under the sponsorship of the same faculty member.

Permission for any exceptions to the above guidelines may be obtained from the responsible academic division dean.



Readmission

A student who has not attended Mercer for two or more years must complete the admission process again. If returning to a degree or certificate program earlier pursued, all requirements listed in the academic catalog in effect at the time of re-admission to the program must be completed. For more information, contact the Enrollment office.

Academic Restart Program

Students who have had a previous academic experience at Mercer and have a QPA of less than 2.0 may apply for an Academic Restart at any time after a period of non-enrollment of at least three (3) years.

If an Academic Restart is approved, all previous MCCC course credits and grades remain on the student’s transcript, but courses taken prior to the period of non-enrollment are no longer counted in the student’s quality point average and the QPA will be reset at zero.

Up to four courses in which credit was earned with a grade of “C” or better prior to the period of non-enrollment may be counted toward graduation requirements and included in the QPA.

A suitable message on the transcript will designate the point at which the Academic Restart became effective. Students are allowed only one Academic Restart. Once approved, it is irrevocable. Contact the Student Records office or the student advocate in any academic division for further details.

Change of Program/Major

A student wishing to change from one program (major) to another must initiate the procedure with their program advisor or student advocate. Approval for the change must be obtained from the academic division or student advocate responsible for the program to which the student wants admittance. The faculty or staff member will submit the form to the Student Records office. A student who is a veteran must also submit a change of program form to the Military and Veterans Services office.

Requests received during a semester will not take effect until the next semester. For example, the new major for a change request received during the Spring semester will activate starting with the following Summer term.



Grading System

Grade Interpretation

Grade reports are accessible via the MyMercer student portal (www.mccc.edu/mymercer) at the conclusion of each semester. Students may access their grades online, privately and securely, at any time.

Grades earned are determined by instructors at the end of each semester or term and are recorded on the student's transcript which is maintained by the Student Records office.

Letter grades have the following quality point values: A=4, A-=3.7, B+=3.4, B=3, B-=2.7, C+=2.4, C=2, D=1, and F=0. Other grades do not count in the quality point average, nor do any grades for courses numbered below 100.

Grade Appeals

Procedures for appealing any course grade or related academic action or decision that affects a student's standing at the college are outlined in the Student Handbook.

Grades	Nominal %	QPA (Quality Point Average)
A Superior Achievement	93-100	4.0
A-	90-92	3.7
B+	87-89	3.4
B Above Average Achievement	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.7
C+	77-79	2.4
C Average Achievement	70-76	2.0
D Minimally Passing	60-69	1.0
F Academic Failure	0-59	0.0
S Satisfactory (comparable to C or higher)	70-100	N/A
NC No Credit	0-69	N/A
X Audit — no evaluation		N/A
CR Credit by examination or experience — no evaluation		N/A
W Withdrawal (Student-initiated) — no evaluation		N/A
WI Withdrawal (Instructor-initiated) — no evaluation		N/A
WA Withdrawal (Administration-initiated) — no evaluation		N/A
WN Withdrawal - Never Attended (Instructor-initiated) — no evaluation		N/A
Temporary Grades		
N No grade reported by the instructor		N/A
I Incomplete — no credit earned		N/A
"I" indicates that the instructor is affording extra time for a course grade to be earned. The amount of extra time is determined by the instructor, up to a maximum of 16 calendar weeks after grades are submitted. An "I" grade not resolved within 16 calendar weeks is changed to an F or NC grade, as appropriate to the course.		

Quality Point Average

A student's quality point average (QPA) for each semester is computed by:

- multiplying the quality point value of each grade by the number of course credits designated;
- adding the results of these computations;
- dividing this total by the number of credits attempted during the semester.

The table below outlines a sample computation.

Grades in courses transferred from another institution are not included in computing quality points or averages. Credits earned by examination or for prior experience are entered on the student's transcript but do not affect the quality point average.

Course	Credits Registered	Grade	Credits Attempted	Point Value	Quality Points
ENG 101 English Composition I	3	C+	3	2.4	7.2
PSY 101 Introduction to Psychology	3	A-	3	3.7	11.1
BIO 101 General Biology I	4	B	4	3	12.0
HIS 101 History of Western Civilization to 1648	3	W	—	—	—
HPE 110 Concepts of Health and Fitness	2	I	—	—	—
OST 109 Keyboarding for Computer Users	1	F	1	0	0
TOTALS:	16		11		30.3
$\text{Quality Point Average (QPA)} = \frac{\text{Quality Points}}{\text{Credits Attempted}} = \frac{30.3}{11} = 2.75$					



Student Academic Standing Policy

Good Standing

Each student begins his or her enrollment at Mercer on Good Standing, which provides no restrictions on his or her credit load beyond those contained in normal college policy. A student remains on Good Standing by passing the courses in which he or she enrolls each semester and by maintaining a satisfactory cumulative grade point average (GPA).

Academic Progress

The academic sanctions for failing to maintain satisfactory academic standards/progress may include warning, probation, continued probation, academic suspension, or dismissal. These sanctions will be imposed on students who either fail to earn sufficient grade points or who continue to withdraw excessively from classes.

More specifically, any student who has completed 12 or more semester hours with a cumulative grade point average below 2.0 (C average) or who has failed to earn at least 50 percent of all credits registered for on the official day of counting student enrollment for two or more consecutive semesters may have an academic sanction of warning, probation, continued probation, academic suspension, or dismissal.

Externally accredited programs may have slightly different academic progress standards, established by said external accreditation body. Please consult the academic progress section of each externally accredited program to determine progression policy. If you are uncertain if your academic program is externally accredited, contact your academic advisor or success coach.

A student placed on academic sanction or dismissal may appeal the action to the Academic Standing Committee.

Academic Standing

To remain in good standing and become eligible for graduation, the student must maintain a C average or a grade-point average of 2.0. Externally accredited programs may have different grade point average requirements for academic standing and/or graduation. Please consult the academic standing section of each externally accredited program to determine academic standing policy.

A student will be placed on academic probation if he/she earns a cumulative grade point average of less than 2.0, or below minimum

cumulative grade-point average requirements for externally accredited programs.

Academic Sanctions

- If a student falls below a 2.0 GPA, they may be placed on academic warning or academic probation for the following semester. The number of credits will be restricted to 13 for academic warning and 10 for academic probation.
- If the student remains below a 2.0 GPA while on probation, they may be unable to receive financial aid and/or VA education benefits will be terminated. Students who are no longer eligible for financial aid or use of VA benefits may continue to attend school; however, they will be responsible for all costs. Some academic programs may dismiss the student from the program, although they may continue to take other classes at MCCC.
- If the student's cumulative GPA remains below 2.0 after the first semester of probation, they may be dismissed from the college. Dismissal requires a student to take a semester off and develop an approved individual Success Plan in consultation with an MCCC success coach before returning.
- If the student would like to re-enter the program, they must appeal the decision. Appeals are approved or denied by the Academic Standing Committee led by the Dean of Faculty. If the appeal is approved, the student may re-enter the program the following semester.

Student Academic Standing Criteria

Prior Status	Semester Credits Passed	Quality Point Average	New Status
Good Standing	Satisfactory	OK	Good Standing
		Low	Academic Warning
	Minimum	OK or Low	Academic Warning
		Below Minimum	OK
		Low	Academic Probation
Academic Warning	Satisfactory	OK	Good Standing
		Low	Academic Warning
	Minimum	OK or Low	Academic Probation
		Below Minimum	OK or Low
Academic Probation	Satisfactory	OK	Good Standing
		Low	Academic Warning
	Minimum	OK	Academic Probation
		Low	Academic Dismissal
	Below Minimum	OK or Low	Academic Dismissal
Academic Dismissal	one 14-week semester off		Academic Probation*

* upon approval of an Individual Success Plan by the Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs or designee



Associate Degree Requirements

The college is authorized by the State of New Jersey to grant the Associate in Arts, Associate in Fine Arts, the Associate in Science, and the Associate in Applied Science degrees to regularly matriculated students upon successful completion of study. Each program contains a general education core consisting of courses in written and oral communication, mathematics, natural science, technology, humanities, and social science as well as required courses and elective courses.

Graduation Requirements

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have met all graduation requirements:

- The number of semester hours of credit as specified by the program (usually 60 to 66).
- At least 15 credits earned at Mercer County Community College, six of which must be from courses at the 200 level and in the student's major.
- A minimum quality point average of 2.00 for all work applied toward a degree or certificate. A minimum C grade is required in any degree or certificate course crucial to the major, as indicated in the catalog listing of the program.
- Successful completion of all academic and course requirements of a degree program as specified in the college catalog either in effect at the time of the application for graduation or in effect at the time of the student's original matriculation in the program, provided that not more than 10 academic years passed prior to the intended graduation date and the student has maintained continuous attendance.
- Satisfactory completion of all courses within 10 years of the date of intended graduation, except in allied health and flight technology programs with a time limit of five years. The academic division may, at its discretion, recertify courses taken outside of these time limits.

