



MERCER

COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE



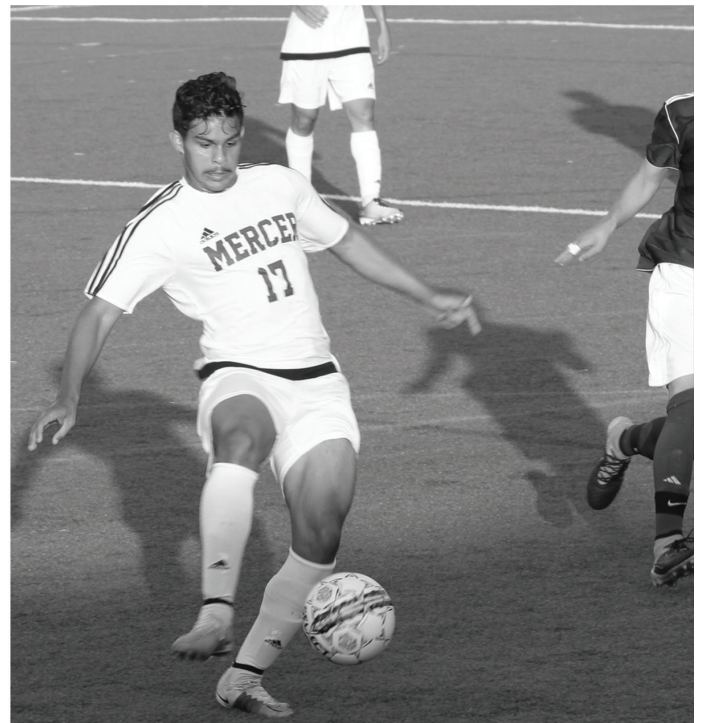
2018-2019 CATALOG



A vital college,



Engaged with its community, and



Dedicated above all else to student success.





MERCER

COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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and Monitor Financial Aid, Access MercerMail, View
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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.

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) 570-3635.

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 Finance and Administration, and is housed in the Administration Building office AD 101. Questions and complaints regarding Title IX may be directed to the Title IX Coordinator or the Office for Civil Rights as follows.

Monise Princilus, Title IX Coordinator

Executive Director, Human Resources and College Compliance
Mercer County Community College
1200 Old Trenton Road – AD 101
West Windsor, NJ 08550

Mail to: PO Box 17202, Trenton NJ 08690
Telephone: (609) 570-3635
E-mail: princilm@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>

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

Dr. Mark Harris, Vice President for Finance and Administration Mercer County Community College

1200 Old Trenton Road – AD 251
West Windsor, NJ 08550
Mail to: PO Box 17202, Trenton NJ 08690
Telephone: (609) 570-3610
E-mail: harrisma@mccc.edu

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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, 2018). 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.

Academic Programs

Accounting		Computer Science	
A.A.S.	29	A.S. in Liberal Arts and Sciences	58
Accounting: CPA Education Compliance		Certificate of Proficiency	58
Certificates of Proficiency	30	Criminal Justice	
Administrative Support		A.S. - Corrections option*	59
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Advanced Manufacturing Technology		Culinary Arts	
A.A.S.	32	A.A.S.	62
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A.A.S. in Visual Arts	34	A.S.	61
Airline Transport Pilot (ATP)		Cybersecurity	
Certificate of Achievement	35	A.A.S. in Information Technology	64
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Certificate of Proficiency	36	A.A. in Liberal Arts and Sciences	65
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A.A.S.	39	Digital Media Arts	
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<i>concentrations: Business Systems, Entrepreneurship,</i>		Fashion/Apparel Design	
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Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)	
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Visual Arts	
A.F.A.	126
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Web Design	
Certificate of Proficiency	128
A.A. — Associate in Arts Degree	
A.A.S. — Associate in Applied Science Degree	
A.F.A. — Associate in Fine Arts Degree	
A.S. — Associate in Science Degree	
* Degrees for Business Studies - management , Criminal Justice - corrections , and Liberal Arts may be achieved entirely online (see page 2) as well as by traditional classroom instruction.	
¹ offered with Camden County College	
² offered with Mercer County Technical Schools	
³ offered with Rider University	
⁴ A.S. degree awarded by MCCC; Diploma awarded by St. Francis Medical Center School of Nursing	
⁵ A.S. degree awarded through a cooperative program with the School of Health Professions at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey	
⁶ A.A.S. degree awarded through a cooperative program with Brookdale Community College	
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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:

To provide high-quality academic programs, courses, and instruction for a broad, diverse student population including:

- associate degree programs consisting of first- and second-year courses that transfer to four-year colleges and universities offering baccalaureate degrees;
- associate degree and certificate programs that prepare students for direct entry into occupations and careers;
- preparatory programs and courses to strengthen students' reading, writing, and quantitative skills;
- general education courses and experiences for each student that incorporate the best traditions of higher learning while supporting the educational needs of 21st century global citizens, workers, and lifelong learners;
- high-quality instruction and engaging learning experiences from dedicated faculty.

