

## **Article II. THE KCTCS STUDENT BILL OF RIGHTS**

The KCTCS community recognizes and declares that students have certain fundamental rights which shall not be arbitrarily abridged or denied or removed without appropriate due process. Among them are the right to:

1. Learn, study, grow, and develop without fear of threats, harassment, bullying, or discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, nationality, age, religion, gender, gender identity, gender presentation, sexual orientation, or military service.
2. Treat others and be treated with civility and recognized as individuals, rather than a class.
3. Free written and oral speech, restrained only by those proper constraints that limit and protect the First Amendment Rights of others.
4. Hold and express divergent viewpoints with respect and civility toward others.
5. Participate in a community devoted to scholarship, inquiry, debate, thought, and expression within a community of scholars, including the right to express agreement and dissent.
6. Form and participate in student presses and organizations, and to assemble and participate in the social, religious, and political activities available in a free and open society.
7. Participate meaningfully in the governance of their colleges, including, when appropriate, representation on college or System committees and the KCTCS Board of Regents in accordance with proper rules and regulations.
8. Have privacy in their educational, academic, and financial records.
9. Have clear and comprehensible course objectives and requirements, degree and graduation requirements, transfer policies, and grading policies, and to know with accuracy and clarity information that assists them in successfully meeting the established academic standards in their classes.
10. Receive grades based only on fair and just evaluations of performance as measured by standards presented in the first or second class section or in the introductory materials for a distance learning course.
11. Have access to reasonable accommodations as required under U.S. and state laws related to the establishment of an equal opportunity to succeed.
12. Full disclosure and publication of the substantive rules and possible sanctions as described in a current KCTCS Code of Student Conduct

13. Have knowledge of allegations against the student, the right to express a proper defense, the right to know the findings of any proceeding against the student, and a right to an appeal in accordance with reasonable and proper policies and procedures.
14. Be free of penalty for violating regulations, rules, or policies imposed after-the-fact.
15. All rights considered basic human rights and memorialized in the United States Constitution, the laws and regulations of the United States of America, the Kentucky Constitution, the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and KCTCS policies and procedures.
16. KCTCS students have the right to privacy in their educational, academic, and financial records. This right to privacy shall be consistent with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974, as amended, (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99). FERPA is a federal law that protects the confidentiality of personally identifiable information contained in student education records. KCTCS shall adhere to policies and procedures for identification of directory information and for any release of information that is not identified as directory information and therefore protected by FERPA. KCTCS students shall also enjoy, when relevant, the protections of KRS 164.283.

## **ARTICLE III. PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS OF STUDENT CONDUCT**

### **SECTION 1: GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

#### **A. Purpose**

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System (“KCTCS” or “System”) student code is intended to set forth the expectations for academic and behavioral responsibilities of the students who enroll in and attend the sixteen KCTCS colleges across Kentucky. As declared in Article I, KCTCS Colleges are committed to creating a community where learning flourishes and students from all backgrounds and experiences are welcome and respected. The KCTCS Code of Student Conduct provides the framework for student success without unnecessary distractions and harmful disruptions.

#### **B. Authority**

The Kentucky General Assembly through KRS 164.350 authorized the KCTCS Board of Regents to adopt rules, regulations, and bylaws governing its members. The KCTCS Code of Student Conduct is enacted under the legislatively granted authority to govern student academic and behavioral matters. The KCTCS President exercises delegated authority in promulgating this Code for the safety and well-being of the campus community. The KCTCS President delegates authority to each College President to apply the Code at their respective college, and the College Presidents designate the Chief Student Affairs Officers (CSAO) as the front line authorities for application of the Code.