- Satisfactory completion of a minimum number of credit courses approved as General Education. In accordance with college standards, these minimum requirements are reflected in the catalog listing of each program:
 - 45 credits for the Associate in Arts degree
 - 30 credits for the Associate in Science degree
 - 21 credits for the Associate in Applied Science degree
 - 21 credits for the Associate in Fine Arts degree
 - 6 credits for credit-bearing certificates
- All elective courses must be selected from among the courses included in the designated category. A student may not elect a course below his or her placement level in a discipline. *It is essential that any questions about electives be reviewed with an advisor familiar with the program.*
- Satisfaction of all financial obligations to the college.
- Graduated high school or received a GED.
- Participation in graduation exercises is encouraged.

Academic Foundation Credits

English composition, reading, and mathematics courses below the 100 level prepare students to succeed in college-level programs (see page 14). To earn a degree, students must complete at least 60 credits in courses above this level.

Multiple Degrees

Students are permitted to earn multiple degrees by completing all requirements for each. Applying completed courses from one degree or certificate to fulfill requirements for another, however, requires approval from the Dean of the associated academic division.





General Education Policy

Mercer County Community College is committed to providing each student with an educational experience that is shaped by the best traditions of higher learning as it addresses the demands of the modern world. For all graduates of degree and credit-bearing certificate programs, this experience includes general education.

The extent to which approved general education courses are required in the various degree and certificate programs is specified in the table below. These require-

ments may be met through general education courses specified in the design of the program, or through elective choices (from the approved list) afforded to the student in consultation with his or her advisor. These are the minimum requirements; as appropriate to the program, more general education courses may be required. Exceptions may be approved by the President when these requirements are inconsistent with external requirements for program accreditation or student transfer.

Academic Program Requirements for General Education

General Education Goals (by category)	A.A. Degree	A.S. Degree		A.A.S. Degree A.F.A. Degree A.S. Nursing	Certificate
Goal 1: Communication - <i>Written and Oral Communication</i>	9 credits (must be 6 credits of Composition)	6 credits (must be 6 credits of Composition)		6 credits (must be 3 credits of Composition)	3 credits (must be 3 credits of Composition)
Goal 2: Mathematics - <i>Quantitative Knowledge and Skills</i> (3-8 credits)	6 credits	9 credits		3 credits	3 credits
Goal 3: Science - <i>Scientific Knowledge and Reasoning</i> (3-8 credits)					
Goal 4: Technology - <i>Technological Competency</i> (0-4 credits)					
Goal 5: Social Science - <i>Society and Human Behavior</i>	6 credits	3 credits	3 credits	3 credits	
Goal 6: Humanities - <i>Humanistic Perspective</i>	6 credits	3 credits			
Goal 7: History - <i>Historical Perspective</i>	3 credits	--		--	--
Goal 8: Diversity courses - <i>Diversity and Cultural Awareness</i>	3 credits				
Unassigned General Education	--	6 credits		8 credits <i>*Note</i>	
TOTAL:	33	30		20	6

**Note – The 8 credits of Unassigned General Education must not exceed the category limits for the A.S. degree.*

Institutional Learning Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Written and Oral

Communication in English
Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

Goal 2: Mathematics

Students will use appropriate mathematical and statistical concepts and operations to interpret data and to solve problems.

Goal 3: Science

Students will use the scientific method of inquiry, through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.

Goal 4: Technology

Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.

Goal 5: Social Science

Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.

Goal 6: Humanities

Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

Goal 7: History

Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.

Goal 8:

Diversity and Global Perspective
Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.

Goal 9: Ethical Reasoning and Action

Students will understand ethical frameworks, issues, and situations.

Goal 10: Information Literacy

Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college-level work.

Goal 11: Critical Thinking

Students will use critical thinking skills to understand, analyze, or apply information or solve problems.



Approved general education courses are listed at www.mccc.edu/catalog/catalog_electives. Each degree and certificate program contains some courses from this list, either as specifically required courses or as electives to be chosen by the student in consultation with his or her academic advisor.

Consistent with State standards, there is greater emphasis on general education within Associate in Arts (A.A.) and Associate in Science (A.S.) transfer programs than within the more specialized Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.), Associate in Fine Arts (A.F.A.), and Certificate of Proficiency programs. The complete MCCC General Education Policy, with detailed Core Competencies and Goals, may be viewed at www.mccc.edu/gened.

Graduation

Commencement ceremonies take place each year in late May. Students who have graduated in the preceding January or are expecting to complete their requirements in the Spring or Summer terms are welcomed to participate. Those completing their requirements in the Summer term must be within 6 credits of completing their final course requirements and be registered for them by the deadline.

MCCC automatically verifies graduation readiness for all students matriculated in a degree program. After the end of a semester, a final certification determining degree eligibility takes place.

Students can submit a graduation application to have their progress reviewed. The submission deadline for review is one month prior to the end of the reporting term. Students who submit an application by the deadline and are missing requirements will be notified via email.

Students will be notified via email when their degree or certificate is confirmed. Questions may be directed to graduation@mccc.edu



Mercer County Community College

Outstanding Scholastic Achievement

Honors Convocation and Recognition Ceremonies

Students are eligible for achievement awards in academic disciplines and programs. Awards for graduating students are presented at an honors convocation ceremony in May. Awards for continuing students are presented at a recognition ceremony in the Fall. The donors of these awards enjoy meeting the student recipients at these events.

Graduation Honors

A candidate for graduation who earns a cumulative quality point average (QPA) of 3.50 to 3.79 graduates with Honors; one who earns a cumulative QPA of 3.80 to 3.89 graduates with High Honors; one who earns a cumulative QPA of 3.90 or higher graduates with Highest Honors. These honors citations are noted on the graduate's degree.

Academic Honor Lists

The President's Honor List and the Dean's Honor List are compiled each semester to recognize outstanding and superior scholastic achievement. These honors are recorded on the student's transcript.

Full-time students (12 credits or more) are considered for academic honors at the end of each Fall and Spring semester. To qualify for the President's Honor List, a student must have a 4.00 average. To qualify for the Dean's Honor List, a student must have a 3.2 quality point average or better, and no grades of D, F, or NC.

Honor Societies

Phi Theta Kappa, an international honor society founded in 1918 for community and junior colleges, has established the Alpha Theta Gamma chapter at Mercer County Community College. Students who meet strict academic requirements and are inducted into Phi Theta Kappa have opportunities in scholarship, leadership, service, and fellowship.

Alpha Mu Gamma, the national society for foreign languages, has established the Kappa Iota chapter at Mercer.



Programs of Study

The academic programs offered by Mercer County Community College include transfer programs that prepare students for entry into baccalaureate programs, and career programs that prepare students for immediate employment after graduation.

The terms “transfer” or “career” describe the primary objective of the program. Many transfer graduates are employed upon graduation. Many graduates of career programs successfully transfer to four-year colleges, with many of their MCCC credits being accepted.

General Education

Because Mercer is committed to promoting intellectual development, aesthetic appreciation, and cultural awareness, every program of study includes a general education component. General education focuses on reading analytically, communicating ideas clearly, solving problems, and developing a broad base of knowledge. Students develop analytical, synthetic/creative, and evaluative thinking; scientific reasoning; artistic response and expression; historical consciousness; cultural awareness; and sensitivity to the contemporary world.

For more specifics concerning Mercer’s general education policy, see page 30. Applicable courses are listed at www.mccc.edu/catalog/catalog_electives.

Transfer Programs (A.A., A.F.A., A.S.)

Transfer degree (A.A., A.F.A., or A.S.) programs enable students to enter the third year of baccalaureate study at four-year colleges. The largest student enrollments in transfer degree programs are in Liberal Arts, Business Administration, Education, Criminal Justice, and Nursing. Other transfer degree programs range from Architecture, Communication and Visual Arts to Culinary, Computer Science and Plant Science.

For many students, the transfer experience is made easier by “guaranteed transfer admission” and “program articulation” agreements between Mercer and other colleges. See page 16 for further details concerning transfer opportunities.



Career Programs (A.A.S.)

Career degree (A.A.S.) programs are designed to prepare graduates for entry-level employment in an occupation which requires both theoretical knowledge and practical skills. Mercer has A.A.S. programs as varied as Accounting, Aviation, Advanced Manufacturing Technology, Chef Apprenticeship, Radiography, Ornamental Horticulture, Microcomputer Systems Administration, Television, Funeral Service, and Digital Media Arts.

Certain programs – Entertainment Technology and Paralegal, for example – function both as transfer degree and career degree programs, with many graduates transferring to four-year programs and others finding employment. Many employed students use career programs to gain advanced positions in their chosen field or to change careers. Some other A.A.S. programs also provide a basis for transfer to four-year colleges; a student may lose credits, however, if he or she transfers to an unrelated program of study.