To offer high-quality continuing education programs including:

- professional development opportunities for individuals to enhance existing skills, learn new skills, and obtain industry certifications;
- training programs and resources for businesses, government agencies, and not-for-profit organizations;
- personal development and enrichment programs responsive to the current and emerging needs of individuals throughout the community.

To provide services and activities that support individual student success including:

- learning assistance, resources, and services beyond the classroom to support the identification and attainment of individual education objectives and career goals;
- co-curricular activities and services that build leadership skills, foster social and emotional growth, promote health and wellness, and prepare students for global citizenship.

To foster a campus culture that celebrates and values diversity, inclusiveness, and respect and supports the personal and intellectual growth of all students, faculty, and staff in a setting that is characterized by:

- integrity and responsible behavior;
- effective internal and external communication.

To maintain resources that support open admissions, affordability, quality teaching, innovation, and a safe and sustainable campus including:

- financial assistance to all eligible students;
- innovation and technology in programs, services, and methods of instruction that respond to community needs and contribute to student achievement and success;
- a safe, clean, and well maintained campus with practices and programs that promote and support institutional and environmental sustainability.

To foster community connections that enhance the cultural and economic vitality of Mercer County including:

- activities and programs which contribute to the civic, cultural, aesthetic, and recreational life of the community;
- cooperative relationships with other educational institutions, government agencies, community organizations, professional associations, and business and industry;
- year-round and summer activities for youth, including those that foster development through academics, recreation, and creative expression.

To maintain a commitment to assessment to evaluate the college's success in meeting these goals and improving institutional effectiveness.

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.

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 impaired.

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) 570-3551 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 pre-nursing and 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 Haver 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).

The Nursing program is accredited by the New Jersey Board of Nursing, 124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102 973-504-6430 and the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), 3343 Peachtree Rd. NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326 404-975-5000.

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.

The Physical Therapist Assistant program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; 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) 570-8607 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 10,700 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 50 countries.
- Enrollment: 64% part-time, 36% full-time; 45% men and 55% women.
- The average age of a full-time student is 22; average age of a part-timer is 29.
- More than 50% of Mercer's graduates transfer to senior colleges or universities.
- Average student/faculty ratio: 17 to 1.

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.

SOAR: Student Orientation, Advising and Registration

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 inter-collegiate 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. Eleven teams – men's and women's soccer, basketball, tennis, and cross country 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 team has advanced to national tournaments. Six have done so 20 times since 2010, four in the 2017-2018 season: men's soccer, women's cross country, softball, and men's tennis. In 2017, Vikings baseball finished second in the nation, as did men's tennis in 2016.

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 20 GSAC titles and 16 Region XIX titles since 2010.

More than 200 Mercer athletes have been named NJCAA All-Americans. A current or former MCCC player has been selected in six of the last eight 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 achieve success.

Each year, well over 100 regional and national honors for academic achievement are awarded to Mercer student-athletes. 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

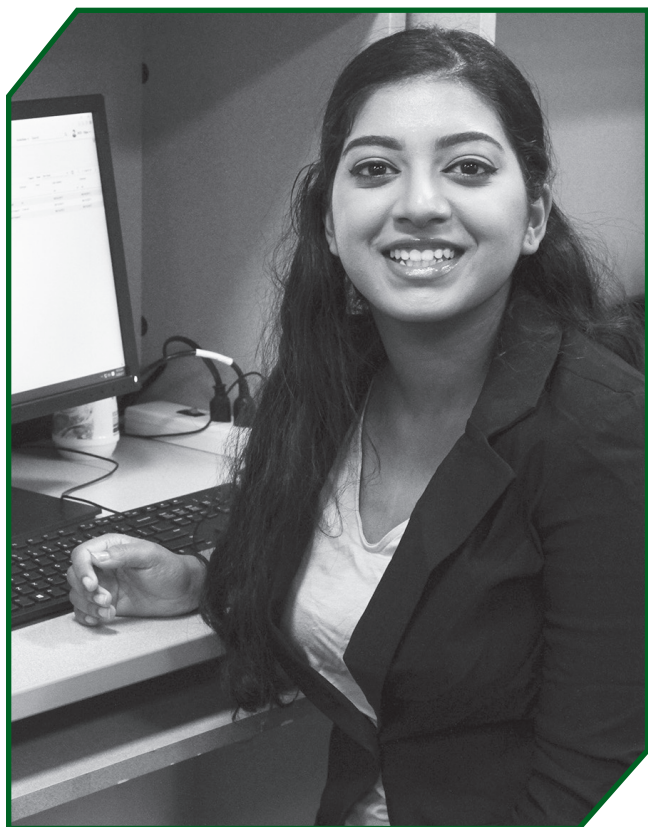
All students are encouraged to take advantage of Mercer's facilities for personal health and fitness as well as recreational enjoyment. The MCCC Fitness Center is equipped with fitness apparatus including strength and cardiovascular machines, treadmills, stairmasters, rowing machines, and more. Students 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 conditioning.

