

BP 4231

References:

Education Code Sections 76224 and 76232; Title 5 Section 55025

The [CEO] shall implement procedures to assure the accuracy and integrity of all grades awarded by faculty. The procedures shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

- Assurance that in the absence of mistake, bad faith, fraud or incompetence, the grades awarded by faculty shall be final.
- Procedures for students to challenge the correctness of a grade.
- The installation of security measures to protect grade records and grade storage systems from unauthorized access.
- Limitations on access to grade records and grade storage systems.
- Discipline for students or staff who are found to have gained access to grade records without proper authorization or to have changed grades without proper authorization.
- Notice to students, faculty, transfer institutions, accreditation agencies and law enforcement agencies if unauthorized access to grade records and grade storage systems is discovered to have occurred.

Also see BP 3310 titled Records Retention and Destruction, AP 4231 titled Grade Changes, and BP/AP 5040 titled Student Records.

New 2/08

References:

Education Code Sections 76224 and 76232; Title 5 Section 55025

Note: This procedure is . The following language is provided as a sample. Local practice may be inserted, but must comply with the Education Code and Title 5 and address the following:

Changing Grades

- The instructor of the course shall determine the grade to be awarded to each student.
- The determination of the student's grade by the instructor is final in the absence of mistake, fraud, bad faith, or incompetence. "Mistake" may include, but is not limited to, errors made by an instructor in calculating a student's grade, and clerical errors. "Fraud" may include, but is not limited to, inaccurate recording or change of a grade by any person who gains access to grade records without authorization.
- The removal or change of an incorrect grade from a student's record shall only be done pursuant to Education Code 76232 or by an alternative method that ensures that each student shall be afforded an objective and reasonable review of the requested grade change.
- If the procedure requires that a student first request a grade change from the instructor, provisions shall be made to allow another faculty member to substitute for the instructor if the student has filed a discrimination complaint, if the instructor is not available or where the district determines that it is possible that there may have been gross misconduct by the original instructor.
- In the case of fraud, bad faith, or incompetence, the final determination concerning removal or change of grade will be made by the [].
- In all cases, the instructor who first awarded the grade will be given written notice of the change.

Security of Grade Records

- The District shall implement security measures for student records that assure no person may obtain access to student grade records without proper authorization. These measures shall be installed as part of any computerized grade data storage system.
- The measures implemented by the District shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, password protection for all student grade data bases, locking mechanisms for computer stations from which student grade ter

3) any educational institution to which the student has transferred; 4) the accreditation agency; and 5) appropriate local law enforcement authorities.

- Whenever a grade is changed for any reason, corrected transcripts will be sent to any educational institution to which a student has transferred.
- Any student or employee who is found to have gained access to grade recording systems without proper authorization, or who is found to have changed any grade without proper authority to do so, shall be subject to discipline in accordance with District policies and procedures.
- Any person who is found to have gained access to grade recording systems without proper authorization, or who is found to have changed any grade without proper authority to do so, shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the college where the incident occurred.

The District may insert procedures related to processes for seeking grade changes, time limits, if any, and appeals to the []. Suggested procedures for doing so are contained in AP 5530 titled Student Grievance Procedures.