Certificate of Proficiency Programs

Mercer offers a number of certificate programs that provide training for specialized occupations. Certificate programs usually require 18 to 36 credits or their equivalent.

Full-time students can complete some certificate programs in one year, while part-time students take longer. Some certificate programs take three years to complete and are available only in the evening.

The Funeral Service certificate program provides training toward completion of the education requirements for professional licensure as a funeral director and requires an associate degree or equivalent for admission.

Other Non-Degree Choices

Many students take classes at Mercer without being enrolled in a particular degree or certificate program, categorized as follows:

- **Other College** - Students take courses at Mercer to fulfill program requirements at another college.
- **“Jump Start” College** - Qualified high school students earn college credits.
- **Personal Development** - Students take courses for other reasons. Advisors at each campus help non-degree students select courses.



Special Programs/Options

Honors Program

The Mercer Honors Program is an enriched college experience for highly motivated and intellectually curious students with a commitment to cultivating complex understanding and innovation in their academic work. It features smaller discussion-based seminar classes and creative laboratory experiences.

Through honors coursework, students join a community of engaged scholars. The Mercer Honors Program is not a separate college track or major. Students matriculate into an MCCC degree program and may take one or more honors courses each semester toward fulfillment of their general education and program requirements.

Students have access to a range of honors courses in biology, business and technology, chemistry, composition, humanities, mathematics, and social sciences.

For more information, visit www.mccc.edu/honors.



English as a Second Language

MCCC offers a comprehensive ESL credit program for students who are learning English as a foreign/second language. The credit courses emphasize speaking, listening, reading / critical thinking, academic writing, and grammar. Students who successfully complete the program are awarded an English Language Achievement Certificate.

Mercer County Community College also offers non-credit preparatory ESL courses through Community Education and Training at both campuses. An online TOEFL Prep Course is available for international students wishing to take the TOEFL iBT (Internet-based test).

Cooperative Education

Cooperative education integrates textbook and classroom learning with work experience. Several academic programs offer cooperative education components, affording many advantages to students able to earn an income while attending college and earn college credits for their work experiences. In addition, many graduates with such prior experience find employment easier to obtain.

A successful co-op experience requires careful delineation of learning objectives and employer willingness to support them. The college assists students in defining objectives and obtaining co-op positions.

Students interested in this learning approach should consult their academic advisor to determine if cooperative education is available in their particular program, and to obtain further details.



Governance

Boards and Commissions

Mercer County Community College operates within New Jersey's higher education system of county community colleges and four-year public and independent colleges and universities. The college is an autonomous institution with its own Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees of the college consists of 13 members. Eight trustees are appointed by Mercer County elected officials, two trustees are appointed by the Governor of New Jersey and one seat is held by the Mercer County Superintendent of Schools. Two trustees serve ex-officio: one is an elected representative of the alumni, the other is the President of the college, who is Secretary to the Board.

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MCCC Foundation

The MCCC Foundation is an independent nonprofit corporation whose purpose is to establish and carry out enrichment activities that support the mission of the college and the community it serves. The Foundation's volunteer board members are college ambassadors who seek to develop community understanding and support of the college, its programs and services. They help to identify, screen and cultivate contributors, and to solicit donations.

For further information, visit www.mccc.edu/foundation, phone (609) 570-3608, or e-mail foundation@mccc.edu. Donations may be sent to: MCCC Foundation, PO Box 17202, Trenton, NJ 08690. For online giving opportunities, visit www.mccc.edu/give.

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Faculty and Staff

Administrative Staff

Elizabeth Anderson – Dean, Institutional Effectiveness. B.A., Holy Family University; M.B.A., Saint Joseph's University; Ed.D., Wilmington University

Savita Bambhrolia – Dean, Enrollment Management and Student Experience. B.S., Delhi University; M.B.A., University of New Haven

Mark Banyacski – Executive Director, Financial and Accounting Services. B.A., Rutgers University; M.A., Upsala College

Barbara Basel – Vice President, Human Resources. B.S., University of Kansas; M.A., Rider University

Marvin Carter – Director; Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Human Resources. B.A., Seton Hall University; M.Ed., Bloomsburg University

Joseph Claffey – Vice President, College Advancement. B.A., Bucknell University

Tonia Perry Conley – Ombuds for Student and Campus Care. B.A., Spelman College; M.A., Eastern University; Ed.D., Delaware State University

Kevin Duffy – Dean; Math, Science, and Health Professions Division. B.S., Brooklyn College; B.S., M.S., Long Island University

Yvette Henry – Executive Director, Human Resources. A.A.S., Borough of Manhattan Community College; B.S., Virginia State University; B.S., Rutgers University

Robert Kleinschmidt – Dean, Liberal Arts Division. B.M., Youngstown State University; M.M., University of Northern Colorado; Ph.D., Colorado State University

Bryon Marshall – Executive Director, Facilities and College Safety. A.S., Burlington County College; B.S., The College of New Jersey; M.P.A., Rutgers University; J.D., Rutgers University

Erica Oliver – Executive Director, Marketing and Communications. B.A., Mini-MBA, Rutgers University; M.B.A., William Woods University

Gonzalo Perez – Assistant Vice President; Academic Affairs, Workforce Education and Innovation. B.S., M.S., Kean University; Ph.D., Pace University

Deborah Preston – President. B.A., M.A., Florida State University; Ph.D., Tulane University

Laura Schepps – Vice President, Finance and Administration. B.S., Rutgers University; M.B.A., New York University

Robert Schreyer – Vice President, Academic Affairs. B.S., Rutgers University; DPT, New York University

Inder Singh – Vice President, Information Technology / Chief Information Officer. B.S., Delhi University; M.B.A., Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Laura Sosa – Dean; Business, Technology, and Professional Studies Division. B.A., M.B.A., Rutgers University

James Whitney III – Assistant Vice President, Academic Affairs. B.S., MSW, Ed.D., Rutgers University

Professional Staff

Rafael Agliata – Instructor, Career Training Institute; Community Education and Training. B.A., Montclair State University

Kristen Alestra – Counselor, Counseling and Wellness Center. B.A., SUNY at New Paltz; M.A., Rutgers University

Latonya Ashford Ligon – Director, Center for Retention and Completion. B.A., University of Delaware; M.A., Rider University; Ed.D., Rowan University

Marinela Barbu – Systems Analyst, Information Technology Services. A.A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.S., Craiova University (Romania)

Andrea Bash – Program Coordinator, Center for Continuing Studies. B.S., University of Delaware

Shan Bercaw – Program Coordinator, Center for Continuing Studies. B.S., Ithaca College; M.S., American University

Richard Bianco – Manager, Application Services; Information Technology Services. B.S., The Cooper Union; M.S., New York University

Floyd Bledsoe – Media Center Technician, Information Technology Services. A.A.S., Mercer County Community College

Lisa Bogdziewicz – Coordinator, Nontraditional and Transfer Student Recruitment. B.A., The College of New Jersey; M.A., Rider University

Dominic Bowman – Student Development Specialist, Educational Opportunity Fund. B.S., Montclair State University; M.A., Rider University

Kimberley Bowser – Senior Coordinator, Enrollment and Student Services, James Kerney Campus. B.S., Drexel University

Elizabeth Bristia – Counselor, GEAR UP; Youth College. B.A., Montclair State University

Alyssa Brown – Education Specialist, VIP Program; Youth College. B.A., Kean University

Peggy Brown – Director, Educational Talent Search; Youth College. B.S., The College of New Jersey; M.A., Thomas Edison State University

Lucia Brown-Joseph – Director, Student Accounts; Financial and Accounting Services. B.S., York College, CUNY; M.B.A., Anderson University

Erin Cahill-Wetzel – Coordinator, Sports Information; Athletics. B.A., M.Ed., The College of New Jersey

Daniel Calandro – Digital Resources Librarian, Library Services. B.A., Marist College; M.L.I.S., Rutgers University

Ha Nguyen Cao – Accountant, Financial and Accounting Services. A.A., Mercer County Community College; B.A., University of Houston

Frederick Carella – Coordinator, Athlete Academic Compliance; Athletics. B.A., The College of New Jersey

Marcia Carpino – Membership Manager, WWFM The Classical Network. A.A., Mercer County Community College

Jared Carter – Director, Enterprise Applications; Information Technology Services. B.A., Thomas Edison State University

William Chyzik – Manager, Operations and Training; Mercer County Fire Academy

Amy Collins – Coordinator, Testing and Analysis; Academic Testing Center. B.A., Hamilton College

Dawn Cook – Laboratory Operations Coordinator, Biology Department. A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.A., Rider University