International Students

Mercer enjoys a large international student population. Hundreds of international students representing more than 50 countries contribute to the intercultural educational exchange on campus.

The college provides special services including courses in English as a Second Language (ESL) as well as courses in core subjects taught for an international population. An international student organization (ISO) offers support and social interaction, and promotes cultural diversity on campus. The office of International Student Services provides information and guidance on immigration, academic matters, cultural adjustment, and personal concerns.

Orientation sessions for new international students and ongoing workshops are available to help students learn about 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 Boards

Student Activities Boards (SAB) at both the West Windsor and James Kerney campuses plan and implement programs of social, cultural, recreational, and educational interest. The SAB strives to create a sense of community on each campus.

Newspaper and Radio

The College Voice, the official student newspaper, publishes periodically during the Fall and Spring semesters. Involvement provides students with experience in all aspects of journalism including interviewing, reporting, writing, editing, layout, and photography.

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.

Performance Groups

Music organizations include the college chorus, jazz band, chamber ensemble, symphonic band, and dance ensemble.

Clubs

The college supports a 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.

Student Services and Resources

Counseling Programs and Services

Mercer County Community College offers a wide range of programs that promote personal, academic, social, career, and leadership growth. Recognizing that the needs and interests of students vary at different periods of their lives, counselors and student advocates from each academic division as well as in the Student Services offices at the West Windsor and James Kerney campuses are available for assistance.

Tutoring Services

Credit and noncredit students can receive instructional support services, free of charge, at more than 10 tutoring locations on both campuses. These learning centers and other tutoring areas are staffed by professional tutors, faculty volunteers, and peer tutors for most courses including all levels of reading, writing, mathematics, biology, physics, economics, and computer science. No appointment is necessary (although recommended for the West Windsor Learning Center).

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

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 students and those who desire 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, and instant messaging. Information literacy instruction for any course is offered in classes or on a walk-in basis for specialized assistance.

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, printing 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.

Success Coaching

Success coaches at Mercer County Community College build individualized relationships to help students best realize their pathway to success and achievement of their goals.

Success coaching involves collaboration, not directives, by offering guidance and support. Through two-way dialogue, accountability, and cultivation of personalized academic and skills-based learning opportunities, coaches engage and empower students to make their own best choices. Students are in charge of their journeys; success coaches help guide them toward persistence, retention, and completion as part of that plan.

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.

Students interested in participating in the EOF program must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA; see page 16), apply to PASS, and attend an intake interview to qualify for selection.

Veterans Services

The MCCC 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 SC222 offers resources and other amenities for veteran students to relax and socialize.

Career Services

Career Services provides resources and counseling to assist students as they search for, define, and reach their career goals.

Students are encouraged to make individual appointments with career counselors, who help them learn about various careers, choose an appropriate college major, clarify career goals, and discover their talents. Assistance is also available for resume and cover letter writing, interviewing skills, networking, salary negotiating, job search strategies, tapping the hidden job market, and business etiquette. These and other employment and career-related topics are also addressed periodically at Career Services workshops.

Supplementing other resources available from Career Services including career testing and career-related books and videos, the Career Services web page features FOCUS-2, a career planning program for self-assessment, career information, and action plans for achieving career goals; and Career Coach, an online search tool that allows students to explore potential academic majors and careers.

For job search assistance, listings of both full- and part-time positions as well as internships are posted in the Career Services offices. College Central Network, at www.collegecentral.com/mccc, gives MCCC students and alumni access to job postings from local employers as well as national job boards, plus utilities for resume building and uploading.

Throughout the academic year, the office facilitates on-campus visits from recruiting employers and sponsors job fairs targeting specific majors, where students can learn about job opportunities and talk with local employers.

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 according to the deadlines established by the instructor. Admission to the Testing Centers requires a student photo ID, obtained at the Security ID station upon class enrollment.

The Testing Centers administer the College Skills Placement Test. 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.

Services are available during hours posted at each office and on the college website.

Center for Inclusion, Transition and Accessibility

Mercer County Community College is deeply committed to ensuring student success. The Center for Inclusion, Transition and Accessibility facilitates the success of students with disabilities by providing intensive support including:

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

The mission of the Center for Inclusion, Transition and Accessibility 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. 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 the MCCC Center for Transition, Inclusion and Accessibility in LB216 on the West Windsor Campus; (609) 570-3422.

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 all people who can benefit from a post-secondary education. MCCC's student body is diverse and includes adults as well as traditional students.

Students may attend day, evening, or weekend classes offered on the West Windsor Campus, the James Kerney Campus, or through MercerOnline. Students may enroll full-time or part-time while completing a degree or certificate program, or take courses on an individual basis.

