

McNeese State University
Statement on Student Rights and Responsibilities
(Approved 1/12/07)

Mission Statement

McNeese State University, a selective admissions institution, provides education, research, and service that support our core values of academic excellence, student success, fiscal responsibility, and university-community alliances. The University's fundamental educational mission is to offer associate, baccalaureate, and specific graduate curricula distinguished by academic excellence. The University engages in collaborative ventures to benefit industry and to enhance economic development and cultural growth in this region and beyond.

The foundation for student success begins with faculty commitment to excellence in teaching, research, and creative and scholarly activity. At McNeese State University, a member of the University of Louisiana System, students cultivate skills for critical thinking and effective expression and gain an understanding of the global community. The learning and social environment integrates discipline-specific knowledge with the values of lifelong learning, ethical responsibility, and civic engagement.

Brief Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities

McNeese State University conducts the tasks of education, research and service on the fundamental assumption that every student who enrolls at the University has a right to a student-centered learning environment that fosters academic excellence and personal success. Students positively contribute to this environment by maintaining high standards of integrity and ethical honor in all academic work and personal conduct, familiarizing themselves with and adhering to all policies and regulations of the University, promptly fulfilling all academic, contractual, and financial obligations, and actively participating in University life. Visit <http://www.mcneese.edu/ssrr> in order to view the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities in its entirety or contact the Dean of Student Services, Holbrook Student Services, Center, Suite 108, Box 92535, 375 Beauregard Drive, Lake Charles, Louisiana, 70609 to obtain a print version of the document.

Full Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities

McNeese State University conducts the tasks of education, research and service on the fundamental assumption that every student who enrolls at the University has a right to a student-centered learning environment that fosters academic excellence and personal success. Students positively contribute to this environment by maintaining high standards of integrity and ethical honor in all academic work and personal conduct, familiarizing themselves with and adhering to all policies and regulations of the University, promptly fulfilling all academic, contractual, and financial obligations, and actively participating in University life.

Student Rights

Specific rights the University seeks to provide students include:

- The right to a student-centered education in an environment that promotes academic and personal success.
- The right of due process and provision for appeal in judicial proceedings for violations of the University's Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity Policy (Code of Student Conduct; Academic Integrity Policy).
- The right to appeal any sanction of suspension or dismissal from the University lasting more than one year to the University of Louisiana System Board of Supervisors (UL System Board of Supervisors Rules).
- The right to prevent disclosure of personal "directory" information by providing written notification to the Registrar. (Confidentiality of Student Records, Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act).
- The right to inspect and review education records and request corrections of records believed to be inaccurate or misleading (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act).
- The right to make written complaint of discrimination by a member of the University faculty or staff or a recognized student organization (Diversity Awareness Policy).
- The right to confidentially discuss concerns regarding possible acts of discrimination with the Vice President of Special Services and Equity, Dean of Student Services, or member of the Counseling Center staff (Non-Discrimination Policy).
- The right of student representation on search committees considering candidates for employment at the level of dean or vice president (Policy and Procedures for Appointing Hiring Committees for Position of Dean or Vice President).
- The right to file a written complaint, through an appropriate vice president of the University, and to receive a written response to the complaint, within prescribed time limits (Faculty Handbook, Section 107, Policy for Review of Complaints) (Policy for Review of Complaints).
- The right of access to certain information technology tools and resources needed to fulfill course requirements while enrolled (Policy for Use of Information Technology Resources).
- The right to organize interest groups, social and academic fraternities and sororities, and other organizations in order to strengthen the quality of campus life, provide leadership opportunities, and promote involvement in co-curricular learning (Student Organization Handbook).
- The right of use of certain campus facilities while conducting legitimate business of a recognized student organization (Policy for Use of Campus Facilities).
- The right to place certain printed material (papers, signs, posters, and banners) at designated locations on the campus (Policy on Placement of Printed Materials on Campus).
- The right of freedom of expression in student publications within the context of legal and ethical standards of responsible journalism (Policy on Student Publications).

- The rights of free speech, public demonstrations, distribution of literature, and political campaigning for public office, within the context of certain guidelines pertaining to time, place, and manner of such activities (Public Forum Regulations Policy and Procedure).
- The right of special provisions pertaining to enrollment and fulfillment of course requirements for certain students called into active duty of the armed forces of the United States (Reservist and National Guard Mobilization/Activation).
- The right of reasonable accommodations pertaining to verifiable learning disabilities (Policies and Procedures for Students with Learning Disabilities).
- The right to appeal grades believed to be incorrect (Faculty Handbook Section 315, Grade Appeals Procedures).

Student Responsibilities

Specific responsibilities the University expects students to assume include:

- Maintaining awareness of and compliance with all policies of the University.
- Demonstrating honesty and integrity in all academic relationships (Academic Integrity Policy).
- Abstaining from the unlawful or unauthorized manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of alcohol or other drugs on University property or at any University function (Alcohol and Drug Policy).
- Avoiding the unauthorized use, possession, or storage of fireworks, firearms, weapons, explosives, paint ball guns and equipment, and hazardous chemicals; avoidance of the possession or use of realistic replicas of weapons (Campus Weapons Policy).
- Attending class regularly and punctually (Class Attendance Regulations).
- Using University information technology resources in a responsible, ethical, professional, and legal manner (Policy for Use of Information Technology Resources).
- Refraining from committing any act that discriminates or harasses another in relation to race, ethnic background, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or age (Diversity Awareness Policy).
- Reporting hazing in any form to the Dean of Student Services or University Police (Hazing Policy).
- Ensuring that use of campus facilities by recognized student organizations occurs only for the legitimate conduct of organization business and not as a means of providing free use of space to a non-University affiliated group (Policy for Use of Campus Facilities).
- Ensuring that events sponsored by recognized student organizations using campus facilities and/or resources are primarily geared toward McNeese State University students (Student Organization Handbook).
- Ensuring that student-organized events for the purposes of distributing literature and conducting political campaigns, public demonstrations and public speech conform to prescribed regulations and do not interfere with normal University operations (Public Forum Regulations Policy and Procedure).

- Complying with requirements of the Military Selective Service Act (Selective Service Requirement).
- Avoiding use of tobacco products in campus buildings or in close proximity to entrances and exits of buildings (Tobacco Use Policy).
- Reporting instances of direct or eminent physical threat to individuals and property occurring on University owned or controlled property to University Police; reporting violent behavior that does not constitute a direct or eminent physical threat to the Dean of Student Services (Violence Free Workplace Policy).
- Properly notifying the University Registrar regarding changes in name, address, telephone number and social security number (Address Changes).