Jeffrey Cooper – Registrar, Student Records. B.A., Rutgers University

Esveidy Cornely – Education Specialist, English Language Institute. B.A., University of Vera Cruz

Christopher Corrato – Advisor, Financial Aid. B.A., LaSalle University

Rafael Cortes, Jr. – Manager, Network and Technical Services; Information Technology Services. A.A.S., Mercer County Community College

Dominic Cuccia – Manager, Records and Information Management; Information Technology Services. B.A., Stockton University; M.B.A., University of Phoenix

Anthony Culpepper – Director, GEAR UP; Youth College. B.A., Rutgers University; M.S., New Jersey Institute of Technology

Widmarc Dalce – Coordinator, Student Services / Men's Soccer Coach; Athletics and Student Development. A.A., Mercer County Community College; B.A., American International College

Stacy Denton – Director, Upward Bound; Youth College. B.A., Rowan University; M.S., Grand Canyon University

Joseph DePalma – Account Executive, Mercer Institute of Management & Technology Training. B.A., Montclair State University

Lori Diecidue – Office Administrator and Graphic Artist, Marketing and Communications. A.A., Ocean County College

Tatiana Dodge – Director, Development and Alumni Relations. A.A., Mercer County Community College; B.A., Rider University

Darius Dove – Associate Director, New Jersey Youth Corps. B.A., Temple University

Nwasha Edu – Education Specialist, Community Education and Training. B.A., Florida International University; M.H.S., Lincoln University



Vicente Erazo – Assistant Director, MercerOnline. A.S., Mercer County Community College

Yasir Faheem – Network Administrator, Information Technology Services. A.A.S., Mercer County Community College

Al-Lateef Farmer – Director, Educational Opportunity Fund

Letrice Feliciano – Coordinator, Career Development and Mentoring. A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.S., Thomas Edison State College

Rose Fiorello – Coordinator, Fitness Center and Recreational Services. A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.S., Rider University

Kimberly Fisher – Case Manager, Center for Adult Transition; Center for Accessibility Resources. B.A., Ashford University

Timothy Fitzpatrick – Web Developer, Marketing and Communications

Bernard Foyuth – Coordinator, Tutoring Centers; Innovation, Online Education and Student Success. B.A., Bard College; M.F.A., University of Iowa

Edward Frader – Senior Technical Support Analyst, Information Technology Services. A.A.S., Mercer County Community College

Christopher Freihaut – Coordinator, Dual Enrollment / OMIC Grant. B.A., Stockton University

Alyson Fry – Coordinator, Freshman Recruitment and Pre-College Programs; Enrollment Management and Student Experience. B.S., Rutgers University; M.S., Monmouth University

Kayla Garrett – Coordinator, Student Records and Intake Registration; Student Records. B.S., Ferris State University; B.S., Rutgers University; M.A., University of South Dakota

Danielle Garruba – Director, Student Life and Leadership. A.A., Mercer County Community College; B.A., M.A., Rider University

Marguerite Kitty Getlik – Manager, Kelsey Theatre. B.A., Temple University

Edwin Griffith – Success Coach, Center for Retention and Completion. B.A., M.Ed., The College of New Jersey

Jenna Hampton – HRIS Coordinator / Generalist, Human Resources. B.A., M.A., Rutgers University

Stacie-Anne Hannawacker – Director, Registration and Youth Programs; Division of Lifelong Learning.

Cedric Harris – Head Chef, Conference Center. A.S., The Restaurant School at Walnut Hill College; B.A., Georgetown University

Tonia Harrison – Assistant Director, User Services; Information Technology Services. A.S., Mercer County Community College

Courtney Herrick – Accounting Manager, Financial and Accounting Services. B.S., M.B.A., Rider University

Nicole Hover – Interim Director, Recruitment and Enrollment; Enrollment Management and Student Experience. A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.S., East Stroudsburg University

Le Var Hylton – Associate Director, Learning Centers and Testing Centers

Anijah Jackson – Education Specialist, Educational Talent Search; Youth College. B.A., Kean University

Joshua Johnson – Director, Facilities and Office Services

Jennifer Juran – Assistant to the Dean, Liberal Arts Division. A.A., Mercer County Community College; B.A., The College of New Jersey

Jennifer Kaklamanis – Account Executive, Mercer Institute of Management & Technology Training. B.A., Temple University; M.S., Fordham University

Rachel Katz – Production Manager, WWFM The Classical Network. B.A., University of Connecticut; M.A., University of Michigan

Bradley Kent – Web and Print Editor, Marketing and Communications. B.A., Rider University

Nichol Killian – Assistant to the Dean; Math, Science, and Health Professions Division. B.A., Saint Joseph's University; M.A., Wayne State University; M.S., Thomas Jefferson University; Ph.D., Wilmington University

Moses Kim – Research/Systems Analyst, Institutional Effectiveness. B.S., Sungkyunkwan University; B.S., Rutgers University

Steven Kitchen – Senior Technical Support Analyst, Information Technology Services. AST, Brightwood Career Institute

Kencis Kleinschmidt – Senior Coordinator, Military and Veterans Services. B.A., University of Northern Colorado; M.A., Concordia University

Shannon Krause – Campus Scheduling Coordinator, Academic Affairs. B.S., Salisbury University

Yannick Ladson – Senior Counselor, Counseling and Wellness Center. B.A., Fairleigh Dickinson University; M.A., Montclair State University; Ed.D., Argosy University

Jenna Lawson – Special Projects Specialist, Development and Alumni Relations. B.A., West Virginia University

Ashley Leon-Van – Library Technician, Library Services. B.S., Stockton University

Caroline Lippincott – Event Coordinator / Banquet Captain, Conference Center. B.S., Rowan University

Keir Livingston – Associate Director / Athletic Trainer, Athletics. B.S., M.S., Kean University

Edith Lopez – Accountant, Financial and Accounting Services

Nicholas Lucarelli – Graphic Designer, Marketing and Communications

Monica Maldonado – Coordinator, Kerney Campus Testing and Learning Center. A.A.S., Mercer County Community College

Jill Marcus – Program Manager, Innovative Learning Solutions; Innovation, Online Education and Student Success. B.S., Lehigh University; M.B.A., Drexel University

Adelina Marini – Academic Systems Administrator, Academic Affairs. B.A., B.A., Rutgers University; M.A., William Paterson University

Irwin Marks – Technical Support Analyst, Information Technology Services. A.S., Mercer County Community College

Michael Martin – Director, College Safety. B.S., New Jersey City University; M.A., Seton Hall University

Tashell Martin – Education Specialist, Educational Talent Search; Youth College. B.A., Rowan University

Nicholas Mastalesz – Technical Coordinator, Kelsey Theatre. A.A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.A., Montclair State University; M.M., New York University

Jeby Mathew – Operations Manager, Human Resources. B.A., Nagpur University; M.S., Nagpur University

Nina May – Senior Director, Institutional Effectiveness. M.S., Maharaja Sayajirao University

James McCann – Senior Director, Mercer County Fire Academy. A.A., Brookdale Community College; B.A., Rutgers University

Cheryl McCormick – Budget Manager, Financial and Accounting Services. B.S., M.B.A., Rutgers University

Sherri McIntyre – Associate Director, Purchasing. B.A., Penn State University; M.S., New York Institute of Technology

Emanuel Medina – Interim Success Coach, Center for Retention and Completion. A.A., Mercer County Community College; B.A., Rutgers University

Theresa Melendez – Success Coach, Center for Retention and Completion. B.A., M.A., Rider University

Delia Mercene – Grants Accountant, Financial and Accounting Services. B.S., University of Philippines

Elizabeth Mizerek – Director, Nursing program; Math, Science, and Health Professions Division. A.S., Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center School of Nursing / Union County College; B.S., Rutgers University; M.S., University of Phoenix

Robert Monegro – Director, Customer Service Operations; Information Technology Services. B.S., Lehman College, CUNY; M.S., St. John's University

Jonathan Moore – Technical Support Analyst, Information Technology Services. A.A., A.A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.A., The College of New Jersey

Audrey Mostrowski – Benefits Coordinator / Generalist, Human Resources. B.S., Rider University; M.S., University of Bridgeport

Trisha Muka – Associate Director, Financial Aid. A.A., Mercer County Community College; B.A., M.A., Rider University

Jessica Mulkey – Director, Division of Lifelong Learning

Andre Munford – Technical Support Analyst, Information Technology Services. B.S., Drexel University

Florin Neagu – Systems and Applications Administrator, Information Technology Services. A.S., A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.S., Dequesne University



Cheryl Neilson – Accountant, Financial and Accounting Services.