Mercer welcomes applications from students in 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 Services 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 in the Enrollment Services office. 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 verifying vaccination for or immunity from mumps, measles, and rubella as well as Hepatitis B. Immunization record forms are available at the Enrollment Services office. Students must complete the form and have it signed by their physician.

Students who attended elementary or 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 Services office.

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, the exam measures skills in reading, writing, and mathematics. Placement test results will not affect admission to the college; however, the scores will determine eligibility for certain courses and programs.

Who Should Test

- full- or part-time students who have not achieved an SAT score (taken prior to March 2016) of 540 in Critical Reading or 530 in Mathematics sections;
- full- or part-time students who have not achieved an SAT score (taken after March 2016) of 450 on Evidence Based Reading and Writing (EVW) or 500 in Math;
- full- or part-time students who have not achieved an ACT score of 21 on English or Math;
- full- or part-time students who have not achieved a PARCC Grade 11 English Language Arts (ELA) score of 4 or an Algebra II score of 4;
- returning students who have not tested for course placement in more than two years;
- non-matriculated students with 12 or more credits;
- transfer students who have not completed English and mathematics requirements;
- ESL students who need mathematics courses (partial testing in math only).

Arrangements for Testing

After completing a college admissions application, students may arrange to take the placement test by contacting the preferred testing location: the Academic Testing Center at the West Windsor Campus (609-570-3295 or e-mail wwtesting@mccc.edu) or the Testing Center at the James Kerney Campus (609-570-3151 or e-mail jkctesting@mccc.edu).

Special accommodations for testing may be arranged through the Office of Special Services at 609-570-3525.

Students who have taken the test at another college should arrange for an official copy of scores to be sent by e-mail to wwtesting@mccc.edu, by fax to 609-570-3872, or by mail to:

Academic Testing Center - LB208
Mercer County Community College
P.O. Box 17202
Trenton, NJ 08690

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.

Developmental Studies

Enrollment in Academic Foundations Courses

If scores on the academic placement tests in reading, writing, or mathematics do not meet the standards for college-level work, students are required to take Foundations 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 Foundations courses each semester.

A variety of 0-level Foundations courses allows each student to choose a path that best fits his or her needs and interests. Academic advisors, individually assigned, help Foundations 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 Foundations reading, writing, and mathematics courses. Details on the college's 0-level Foundations courses can be found among English (page 152) and Mathematics (page 169) course descriptions.

MATHEMATICS

MAT 033, MAT 037, MAT 041, MAT 042, MAT 043

Foundations courses in mathematics provide students with the skills and concepts needed to succeed in mathematics and in other disciplines. MAT 033 and MAT 037 are offered in a classroom setting using a variety of instructional strategies.

As an alternative to the traditional MAT 033 and MAT 037 courses, MAT 041 (Foundation Math I), MAT 042 (Foundation Math II), and MAT 043 (Foundation Math III) 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

Check your placement test scores (see page 8) to determine if these courses are required for you.

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 041	Foundation Math I (0/6)	
	OR	3-4
MAT 033	Pre-Algebra (4/0)	
		<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.

SECOND SEMESTER

Code	Course (lecture/lab hours)	Credits
CSW 100	College Success and Personal Wellness (2/0) [†]	2
— —	OR ¹	
— —	General Education elective	
ENG 024	Introduction to College Composition II (4/0)	4
ENG 034	Introduction to College Reading II (4/0)	4
MAT 042	Foundation Math II (0/6) ²	
	OR	3-4
MAT 037	Beginning Algebra (4/0)	
		<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.

¹ Students who successfully complete their CSW 100 requirement in the first semester should consult academic advisor to select another course.

² Students in a STEM major must also complete MAT 043. Consult academic advisor to verify mathematics requirement.

[†] Some exemptions apply. Consult academic advisor for details.

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 Services 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 | • Economics | • History |
| • Biology | • English | • Latin |
| • Calculus | • French | • Music |
| • Chemistry | • German | • Physics |
| • Computer Science | • Government and Politics | • 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 Services 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 Veterans Services office and submit Joint Service Transcript (JST) or Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) transcripts for evaluation.

LPN-RN Advanced Placement

The LPN-RN Advanced Placement option offers licensed practical nurses (LPNs) the opportunity to gain experiential credit for their LPN license and receive 6 credits for Concepts of Nursing Practice I (NRS 112). Applicants must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent), have graduated from an accredited LPN school, possess a valid New Jersey LPN license, and complete all prerequisite course requirements for admission to the third semester of the Nursing program.

See page 101 for additional details.

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 Services 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.

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 Services 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

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 Services 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 21 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 late December, offers accelerated two- and five-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

A student is considered full time if he or she takes 12 or more course credits in a semester. A normal credit load for a full-time student can range from 12 to 18 credits. Students wishing to carry more than 18 credits must obtain approval from their advisor or academic division.

