McCausland College of Arts and Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

POLICY: College Scholastics Standards and Petitions Committee

DATE: August 16, 2025 (Revised)

I. POLICY

This college policy is subordinate to related policies outlined in the University Policies and Procedures Manual and the University of South Carolina Faculty Manual. In cases of inconsistencies between this policy and the university, state, or federal policies, the university, state, or federal policy rules are the final authority.

This policy outlines how student petitions related to academic requirements, standards, policies, and practices will be reviewed in the McCausland College of Arts and Sciences.

A. College Scholastic Standards and Petitions Committee

The McCausland College of Arts and Sciences Scholastic Standards and Petitions Committee is appointed by the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies to consider matters concerning academic requirements, standards, policies, and practices when a formal petition is filed.

Appointed annually, the committee shall consist of two (2) senior staff members from the Office of Undergraduate Studies and two (2) college faculty members (one from arts/humanities/social sciences and one from sciences/math/statistics).

B. Petition Process

A student may seek relief from academic standards and regulations by appealing to the College Scholastic Standards and Petitions Committee. Information on procedures may be obtained from the Office of Undergraduate Studies in Flinn Hall.

C. Committee Review and Decisions

The committee will meet monthly to review and decide upon student petitions related to academic standards and regulations.

D. Appeals

Decisions made by the College Scholastic Standards and Petitions Committee may be appealed to the university-level Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions.

COMMITTEE ON SCHOLASTIC STANDARDS AND PETITIONS

This committee shall consider matters concerning university academic requirements, standards, policies, and practices. It shall review changes proposed by colleges and shall make recommendations to the appropriate faculty or the Faculty Senate.

Decisions of a college committee concerning academic regulations may be appealed to the university committee by either the student involved or the dean of the college. Grounds for appeals shall be limited to a contention that a university academic regulation was misinterpreted or that the college committee hearing was fundamentally unfair. The appealing party shall describe in writing the basis for the appeal and shall provide available supporting information.

If the committee considers an appeal, it may confirm the decision of the college committee, return the case to the college for reconsideration, or under exceptional circumstances reverse the decision of the college committee in matters involving the interpretation of university regulations.

(University of South Carolina Columbia Faculty Manual, Section 1. Faculty Organization, Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions).

II. RELATED POLICIES

University of South Carolina Columbia Faculty Manual

University of South Carolina Undergraduate Studies Bulletin