A.S., Burlington County College; B.A., Rutgers University

Olivia Nellums – Acquisitions Librarian, Library Services. B.A.,

Northwestern University; M.S.L.I.S., Syracuse University

Jonathan Ng – Director, Financial Aid. B.S., M.A., New Jersey City University

Mary Ann Norcross – Senior Technical Laboratory Operations Coordinator, Biology Department. B.A., Rutgers University; M.T. (ASCP), Monmouth Medical Center

Rob Obermeier – Analyst; Innovation, Online Education and Student Success. B.A., Syracuse University; M.A., Webster University

Susan Onaitis – Manager, DREAM Program and Ancillary Support Services; Center for Accessibility Resources. B.S., M.Ed., Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh

Kerri O'Neill – Coordinator, Visual Arts. B.F.A., University of Delaware; M.F.A., Penn State University

Chinaza Onyile – Instructional Designer, Online Education and Student Success. B.A., MSW, Rutgers University

David Osenberg – Music Director, WWFM The Classical Network. B.M., Concordia College; M.M., Northwestern University

Lois Owen – Laboratory Operations Coordinator, Biology Department. B.A., West Chester University

Theresa Palughi – Grant Accounting Officer, Financial and Accounting Services. B.S., Montclair State University

Deborah Paone – Senior Purchasing Agent, Purchasing. B.S., Georgian Court University; M.Acc, Rutgers University

Athena Patway – Coordinator, Transfer Services. B.A., M.A., Stony Brook University

Carolina Perez – Advisor, Financial Aid. A.S., Mercer County Community College

Michelle Pierson – Success Coach, Center for Retention and Completion. B.S., The College of New Jersey; M.A., Rider University

Clifford Pollard – Second Shift Manager, College Safety

Anastasia Price – Aviation Administrative Coordinator; Business, Technology, and Professional Studies Division. B.S., Rutgers University

Darren Price – Conference Center Technician, Information Technology Services. B.A., William Paterson University

Pamela Price – Director, Library Services. B.S., North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University; M.S., University of Wisconsin

Steven Quattro – Director, Purchasing. B.S., Rutgers University; M.B.A., Ashford University

Andrew Quinn – Senior Chief Pilot, Aviation program; Business, Technology, and Professional Studies Division. B.S., Thomas Edison State University

Denise Ratti – Grants Director, Academic Affairs. B.S., Rutgers University; M.B.A., Rider University

Jordan Reeder – Project Manager, Information Technology Services. B.F.A., Rider University

Christine Reid – Assistant Director, Student Accounts; Financial and Accounting Services. A.A.S., Mercer County Community College

Nina Rogers – Analyst / LMS Administrator; Innovation, Online Education and Student Success. B.A., Temple University; M.S., LaSalle University

Travis Rogers – Coordinator, HealthWorks Grant; Division of Lifelong Learning. B.S., Nyack College

Elizabeth Rzasz – Assistant to the Dean; Business, Technology, and Professional Studies Division. B.M., Montclair State University

Anna-Graciela Samayoa – Assistant Director of Enrollment and Eligibility, Educational Opportunity Fund. B.A., Roman University; M.S.W., University of Pittsburgh

Steven Schreiber – Social Media and Communications Specialist, Marketing and Communications. B.M., Berklee College of Music

Heather Smith – Reference and Information Literacy Librarian, Library Services. B.A., M.L.I.S., University of North Carolina; M.S., Fort Hays State University

Jonathan Sofo – Senior Purchasing Agent, Purchasing. B.A., The College of New Jersey

Todd Sparks – Manager, College Safety. A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.S.B.A., Rider University; M.A., Seton Hall University

Lavanya Srinath – Access Services Librarian, Library Services. A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.A., Thomas Edison State University; M.L., Rutgers University

Arlene Stinson – Director, Center for Accessibility Resources. B.A., Queens College, CUNY; M.S., Yeshiva University

Eric Testerman – Coordinator, Military and Veterans Services. A.S., Community College of the Air Force; B.A., American Military University

Diamond Thompson – Retention Specialist, Educational Opportunity Fund. B.S., Montclair State University; M.A., Rider University

David Valentino – Chief Electronics Engineer, Information Technology Services. A.A.S., Mercer County Community College

Kimyata Valere – Academic Advisor, Upward Bound; Youth College. B.S., Rider University; Ph.D., Rutgers University

Jami Van Exel – Disbursements Manager, Financial and Accounting Services

Aparna Vira – Coordinator, Registration Services; Division of Lifelong Learning. A.A.S., Raritan Valley Community College

Stephen Waniak – Advisor, Financial Aid. B.A., Boston College

Lisa Ward – Learning Disabilities Specialist, Center for Accessibility Resources. A.A., Mercer County Community College; B.S., Rutgers University; M.A., CUNY School of Professional Studies

Charles Weatherspoon – Coordinator, Student Services; Educational Opportunity Fund. A.A., Mercer County Community College; B.A., Rutgers University; M.A., Rider University

Alice Weiss Miller – Station Manager / Program Director, WWFM The Classical Network. B.Mus. Ed., James Madison University

Jane Westfall – Accountant, Financial and Accounting Services. B.A., Gettysburg College

Leroy Wilkerson – Academic Counselor, Center for Retention and Completion. A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.S., Kean University

Stefanie Williams – Student Advocate, Educational Opportunity Fund. B.S., Virginia Union University

Ryan Zegarski – Assistant Director, Athletics. A.A., Mercer County Community College; B.A., Stockton University

Faculty

Geralda Aldajuste – Assistant Professor, Funeral Service. B.A., College of Saint Elizabeth; M.Div., Drew University

Carlo Alfare – Professor, Chemistry. B.S., M.S., Stevens Institute of Technology

Desiree Allison – Assistant Professor, Nursing. B.S., Felician University; M.S., Thomas Edison State University

Kyle Anderson – Associate Professor, Mathematics. B.S., M.A., Temple University

Guy Armour – Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice. B.A., Thomas Edison State University; MAS, Fairleigh Dickinson University

Edward Avery-Natale – Associate Professor, Sociology. B.A., Bloomsburg University; M.F.A., Ph.D., Temple University

Amy Bauer-Sinicin – Assistant Professor, Accounting. B.S., M.B.A., Monmouth University

Alison Becker-Moses – Professor, Mathematics. A.A., Ocean County College; B.A., M.A., Georgian Court University; M.S., Wilkes University

Frank Benowitz, CHE – Assistant Professor, Hospitality Management. A.A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.S., Thomas Edison State University; M.S., Fairleigh Dickinson University

Harry Bittner – Assistant Professor, Electronics Engineering Technology. A.A., A.A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.A., Rowan University; B.S., New Jersey Institute of Technology; M.S.Ed., University of New England

Laura Blinderman – Professor, Biology. B.S., University of Massachusetts; M.S., San Diego State University

Carol Denise Bork – Professor, English. B.A., Pomona College; Ph.D., Rutgers University

Bettina Roth Caluori – Professor, English. B.A., Williams College; M.A., Ph.D., University of California, Santa Barbara



