

Policy Title:	Academic Appeals
Policy ID:	2-219
Manual Classification:	Academic Affairs
Approved by Board of Governors (BoG):	January 28, 2026
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Next Policy Review Date:	January 2029
Contacts for Policy Interpretation:	Executive Vice-President Academic Experience

1.0 - Policy Overview

Fleming College is committed to ensuring that students are treated in a fair and equitable manner that is consistent across all areas relating to their academic performance and progress.

Should a student perceive that their learning experience or an academic decision has not been consistent, fair, and equitable, the faculty and staff share a common interest in resolving the dispute in a professional, transparent, and timely manner through use of this policy and associated procedure.

All academic appeal decisions will be based on the information presented by the student, faculty, staff and relevant parties with the goal of a fair and equitable outcome.

2.0 - Purpose

Students at Fleming College have the right to a positive environment where learning outcomes are assessed using evidence-based teaching methodology. This policy and associated procedure outline the expectations of the students, faculty, staff and administrators with respect to the steps that must be taken should a student disagree with an academic decision.

3.0 - Definitions and Acronyms

The following definitions and/or acronyms apply in this Policy:

Academic Decision: A decision made by a faculty member or an individual acting in their official capacity at the College that affects a student's academic standing or performance.

Appeal Grounds: Reasons that can be used to challenge an academic decision which the student believes is not fair or accurate.

Academic Integrity: The expectation that all members of the academic community uphold an ethical and moral code regarding the honest creation of an individual's own work and the acknowledgement of contributions from others to that work.

Academic Progression: A term used to describe movement of a student in good academic standing to the next semester.

Restorative Practice: A way of working with conflict that puts the focus on repairing the harm that has been done and encourages dialogue across all parties involved in a way that promotes respectful relationships, a sense of community, learning and problem solving together, while still encouraging personal responsibility.

4.0 - Scope

This policy applies to all current students, faculty, and staff of Fleming College. The office of the Executive Vice President Academic Experience is responsible for oversight and maintenance of this policy, associated procedure, supporting resources, and training for appeal panel members.

This policy does not apply to decisions made by an external professional or certifying body or a registered college of practice.

5.0 – General Principles

5.1 Academic Issue Resolution

Consistent with a traditional Indigenous approach, a proactive and restorative practice should be adopted wherein students communicate with their program team throughout the semester, either individually or with a support person, to discuss different perspectives and insights on academic expectations and concerns. This is further reviewed in the procedure under “Academic Issue Resolution.”

5.2 Levels of Academic Appeal

There are 4 (four) levels in the appeal process available. Each level of an appeal may have qualifying requirements, as outlined in the operating procedure:

- a) Academic Issue Resolution
- b) Appeal to Faculty
- c) Appeal to Panel
- d) Repeal Panel

5.3 Timing and Expectations

Most academic issues will be resolved informally between the student and the faculty member through Academic Issue Resolution. It is the College's expectation that all parties work together to provide a fair and satisfactory resolution regarding the academic disagreement, that is based on the evidence provided.

5.4 Grounds for Appeal

Students may appeal an academic decision provided they have identified specific grounds for their appeal, and have adequate supporting evidence, as outlined in 2-219 Academic Appeal Operating Procedure.

5.5 Academic Decisions

The academic decisions that may be appealed through the academic appeal process include:

- a) Final grades
- b) Academic Integrity Violations
- c) Academic progression
- d) Removal from a program

5.6 Abandoned Appeals

An academic appeal is considered abandoned if the student fails to meet the timelines for initiating or appealing an appeal as outlined in the operating procedure. The timelines outlined in OP 2-219 Academic Appeals represent the maximum allowable time limits for each level and every effort should be made to expedite the process to decrease the impact on the student's academic status.

5.8 Academic Appeal Assistance

The student has the right to request and receive assistance with their appeal. The student Governments (known as Student Administrative Council and Frost Student Association), Counsellors, Program Coordinators, and Student Success Advisors are available to provide guidance and advice regarding the appeal process. However, their role will not include advocating on behalf of the student.

5.9 Authorization for Release of Student Information

All aspects of the appeal process are strictly confidential. The panel will have access to all information available concerning the appeal and in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, and the Personal Health Information Protection Act

6.0 - Related Documents

- 1-110 Honouring the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- 1-111 Access to Information and Protection of Privacy
- 1-112 Information Practices Related to Personal Health Information
- 2-201A Academic Integrity
- 2-201C Grading and Academic Standing

- 2-210 Recognition of Prior Learning
- 2-201B Registration and Withdrawal
- OP 2-219 Academic Appeals
- 3-311 Harassment and Discrimination Prevention and Response
- 3-341 Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities
- 3-343 Sexual Violence Prevention
- 5-506 Student Rights & Responsibilities
- Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA)
- Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA)

7.0 History of Amendments/Reviews

Date	Activity
June 2015	Originally approved by BoG
March 2023	Reviewed and updated

Date Approved	Approved By	List of Approved Amendments / Review
June 2015		Originally approved by BoG
March 2023		Revised and updated
January 28, 2026	Board of Governors	Updates and revisions.