Purpose

The Vermont Technical College establishes standards for academic performance for academic dismissal, probation, good standing, honors, graduation and graduation honors. These standards are in line with the VSC standard definitions relating to academic standing.

Statement of Policy

The Vermont Technical College establishes standards for acceptable academic performance and standards leading to graduation and the awarding of the degrees, certificates and honors.

Academic standing will be calculated one time at the end of each term (excluding summer and mini-terms) for each matriculated (degree-seeking) student. Standings may be individually updated to correct errors or reflect appeals or waivers, but not for additional or incomplete coursework. The academic standings calculated include good standing, probation and dismissal and academic honors.

GOOD STANDING

Degree students are in good standing if they are matriculated and actively enrolled in a degree program for credit and have cumulative GPA of 2.00 or better (1.75 GPA for students with fewer than 30 earned or GPA credits, whichever is higher).

ACADEMIC PROBATION

a. Degree students who are allowed to enroll and who have a cumulative GPA that is below that required for good standing will be on probation.
b. Students returning from academic dismissal will be on probation for their first term after being re-admitted and will be required to enroll in INT-0010 Effective Learning.
c. Probation is not a punitive measure and is intended to identify students that need additional help and support.
d. Students on probation will have a plan of study outlining the conditions of enrollment during the probationary period. Students that do not follow their probation plan may be dismissed during the probationary period. Any exceptions to the plan of study must be approved by the Academic Dean.

ACADEMIC DISMISSAL

a. Students may be academically dismissed for a minimum of one term:
   - By receiving a term or cumulative GPA below .70.
   - For not achieving good standing while on probation.
   - By withdrawing from the College while on probation.
   - By recommendation of their department and/or the Academic Dean.
b. Students that are academically dismissed will receive “F” or “NP” grades in any incomplete coursework at the time of dismissal.
c. Students dismissed from the College may not take courses at Vermont Tech as part of the VSC Enrollment Consortium Agreement.
d. Dismissed students must reapply through Admissions to return to Vermont Tech or to take Vermont Tech classes.

APPEAL OF ACADEMIC DISMISSAL

a. Students who are academically dismissed may appeal to the Academic Appeals Committee (AAC), provided there are mitigating circumstances for his or her performance that may have led to the dismissal. The Academic Appeals Committee, chaired by the Associate Academic Dean, consists of two tenured faculty, one non-tenured faculty, and two current students. The AAC will review each appeal on its merits and determine whether the dismissal should remain in effect, or if the student should be re-instated for the upcoming term. The AAC will then make a recommendation to the Academic Dean, who will make a final decision regarding the appeal. This decision will be final and will not be subject to further appeal.

b. Students reinstated on appeal will be placed on academic probation for the next term of enrollment and may have restrictions and/or changes in their academic load and/or their curriculum sequence. These re-admitted students will also be required to enroll in INT-0010 Effective Learning.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

a. To be eligible for graduation in any degree or certificate program a students must:
   - Complete all program requirements.
   - Have an overall cumulative GPA of 2.00 for all qualifying VSC coursework.
   - Complete 30 of the last 39 credits at Vermont Tech.
   - Complete at least 50% of the coursework at Vermont Tech (15 credits minimum).
   - Satisfy all financial obligations to the College.
   - Apply to graduate by the annual deadline.
   - Attend the commencement ceremony.
   - Successfully complete graduate standards assessments according to the schedule established by the VSC Board of Trustees.

b. The department chairpersons will approve their programs’ candidates who satisfy the above, as attested by the Registrar, to graduate. Any faculty members knowing of, or having questions about, any candidate’s right to graduate should voice their concern prior to the ceremony. If it is found that any candidate has not satisfied the graduation requirements, then his or her name will be removed from the graduation list for that year.

GRADUATION PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

a. To be eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony students must:
   - Be within one course of satisfying the requirements for their program at the time of application for graduation
   - If students fail a course in the last semester, they will be allowed to participate in graduation if they are two or three courses short
   - Be approved by their academic department for participation.

b. Students who do not meet the graduation requirements at the time of application may participate in the ceremony if they subsequently meet the requirements prior to the graduation.

c. Students who participate in the graduation that have not met the graduation requirements (walkers) will receive their diplomas following the next commencement date after they have completed their requirements.

TERM HONORS
Each term matriculated will be awarded honors to include the Dean’s List for a term GPA of 3.50 to 3.99 or the President’s List for a term GPA of 4.00. Students that have incomplete course work at the end of the term will not be eligible for these honors.

GRADUATION HONORS

a. Each year matriculated associate and bachelors degree students that meet the graduation requirements for their degree program will be awarded a diploma and the following honors based on all qualifying VSC coursework at the time of graduation:
   - Cum Laude for a cumulative GPA of 3.50-3.69
   - Magna Cum Laude a cumulative GPA of 3.70-3.89
   - Summa Cum Laude a cumulative GPA of 3.90-4.00

b. Each year matriculated certificate students that have met the graduation requirements for their certificate program will be awarded a certificate of completion and honors to include “honors” for a 3.00-3.49 and “high honors” for a 3.50-4.00 cumulative GPA for all qualifying VSC coursework at the time of and the following honors based on all qualifying VSC coursework at the time of graduation:
   - Honors for a cumulative GPA of 3.00-3.49
   - High Honors for a cumulative GPA of 3.50-4.00

TIME LIMITATIONS ON GRADUATION

a. Students initially operate under the requirements specified in the catalogue at the time of their initial enrollment as a degree candidate.

b. Students that leave the College for a full term and are re-admitted will be assigned the curriculum and catalogue requirements in effect at the time of their return.

c. Students are expected to complete curriculum and graduation requirements with continuous enrollment in a specified number for terms outlined for their program curriculum upon entry.

d. Students that have not completed their academic program after two years for certificate, four years for associates or six years for bachelors, must satisfy the graduation requirements in effect the year of graduation.

e. Students participating in College-sponsored part-time programs have two years from the conclusion of the last scheduled coursework to complete the degree requirements. If these requirements are not met, the student must satisfy the graduation requirements in effect the year of graduation.

GRADUATION STANDARDS

a. All students will be expected to meet graduation standards assessed in written and oral communication, quantitative reasoning and information technology as specified in their catalogue in effect the year of graduation.

b. Graduation standards will be assessed at two levels, the associate and the bachelors levels.

c. Students that have completed all curricular requirements that have not met the graduation standards will be not awarded a degree until the standards have been met.