- Mitchell Canter** – Associate Professor, Communication / Audio Production. A.A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.A., Thomas Edison State University; M.S., Full Sail University
- Theresa Capra** – Professor, Education. B.A., Hunter College; M.A., Teachers College; M.S., Pace University; Ph.D., Concordia University Chicago
- Edward Carmien** – Professor, English. B.A., Antioch College; M.A., M.F.A., Ph.D., Bowling Green State University
- Katie Carnevale** – Assistant Professor, Communication. B.S., Sacred Heart University; M.S., Syracuse University
- Elizabeth Carr** – Associate Professor, Mathematics. B.A., Rutgers University; M.B.A., Monmouth University; M.A., Georgian Court University
- Sarmite Catalfomo** – Assistant Professor, Nursing. A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.S., M.S., Thomas Edison State University
- Michael Chovan-Dalton** – Professor, Photography. B.F.A., School of Visual Arts; M.F.A., Columbia University
- Craig Coenen** – Professor, History. B.A., University of Wisconsin – Green Bay; M.A., Lehigh University; Ph.D., Lehigh University
- Cavit Cooley** – Professor, Criminal Justice. A.S., Lake Land College; B.S., M.A., Western Illinois University
- Christopher Cruz-Cullari** – Faculty, English Reading. B.A., M.A., New Jersey City University
- Eva Csige** – Associate Professor, Business Administration / Business Studies. A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.A., Rutgers University; M.B.A., Drexel University
- Michael Daley** – Assistant Professor, Funeral Service. A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.A., York College of Pennsylvania; M.A., Queen's University Belfast
- Daniel D'Arpa** – Professor, Spanish. B.A., Stockton University; M.A., Florida State University; Ph.D., Temple University
- Brendan Davis** – Clinical Coordinator / Instructor, Medical Laboratory Technology. B.S., Fairleigh Dickinson University; B.S., University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
- Michael DeAngelis** – Faculty/Coordinator, Health and Physical Education. B.S., East Stroudsburg University; M.Ed., The College of New Jersey
- Elizabeth DeGiorgio** – Associate Professor, Education / Psychology. B.A., Mercy College; M.S., Fordham University
- Christopher dePagnier** – Associate Professor, Hotel Restaurant and Institution Management. B.A., Rowan University
- Michael Dorneman** – Professor, Chemistry. B.S., Pennsylvania State University; M.S., Saint Joseph's University
- Barbara Dudycz** – Instructor, Automotive Technology. A.A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.S., Rutgers University
- Lisa Dunn** – Professor, Nursing. A.S., Mercer County Community College; Nursing Diploma, St. Francis Medical Center; B.S.N., Thomas Edison State University; M.S.N./Ed., University of Phoenix; Ed.D., Rowan University
- Jason Evans** – Associate Professor, Automotive Technology. A.A.S., B.S., Pennsylvania College of Technology; M.Ed., Lehigh University
- Linda Falkow** – Professor, Biology. B.A., University of Delaware; M.S., University of Akron
- Douglas Fee** – Professor, Hospitality. A.A., Brookdale Community College; A.O.S., Culinary Institute of America; B.S., University of New Haven; M.S.M., Thomas Edison State University
- Yevgeniy Fiks** – Professor, Visual Arts. B.F.A., Brooklyn College; M.F.A., School of Visual Arts
- Jamie Beth Fleischner** – Professor, Mathematics. B.A., Rutgers University; M.A., DePaul University
- Raymond Forte** – Assistant Professor, Nursing. B.A., Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; M.S.N., Grantham University
- Meimei Gao** – Professor, Computer Science / Programming. B.S., M.S., Northwestern Polytechnic University; Ph.D., Shanghai Jiao Tong University; Ph.D., New Jersey Institute of Technology
- Jody Gazenbeek-Person** – Professor, Theatre / Dance. B.A., State University of New York at Purchase; M.F.A., Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University
- Ellen Genovesi** – Professor, Biology. B.S., The College of New Jersey; M.S., Rutgers University
- Ric Giantisco** – Instructor, Digital Media Arts. B.F.A., The College of New Jersey; M.S., New York University
- Deborah Greer** – Assistant Professor, Radiography. B.S., Holy Family University; M.Ed., Widener University
- Nicole Hall** – Assistant Professor, English as a Second Language. B.A., Washington College; M.S., Texas A&M University
- Barbara Hamilton** – Professor, English. B.A., Carleton College; M.A., Ph.D., Rutgers University
- Michael Hanna** – Assistant Professor, Advanced Manufacturing Technology. B.S., The American University of Cairo; M.S., Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Arts et Métiers
- Alvyn Haywood** – Professor, Communication. B.A., St. Andrews College; M.Div., Princeton Theological Seminary
- Padhraig Higgins** – Professor, History. B.A., Trinity College, Dublin University; M.A., Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University
- Diane Hilker** – Professor, Biology. M.T. (ASCP), Jersey Shore Medical Center; B.S., Rutgers University; M.S., Seton Hall University
- Nicole Homer** – Professor, English. A.A.S., Brookdale Community College; B.A., Georgian Court University; M.A., Seton Hall University; M.F.A., Rutgers University
- Scott Hornick** – Associate Professor, Music. B.M., Berklee College of Music; M.M., New York University
- Kenneth Howarth** – Professor, Philosophy. A.B., Davidson College; M.A.L.A., M.A.E.C., St. John's College; M.A., Claremont Graduate University
- Jingrong Huang** – Professor, Physics. M.S., University of California, Irvine; Ph.D., Columbia University
- Denise Ingram** – Associate Professor, Sociology. A.A., Bronx Community College; B.A., Manhattanville College; M.A., City University of New York
- Heather Jennings** – Professor, Psychology. A.A., Ocean County Community College; B.A., Rutgers University; M.A., Columbia University; Ph.D., Temple University
- Holly-Katharine Johnson** – Professor, English / Journalism. B.A., Cornell University; M.F.A., Vermont College of the Union Institute and University
- Holly Kaiser** – Professor, Physical Therapist Assistant. B.S., M.S., Quinnipiac University; DPT, University of St. Augustine
- John T. Kalinowski** – Professor, Health / Physical Education. B.S., The College of New Jersey; M.S., Georgia Southern University
- Eve Karpinski** – Assistant Professor, Nursing. B.S.N., Thomas Edison State University; M.A.N., New York University
- Lucas Kelly** – Professor, Fine Arts. B.F.A., Maryland Institute College of Art; M.F.A., Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University
- Sandra Kerr** – Professor, Radiography. B.S., Fairleigh Dickinson University; M.A., Rider University
- Framarz Khoushab** – Professor, Economics. B.A., National University, Teheran, Iran; M.A., Wayne State University; M.A., University of Pennsylvania
- Rachael Klaus** – Assistant Professor, Biology. B.S., University of Massachusetts; M.S., Rutgers University
- Matthew Kochis** – Associate Professor, English / Journalism. B.A., University of Scranton; M.A., Seton Hall University; Ph.D., University of Tulsa
- Tina LaPlaca** – Professor, Advertising/Graphic Design. A.A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.F.A., Moore College of Art; M.A., Syracuse University
- Deanna Lawson** – Assistant Professor, Aviation. B.S., M.S., Liberty University
- Florence Lee** – Associate Professor, Nursing. A.S., Mercer County Community College; M.S.N., University of Delaware
- Barry Levy** – Professor, Television and Film. B.A., Muhlenberg College; M.S., Lehigh University
- Katina Lindsay** – Assistant Professor, Fashion Design. B.S., University of Maryland; M.S., M.B.A., Philadelphia University
- Andrea Lynch** – Professor, Business and Technology; Coordinator, Center for Global Opportunities. B.A., Rutgers University; M.B.A., Rider University; Ed.D., University of Pennsylvania
- James Maccariella, Jr.** – Professor, Engineering Science / Civil Engineering Technology. B.S., B.S., M.S., Drexel University; Ph.D., Old Dominion University



Winston Maddox – Professor, Information Technology. B.A., University of Hartford; M.A., Bowling Green State University; Ph.D., Antioch University

Alix Melchionna – Assistant Professor, Aviation. B.S., M.S., Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University; M.B.A., Jacksonville University

John Nadig – Professor, Mathematics. B.S., Kutztown University; M.A., The College of New Jersey

Patrick Natale – Assistant Professor, Biology. B.S., Rutgers University; M.S., University of Nebraska

Queen Okike – Associate Professor, Information Technology. A.S., Berkshire Community College; B.S., M.S., Northeastern University; Ed.D., Nova Southeastern University

Eirini Papafratzeskakou – Associate Professor, Psychology. B.S., Old Dominion University; M.S., Virginia Tech University; Ph.D., Virginia Tech University

Betty Peterson – Professor, Mathematics. A.S., Gloucester County College; B.A., M.S., Rutgers University

Richard Porter – Professor, Mathematics. B.S., M.S., M.S., Rutgers University

Amy Ricco – Professor, Horticulture / Plant Science. A.A.S., SUNY at Morrisville; B.S., M.A.T., Cornell University

Daniel Rose – Professor, Mathematics. B.A., M.S., Ph.D., Lehigh University

Jonathan Rowe – Professor, Paralegal Business Studies. B.M., Berklee College of Music; J.D.-M.B.A., LL.M., Temple University

Erin Rybicki – Associate Professor, Legal Studies. B.A., Rowan University; M.Ed., Widener University; J.D., Delaware Law School; DBA, Thomas Edison State University

Tracy Scaletti – Assistant Professor, Nursing. A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.S., M.S., Drexel University

Daniel Schermond – Associate Professor, Sociology. B.A., Rutgers University; M.A., Ph.D., Temple University

Sharmila Sen – Professor, English. M.A., Jadavpore University, India

Charlene Sharkey – Professor, Mathematics. A.A., Ocean County College; B.A., B.S., Kutztown University; M.S., Montclair State University; Ph.D., American University

Lisa Shave – Instructor/Coordinator, Medical Laboratory Technology. B.S., University of Delaware; M.S., Rush University

Ronald Smith – Professor, Biology. B.S., Pennsylvania State University; M.S., Ph.D., Drexel University

Kyle Stevenson – Professor, Fine Arts. B.A., Houghton College; M.F.A., University of Delaware

Rubana Syed – Assistant Professor, Economics / Statistics. B.B.A., Independent University; M.B.A., Heriot-Watt University; M.A., Rutgers University

Jack Tabor – Professor, English. B.A., M.A., Ph.D., University of California

Helen Tanzini – Professor, Chemistry. B.A., M.S., Rutgers University

Jacqueline Vogtman – Associate Professor, English. B.A., The College of New Jersey; M.F.A., Bowling Green State University

Terry Voldase – Associate Professor, Business Administration / Computer Science. B.S., M.S., New Jersey Institute of Technology

Amy Vondrak – Professor, English. A.B., University of Michigan; M.A., North Carolina State University; Ph.D., Syracuse University

Steven Voorhees – Professor, Television / Digital Film / New Media. B.A., Rider University; M.A., Temple University; Ph.D., Rutgers University

Douglas Wangombe – Assistant Professor, Mathematics. B.Ed., Kenyatta University; M.S., West Chester University; M.S., Saint Joseph's University

Michael Welliver – Professor, Ceramics / Sculpture. A.A.S., Mercer County Community College; B.A., Thomas Edison State University; M.A., Kean University

Dylan Wolfe – Professor, Communication. B.S., M.S., SUNY at Syracuse; Ph.D., University of Georgia

Shaining Wu – Assistant Professor, Computer Science. B.S., City College of New York; M.S., Columbia University

Wan-Ning Yeh – Assistant Professor, English as a Second Language. B.A., Providence University (Taiwan); M.A., Ph.D., Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Mauro Zamora – Associate Professor, Digital Media Arts. M.F.A., Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

Faculty Emeriti

Steven S. Ahn – Professor Emeritus, Economics / Statistics (1974-2002).