Part-Time Study

Part-time students take 11 or fewer course credits in a semester. A part-time student who is accepted in a program can choose to attend Mercer as a full-time student whenever he or she wishes by registering for 12 or more credits in a semester.

Part-time students enjoy 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.

Flexible Learning

For those students who cannot attend college during the day on Monday through Friday, MCCC offers alternatives with Flexible Learning. Students across multiple disciplines can take evening, weekend, and distance learning courses in order to complete their degree requirements. These alternatives may also be offered in a compressed and/or accelerated format during eight- or 10-week sessions.

Students can accelerate their degree completion by taking two eight-week courses instead of one 14-week course during a semester. Students attending weekend classes on an accelerated basis along with night and distance learning courses could, for example, finish their Business Administration A.S. degree within the same time frame as a full-time traditional student.

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., Communication Studies
 - B.A., Criminal Justice
 - B.A., Individualized Studies with specializations in...
 - Business & Technology
 - Hospitality Management
- Master's Degree Program:*
- M.S., Hospitality Management

Felician University

- B.S., Nursing

New Jersey Institute of Technology

- B.S., Civil Engineering

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

William Paterson University

- B.A., Early Childhood Education / Elementary Education
- B.A., Liberal Studies
- B.A., Psychology

Wilmington University

- B.S., Business Management: Professional Aeronautics
 - B.S., Criminal Justice
 - B.S., Health Sciences (*select courses*)
- Master's Degree Program:*
- M.Ed., School Leadership

Transfer to Four-Year Colleges

Each year many MCCC students successfully transfer to colleges and universities throughout the country. Individual program descriptions (pages 28-128) include examples of institutions to which recent graduates have transferred.

The college has dual admissions agreements with The College of New Jersey, Delaware Valley University, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Georgian Court University, James Madison University, La Salle University, Montclair State University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Rider University, Rowan University, Rutgers University, William Paterson University, and Wilmington University, as well as articulation agreements with many other baccalaureate institutions.

Planning is key to ensure a smooth transition to a four-year institution. Students who wish to transfer should contact a transfer counselor in Mercer's Transfer and Career Services office soon after beginning their studies. These counselors assist in selecting appropriate electives and general education courses, as well as in identifying transfer institutions that suit a student's 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. Counselors maintain regular contact with transfer institutions.

Transfer Within New Jersey

In a statewide effort intended to maximize transfer credit for courses taken at community colleges, many of New Jersey's four-year colleges and universities subscribe to a set of "Transfer and Articulation Principles" and a statewide "General Education Foundation." While all of Mercer's degree program options are consistent with these statewide agreements, admission to any four-year institution is not guaranteed, and admission requirements vary.

Students can now seamlessly transfer their academic credits – as half of those required for a basic four-year degree – 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.

Students planning to transfer to a New Jersey college or university can use NJ Transfer (www.njtransfer.org), an online information system that allows students to check the transferability of their Mercer courses, as well as plan a program of study that is transferable to the New Jersey college of their choice.

To transfer successfully, community college students should select an associate degree program that aligns with their anticipated bachelor's degree major.



Registration

Ways to Register

The college offers a variety of ways for students to register for classes.

Online Registration

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

In-Person Registration

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

Fax Registration

New and returning students can register by fax at (609) 570-3861. Students must use the approved form and also include their credit card information.

Mail-In Registration

Students may mail the completed registration form included in the course bulletin available on campus and in public libraries before each semester. The publication includes course times and locations as well as selection guidance and registration instructions.

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 Services office within the first three weeks of the semester in which the withholding of Directory Information is to take effect. Request forms are available in the Enrollment Services office.

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 who need official certification of their enrollment at MCCC may obtain it from the Enrollment Services office during normal hours of operation.

Transcripts

Students can immediately access *unofficial* transcripts from "Student Self-Service" in the MyMercer portal (see page 7) 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. For current tuition rates and fees, contact the Enrollment Services office or consult the college website.

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

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 fees unless they meet certain legal guidelines.

To appeal residency status, contact the registrar.

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 home counties 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 receive a chargeback, the student must do the following:

- Obtain a chargeback form from Mercer's Enrollment Services 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 registration or drop it off at the Accounting office before the first day of classes.

Once approved, chargeback eligibility will not be lost if the student's home county 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 has been turned away. Eligibility may be lost, however, if the student changes to a program which is being offered at his or her home county college.

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

Program-Sharing Agreement

Mercer and Bucks County residents can enroll at a reasonable cost in academic programs not offered at their home county 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 for the degree at the other college. Students pay 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.

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. Most range from \$20 to \$80 per course; however, certain courses have higher fees.

A listing of current course fees can be obtained from the Enrollment Services office on the West Windsor Campus and from the Student Services office on the James Kerney Campus.

Flight Training Fees for Aviation Technology

Estimated annual training 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.