B.A., Dan Kuk College; M.A., New School for Social Research
Nathan Albert – Associate Professor Emeritus, English. B.A., City College of New York; M.A., Rutgers University

Diane W. Armington, M.T. – Associate Professor Emeritus, Medical Laboratory Technology (1972-1992). B.A., University of Buffalo; M.A.T., The College of New Jersey

Irving Ashkenazy – Professor Emeritus, Electrical Engineering Technology (1968-2004). B.S.E.E., Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute; B.A., City College of New York; M.S.E.E., Rutgers University

Joseph P. Balabon – Associate Professor Emeritus, Information Systems, Business (1970-1999). B.S., Drexel Institute of Technology

Barbara J. Behrens – Professor Emeritus, Physical Therapist Assistant (1996-2020). A.A.S., Union County College; B.S., Rutgers University; M.S., Capella University

Michael A. Beihl – Associate Professor Emeritus, ESL / Foreign Language Learning Center (1987-2021). A.A., Bucks County Community College; A.S., Gwynedd-Mercy College; B.A., Temple University; M.A., La Salle University

Ellen A. Benowitz – Professor Emeritus, Business (1972-2013). B.A., M.Ed., The College of New Jersey

Janet R. Bickal – Professor Emeritus, English (1970-1995). B.A., Connecticut College; M.A., Columbia University

Joseph Blasenstein – Professor Emeritus, Aviation and Flight Technology (1984-2010). B.S., Pennsylvania State University; Ed.M., Temple University

Doreen A. Carnvale – Professor Emeritus, Nursing. B.S.N., The College of New Jersey; M.S.N., University of Pennsylvania

Patricia A. Carr – Professor Emeritus, Counseling / Communication (1973-2005). B.S., The College of New Jersey; M.Ed., University of Massachusetts

Bruce R. Chorba – Professor Emeritus, Biology (1972-2012). B.A., Ripon College; M.S., University of Illinois

George L. Colnaghi – Professor Emeritus, Psychology (1974-2007). B.S., Pennsylvania State University; M.A., Ph.D., Princeton University

W. David Crawford – Assistant Professor Emeritus, Computer Aided Design (1970-2004). B.S., California State College

Frances S. Davidson – Professor Emeritus, English. B.A., Douglass College; M.Ed., Rutgers University

Marilyn L. Dietrich, R.A. – Professor Emeritus, Architecture (1971-2012). B.Arch., Carnegie-Mellon University

HelenMarie Dolton, R.N. – Professor Emeritus, Nursing (1967-1992). B.S.N., Georgetown University; M.S., Saint John's University

Jennifer Ann Dowd – Professor Emeritus, Business (1969-2005). B.S., Columbia University; M.Ed., Rutgers University; Ed.D., Nova Southeastern University

Judith A. Ehresman – Professor Emeritus, Business (1985-2012). B.A., Holy Family University; M.A., Temple University

Margaret H. Fink, R.N. – Associate Professor Emeritus, Nursing (1975-2008). A.A.S., Felician University; B.S., William Paterson University; M.A., New York University

W. James Franklin – Professor Emeritus, English (1968-2007). B.A., SUNY at Oswego; M.A., Hofstra University

Donna J. Goldstein – Associate Professor Emeritus, Mathematics (1989-2007). B.S., Boston University; M.A., Teachers College, Columbia University

Vera H. Goodkin – Professor Emeritus, French / English (1963-1997). B.A., Syracuse University; M.A., New York University; Ed.D., Rutgers University

Leslie S. Grunes – Professor Emeritus, Mathematics / Computer Science (1967-2017). B.S., Pennsylvania State University; M.S., Rutgers University; M.A., Temple University

Martha D. Gunning – Assistant Professor Emeritus, Counseling (1977-2020). B.S., Tennessee State University; M.Ed., The College of New Jersey

Peter P. Horne – Professor Emeritus, Criminal Justice (1981-2009). B.A., Queens College, CUNY; M.S., California State University; Ph.D., The Graduate School and University Center, CUNY

June Jarman – Associate Professor Emeritus, English / Speech. B.A., Pennsylvania State University; M.A., University of North Carolina

Laurene S. Jones – Professor Emeritus, Counseling (1976-2020). B.A., SUNY at Buffalo; M.Ed., The College of New Jersey

Deborah E. Kell – Professor Emeritus, Mathematics (1986-2012). B.A., Rowan University; M.Ed., The College of New Jersey