For the 2018-19 academic year, students should anticipate average total flight fees of approximately \$23,000 for the traditional program and approximately \$64,000 for the Airline Transport Pilot (ATP) concentration. Further information on flight fees and these degree programs is available from the Aviation program coordinator in the Business & STEM division office.

Other Fees

A registration fee is charged to all credit students each semester to offset the college's registration system expenses. A graduation fee is charged when a student applies for certification that he or she has completed a degree or certificate program. A late registration fee is charged for course registration after the semester begins.

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 (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 (NOT the *class start date*).

A course dropped anytime after refund eligibility for that course ends will be processed as a withdrawal. (See withdrawal information, page 20.) No refund of tuition or fees will be made to a student who is withdrawn from a course by an instructor due to non-attendance or who is dismissed from the college for cause.

Please be aware that dropped classes or withdrawals can cause adjustments to any financial aid awards, resulting in a balance being due to the college for tuition.

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 that tuition-paying students constitute the minimum number required to offer the course. All students are required to pay for books, materials, and fees in excess of tuition.

Senior Citizens

Mercer County residents who are 65 or older may enroll in courses without paying full tuition – but paying all fees – if seats are available in a class after paying students have registered. To take advantage of this opportunity, senior citizens must register in person at either the West Windsor or James Kerney campus and pay the applicable semester fees.

Residents of other New Jersey counties who are 65 or older have the opportunity to enroll in courses in which space is available. They pay only in-county tuition and applicable fees.

For more information about credit course registration, contact Enrollment Services; for noncredit registration, contact the Center for Continuing Studies.

Unemployed Persons

Persons who are presently unemployed or have been seeking full-time employment during the past two years may be eligible to enroll in courses on a space-available basis without paying tuition. However, such students are responsible for paying any applicable fees and for covering expenses for textbooks and other class materials. Local unemployment offices can provide additional information.

National Guard Members

National Guard members who have completed Initial Active Duty Training and are members in good standing, or the children or surviving spouse of any National Guard member killed in the performance of his/her duty, may enroll for up to 15 credits per semester without payment of tuition provided that they:

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

(See page 17 for associated financial aid application requirements.)

Volunteer Fire, First Aid, Rescue Squad Members

Active volunteer fire, first aid, or rescue squad members in good standing, and their dependent children and spouses, may enroll in courses of up to \$300 in value per semester and \$600 in value annually, up to a maximum of \$2,400 over a four-year period, provided that 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.

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 (see below). Those needing financial assistance should secure funding from the Financial Aid office before registering.

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

No students will be enrolled, given transcripts, or graduated until they have fully paid all college accounts or have made satisfactory arrangements with the Accounting office.

Payment Plans

Flexible payment plans are available for all semesters. Students may obtain details regarding the college's current options at the Bursar's office on either MCCC campus or on the college website.

Fines

Fines are charged for overdue library books, parking violations, and misuse of lockers. Library fines are paid at the front desk of the Library, parking fines at the Accounting office, and locker fines at the Security office. More information can be obtained in the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities available at the Student Activities office.

Financial Aid

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 who needs financial aid should apply as early as possible – even before completing an application for admission.

Most student financial aid is provided in the form of grants through federal and state-funded 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. Other grants are available through private scholarships and college-sponsored grants-in-aid.

Specific programs and their eligibility requirements are outlined in the tables on pages 18 and 19.

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)**. The application should be completed online at www.fafsa.gov. The federal school code for Mercer is **002641**.

Deadlines

To ensure that financial aid arrives 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 September 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 an award is made, the student will receive an appropriate refund.

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;
- have a high school diploma or GED certificate;
- be registered with the Selective Service (if required);
- not be in default status on a student loan or owe a refund on any Title IV federal aid program;
- maintain satisfactory academic progress.

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.

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.

Federal regulations require every college to establish, publish and apply reasonable standards for measuring academic progress. The standards must include both a qualitative measure (the cumulative grade point average) and a quantitative measure (the completion rate). In addition, the maximum time to complete a program cannot exceed 150% of its published length. 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

Cumulative credits attempted counts *all* coursework, including withdrawals, incompletes, repeats, noncredit remedial courses and transfer credits. The *completion rate* is equal to *credits earned* (which counts only coursework for which the student earned a grade of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, D, or S, including transfer credits) divided by the *credits attempted*. Up to 30 noncredit remedial courses are exempt from this calculation. Students whose coursework consists entirely of noncredit remedial courses and/or transfer credit are exempt from the *cumulative GPA* standard because they do not have a calculated grade point average.

The cumulative academic progress of each financial aid applicant is reviewed annually at the end of the Spring term, when grades are posted or when the annual financial aid application is received, whichever is later. *All* periods of the student's enrollment except the semester in progress are included in the evaluation, regardless of whether or not financial aid was awarded. Students who fail to meet all of the prescribed standards for satisfactory academic progress will be denied financial aid.

Applicants denied financial aid due to unsatisfactory academic progress have the right to appeal for reinstatement of eligibility, providing evidence that:

- an error was made during the academic progress evaluation; or
- mitigating circumstances (serious illness or injury, death in the family, etc.) prevented successful completion of courses attempted; or

- the maximum time frame to complete a program was exceeded due to a curriculum change or the pursuit of more than one associate degree or certificate.

Appeals must be submitted in writing along with relevant supporting documents to the Financial Aid office. The Academic Progress Appeals Committee will review the appeal and notify the student by mail or e-mail once a decision has been made.

Students ultimately judged not to be making satisfactory progress may once again meet satisfactory progress standards by enrolling at their own expense and completing all courses attempted. Students must earn a minimum GPA of 2.00 for the term – with no failures (F), withdrawals (W), incompletes (I), or “no credit” (NC) grades of any kind. Upon successful completion of additional coursework, an appeal for reinstatement of eligibility may be submitted to the Financial Aid office.

Federal regulations permit financial aid to be awarded for no more than 30 semester hours of noncredit remedial coursework. Once a student has *attempted* a total of 30 semester hours of remedial courses, 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.

Work-Study on Campus

The Federal Work-Study Program is a federally funded program for students who need financial assistance to help with educational expenses. The program provides up to a maximum of 20 hours of work per week when classes are in session and up to 28 hours per week, with prior approval, during semester breaks. For more information, contact the Work-Study coordinator.

Veterans and Military 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 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 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 Veterans Services office for certification with the Veterans Administration. Any changes in enrollment status or change of major must be reported to the Veterans Services office as soon as they occur.



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 Veterans Services office for additional information.

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 scholarships is available at www.mccc.edu/m-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 late January through May; applications for graduating students are accepted late January until March.

Note: Some scholarships require students to complete the FAFSA application 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 18 and 19. Visit the MCCC Financial Aid website for the most up-to-date 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 \$6095 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 verification of all types of income and other requested documentation 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-\$1000 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 1 credit 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 20 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 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 (freshman) • \$4500 (sophomore) 	<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 programs • Submit a loan request form to the MCCC Financial Aid office
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan	Applicants must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take at least 6 credits of program-required coursework • Exhaust eligibility under the subsidized program (above) 	Up to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$6000 (freshman) • \$6000 (sophomore) * 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 Complete a rigorous high school course of study Achieve the required score on college placement test 	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 High schools make recommendations to the NJ Higher Education Student Assistance Authority 	File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA)
Tuition Aid Grant (TAG)	See NJ state aid requirements under the "General Eligibility Requirements" section (page 16)	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 	Same as federal programs
Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars Program	Applicants must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rank high in high school graduating class Achieve high SAT scores 	\$1000 per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High schools make recommendations to the NJ Higher Education Student Assistance Authority 	NJ Higher Education Student Assistance Authority makes selections
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"> Same as federal programs EOF applicants must be interviewed by an EOF counselor

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-\$3000 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

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 Services 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 Services office and from academic division offices. The student is responsible for bringing the approved form to the Enrollment Services 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 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.

Leave of Absence from the College

Students may apply for leaves of absence for periods not to exceed two years. An application, obtained from Enrollment Services, must be reviewed and approved by the responsible academic division dean as well as the college's Accounting office, then returned to the Enrollment Services office for final approval.

If a student simply drops out or takes an unapproved leave of absence or if an approved leave of absence expires, he or she must apply for readmission to the college.

Readmission

A student who has not attended Mercer for one year or more and has not had a leave of absence approved 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 Services 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 Enrollment Services office or the student advocate in any academic division for further details.

Change of Program/Major

A student who wants to change from one program (major) to another must initiate the procedure by requesting a change of program form from the Enrollment Services office on the West Windsor Campus or the Student Services office on the James Kerney Campus.

Approval for the change must be obtained from the academic division responsible for the program to which the student wants admittance. The signed request form is then returned to the Enrollment Services office on the West Windsor Campus or Student Services office on the James Kerney Campus. A student who is a veteran must also submit a change of program form to the Veterans Services office.

Grading System

Grade Interpretation

Grade reports are accessible via the college website (www.mccc.edu) at the conclusion of each semester. Students may access their grades online, privately and securely, at any time. Grade reports may also be obtained in-person at the Enrollment Services office.

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 Enrollment Services 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
Quality Point Average (QPA) = $\frac{\text{Quality Points}}{\text{Credits Attempted}} = \frac{30.3}{11} = 2.75$					

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, with six of these from courses at the 200 level, in the student's major, earned at Mercer County Community College.
- 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
 - three credits of English composition for 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.
- Participation in graduation exercises is encouraged.

Academic Foundations Credits

English composition, reading, and mathematics courses below the 100 level prepare students to succeed in college-level programs. 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 degree. Completed courses from one degree can be used to fulfill requirements for another degree or certificate.



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 some students, this experience includes concentrated study in particular subjects required for an intended career path. For all graduates of degree and credit-bearing certificate programs, this experience includes general education.