- James J. Kelly** – Professor Emeritus, Music (1994-2015). B.A., Swarthmore College; M.M., New England Conservatory of Music
- Carl J. Kovelowski** – Professor Emeritus, Management / Marketing / Economics (1967-2013). B.S., Rider University; M.A., The College of New Jersey; Ed.D., Nova Southeastern University
- Jerry Kuhl** – Professor Emeritus, Aviation (1989-2017). B.Mus., M.Mus., Juilliard School of Music
- John E. Kulpa** – Professor Emeritus, Music (1968-2001). B.A., The College of New Jersey; M.A., Certificate of Advanced Study in Education, New York University; Ed.D., Rutgers University
- David Leeb** – Associate Professor Emeritus, English (1971-2007). A.B., A.M., New York University
- Melvin D. Leipzig** – Professor Emeritus, Painting / Art History (1968-2013). Certificate, The Cooper Union; B.F.A., Yale University; M.F.A., Pratt University
- Alfred E. Leister** – Professor Emeritus, Mathematics / Physical Education (1970-2006). B.S., Lock Haven State College; M.S., Pennsylvania State University
- Elizabeth H. Liu**, R.N. – Professor Emeritus, Nursing (1968-1993). B.S., National Szechwan University; B.S.N., College of Mount Saint Joseph; M.Ed., University of Illinois
- Virginia A. Lucas**, R.N. – Professor Emeritus, Nursing (1969-2007). B.S.N., M.S.N., University of Pennsylvania; M.Ed., Columbia University
- John M. Makonie** – Associate Professor Emeritus, English (1986-2016). B.A., California State University; M.A., Princeton Theological Seminary
- Ronald T. McCall** – Professor Emeritus, Mathematics (1974-2005). B.A., University of Maryland; M.A., Rider University
- Angela P. McGlynn** – Professor Emeritus, Psychology (1971-2006). B.A., Rutgers University; M.A., Temple University
- Regina A. Mezei** – Professor Emeritus, English as a Second Language (1981-2007). B.A., Douglass College; M.A., Ph.D., Fordham University
- Donna R. Munde** – Professor Emeritus, Communication (1986-2012). B.A., SUNY at Potsdam; M.A., SUNY at Albany; M.C.I.S., Rutgers University
- Judith W. Nygard** – Professor Emeritus, English (1988-2012). B.A., Augustana College; M.A., University of Arkansas; M.S., Georgetown University
- Jane A. O'Reilly**, M.T. – Associate Professor Emeritus, Medical Laboratory Technology (1992-2013). B.S., University of Rhode Island; M.Ed., The College of New Jersey
- Theodore W. Otten, Jr.** – Professor Emeritus, English (1968-2013). B.A., Saint John's University; M.A., New York University
- Beth A. Perkins**, R.N. – Associate Professor Emeritus, Nursing. B.S.N., Cedar Crest College; M.S.N., University of Pennsylvania; Ed.D. (ABD), The University of Nebraska – Lincoln
- Eric M. Perkins**, Esq. – Associate Professor Emeritus, Paralegal Studies (1986-2017). B.A., Ohio University; J.D., Rutgers University
- Albert H. Porter** – Professor Emeritus, Chemistry (1968-2005). B.S., Stony Brook University; M.S., Ed.D., Rutgers University
- Charles F. Prettyman** – Associate Professor Emeritus, Information Systems / Computer Systems & Networking Technology (1969-2002). A.A.S., Mercer County Community College
- Robert L. Pugh** – Professor Emeritus, Physical Education (1972-2018). B.S., West Virginia State College; M.A., The College of New Jersey
- Jeanette J. Purdy** – Professor Emeritus, Business Education (1967-2002). B.S., Temple University; M.A., M.Ed., Rider University; Ed.D., Nova Southeastern University
- Claire R. Raimondo**, R.N. – Professor Emeritus, Nursing (1968-1993). B.S.N., M.S.N., University of Pennsylvania
- Donald O. Reichman** – Professor Emeritus, Mathematics / Computer Science (1977-2020). B.S., Stony Brook University; M.A., Montclair State University; M.S., Stevens Institute of Technology
- Marianne C. Reynolds** – Professor Emeritus, Reading/Education (1980-2008). B.A., Albertus Magnus College; Ed.M., Ed.D., Rutgers University
- Donna L. Richardson-Hall** – Professor Emeritus, English (1988-2013). B.S., The Pennsylvania State University; M.S., Purdue University; Ed.D., Nova Southeastern University
- Stephen H. Richman** – Professor Emeritus, Spanish (1965-2002). B.S., M.A., Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania
- Frank R. Rivera** – Professor Emeritus, Painting / Design (1967-2003). B.F.A., Yale University; M.F.A., University of Pennsylvania
- Naomi Rose** – Professor Emeritus, Mathematics / Computer Science (1969-1996). B.A., Swarthmore College; M.S., Adelphi University
- James F. Rowe**, Esq. – Professor Emeritus, Legal Studies (1977-2005). B.A., San Francisco State University; J.D., University of Baltimore; L.L.M., American University
- John V. Santosuosso**, P.E. – Professor Emeritus, Civil Engineering Technology (1968-2004). B.S.C.E., Merrimack College; M.S.C.E., Newark College of Engineering
- G. Robin Schore** – Professor Emeritus, English (1973-2016). B.A., University of Vermont; M.A., Ph.D., SUNY at Stony Brook
- Arthur E. Schwartz** – Professor Emeritus, Mathematics (1969-2020). B.A., M.A., The College of New Jersey; M.S., Rutgers University
- Dori Seider** – Professor Emeritus, Education / Psychology (1971-2012). A.B., Douglass College; M.A., University of Rochester; M.A., New York University; Ph.D., University of Vermont
- Michael T. Shea** – Professor Emeritus, English (1980-2009). B.A., Siena College; M.A., Ph.D., Rutgers University
- Edith A. Silver** – Professor Emeritus, Mathematics (1967-2013). B.S., M.A., The College of New Jersey
- Yong S. Sim** – Professor Emeritus, Library Services (1968-1995). B.A., Kon-Kuk University (Seoul); M.S.L.S., Atlanta University; Ed.D., Nova Southeastern University
- Robert C. Smith III** – Professor Emeritus, Funeral Service (1983-2013). B.A., Western Maryland College; Diploma, Indiana College of Mortuary Science; M.B.A., Widener University
- Joseph J. Szabo** – Professor Emeritus, English (1970-2005). B.A., La Salle College; M.A., Southern Illinois University
- Robert A. Terrano** – Associate Professor Emeritus, Communication (1984-1989, 1998-2015). B.S., New Jersey Institute of Technology; M.A., Jersey City State College
- Deborah Tolboom** – Associate Professor Emeritus, Funeral Service (2000-2016). A.A.S., Health Sciences Centre School of Nursing; Certificate in Funeral Service, Mercer County Community College; B.S., Thomas Edison State College; M.A., Rider University
- Carol L. Weber** – Professor Emeritus, Business (1986-2012). B.S., M.A., Rider University
- Jeffrey P. Weichert** – Professor Emeritus, Information Technology (1994-2019). A.A.S., Mercer County Community College; A.A., County College of Morris; B.S., George Washington University; M.S., Capella University
- Fred Weiner** – Professor Emeritus, Counseling (1970-2020). B.A., Hunter College; M.A., New York University
- Thomas N. Wilfrid** – Professor Emeritus, Physics / Mathematics (1969-2007). B.S., The Cooper Union; M.A., Princeton University; Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania; LL.D. (Honorary), Rider University

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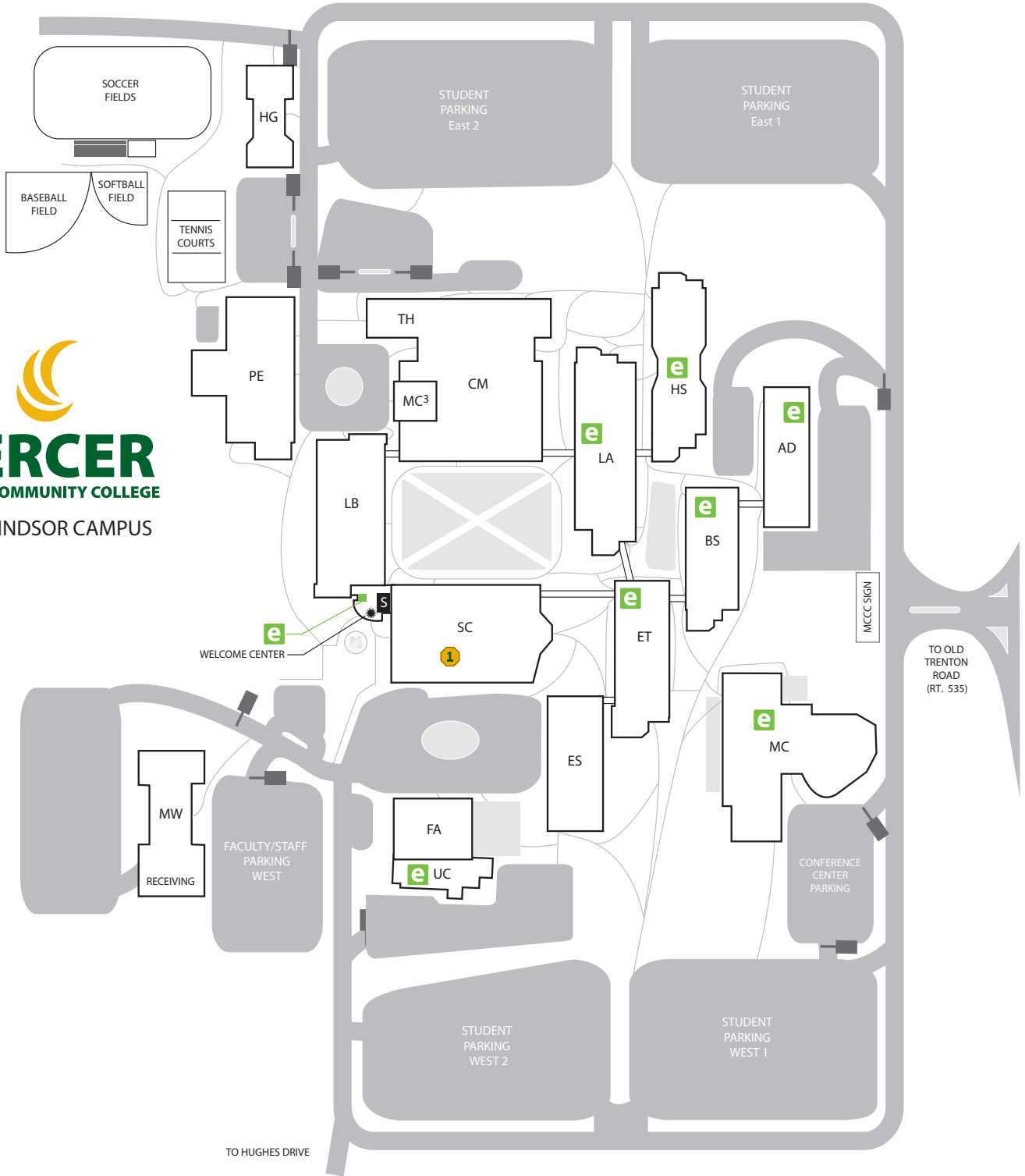
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MERCER
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
WEST WINDSOR CAMPUS



TO HUGHES DRIVE

KEY	ELEVATOR	SECURED GATE	AD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING	HG HORTICULTURE GREENHOUSE	MC ³ STUDIO THEATRE
	WELCOME CENTER	BUILDING OR STRUCTURE	BS BUSINESS	HS HEALTH & SCIENCE	MW MAINTENANCE
	ONE STOP	ROAD/PARKING LOT	CM COMMUNICATIONS CENTER	LA LIBERAL ARTS	PE PHYSICAL EDUCATION
	SECURITY	WALKWAY	ES ENGINEERING SYSTEMS	LB LIBRARY	SC STUDENT CENTER
			ET ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY	MC CONFERENCE CENTER	TH KELSEY THEATRE
			FA FINE ARTS		