General education addresses a broad range of learning opportunities for students and establishes high standards for graduates. All degree graduates will be competent in written and spoken English. To the greatest extent appropriate for their degree or certificate, graduates:

- will be competent in critical and quantitative thinking and problem solving;
- will have been immersed in the critical study of what it means to be human;
- will have read, evaluated, appreciated, and written about a wide range of texts and experiences;
- will have learned how to integrate their learning into a lifelong process of understanding themselves, others, and the world;
- will have learned how to contribute toward a better future for themselves and for others.

To an extent consistent with its primary purposes, each course in every program is expected to reflect the college's commitment to general education, as affirmed in the college's General Education Core Competencies and General Education Goals and Objectives.

The General Education Core Competencies are skills and values that are critical to students' ability to be successful in the workplace and at their transfer institutions. These skills facilitate the development of self-directed, lifelong learning. The Core Competencies are embedded, to the greatest extent possible, in all courses:

- Written and Oral Communication in English
- Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving
- Ethical Decision-Making
- Information Literacy
- Computer Literacy
- Collaboration and Cooperation
- Intra-Cultural and Inter-Cultural Responsibility

The General Education Goals and Objectives are associated with specific courses:

- Written and Oral Communication in English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Technology or Information Literacy
- Social Science
- Humanities
- Historical Perspective
- Diversity and Global Perspective

General Education Goals (by category)	A.A. Degree (45 credits)	A.S. Degree (30 credits)		A.A.S. Degree A.F.A. Degree A.S. Nursing (21 credits) [recommended: ENG 101, 102, and CMN 111 or 112]	Certificate (6 credits)
Goal 1: Written and Oral Communication in English	<u>9 credits</u> ENG 101 and 102 CMN 111 or 112	<u>9 credits</u> ENG 101 and 102 CMN 111 or 112		<u>6 credits</u> ENG 101 ENG 102 or 112	<u>3 credits</u> ENG 101
Goal 2: Mathematics	<u>12 credits total</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• at least 3 credits mathematics• at least 3 credits lab science• 6 credits Math, Science, or Tech	<u>9 credits total</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• at least 3 credits mathematics• at least 3 credits lab science• 3 credits Math, Science, or Tech		3 credits	3 credits
Goal 3: Science				3 credits	
Goal 4: Technology or Information Literacy				3 credits	
Goal 5: Social Science	6 credits	3 credits	3 credits	3 credits	
Goal 6: Humanities	9 credits	3 credits			
Goal 7: Historical Perspective	6 credits				
Goal 8: Diversity and Global Perspective	3 credits				
Unassigned General Education	--	3 credits		6 credits	--
TOTAL	45	30		21	6

Approved general education courses are listed on pages 130-131. 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 January or the previous August may also participate.

Students are notified of their potential graduation status four weeks before the graduation date. Diplomas are available within eight weeks following the end of the graduation term. For more information about the certification process or specific dates, e-mail graduation@mccc.edu.



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.

In general, both types of degree programs require no more than 66 credits for graduation.

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 24. Applicable courses are listed on pages 130-131.

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 Culinology, Computer Science and Plant Science.

For many students, the transfer experience is made easier by “dual admission” and “program articulation” agreements between Mercer and other colleges.

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.

In compliance with federal regulations, Gainful Employment disclosures for each certificate program are available at www.mccc.edu/programs_certificate

Other Non-Degree Choices

Many students take classes at Mercer without being enrolled in a particular degree or certificate program. The college offers five enrollment categories for such students:

- **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 (pages 28-128) and 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. (Students in highly specialized degree programs may take fewer honors courses due to program requirements.)

High school students must be accepted into the Mercer Honors Program in order to take honors courses in their first semester. Qualified continuing students can begin honors courses at any point in their programs of study.

The distinction of honors coursework shows clearly on transcripts, and students who take honors classes are exceptionally well prepared for transfer to four-year colleges and universities.

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



English as a Second Language

MCCC offers a comprehensive ESL credit program (see page 28) for students who are learning English as a foreign/second language. Detailed on pages 155-156, 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).

Numbers at the Top of Each Program Page

Program **ACCTG.AAS** ← MCCC code that identifies a student's chosen major
CIP 520302 ← external code for State reporting purposes



Study Abroad

The MCCC Study Abroad program provides students with the opportunity to broaden their global exposure by traveling to other countries. MCCC students and faculty engage with the international community through cultural immersion experiences which help prepare participants to be successful world citizens.

The Study Abroad program includes short-term, faculty-led study tours; students and faculty have successfully traveled to Western Europe, Central America, and Africa. The program also allows students to study abroad independently for a semester, in the Summer, or during Winter Session.

Study Abroad courses can be taken for credit or on a noncredit basis. For more information, visit www.mccc.edu/studyabroad or e-mail studyabroad@mccc.edu.

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.