INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FEES
Board Policy 5031
Education Code Section 76365;
Title 5 Sections 59400 et seq.

The District has a strong commitment to ensuring accessibility to all its programs and services for residents of the District who are capable of benefiting from the experiences provided. As an important component of this “open door” policy, the District actively promotes low cost education for District residents. Where consumable items, supplies, or special services are necessary to enhance the educational experiences of students, the District is compelled to make reasonable charges to the students to assist in defraying the costs of providing these items, supplies, or special services.

Students may be required to provide instructional materials required for a credit or non-credit course. Such materials shall be of continuing value to a student outside of the classroom setting and shall not be solely or exclusively available from the District. Required instructional materials shall not include materials used or designed primarily for administrative purposes, class management, course management or supervision.

Where instructional materials are available to a student temporarily through a license or access fee, the student shall be provided options at the time of purchase to maintain full access to the instructional materials for varying periods of time ranging from the length of the class up to at least two years. The terms of the license or access fee shall be provided to the student in a clear and understandable manner prior to purchase.

Instructors shall take reasonable steps to minimize the cost of instructional materials.

Definitions
“Required instructional materials” means any materials which a student must procure or possess as a condition of registration, enrollment or entry into a class; or any such material which the instructor determines is necessary to achieve the required objectives of a course.

“ Solely or exclusively available from the District” means that the instructional material is not available except through the District, or that the District requires that the instructional material be purchased or procured from it. A material shall not be considered to be solely or exclusively available from the District if it is provided to the student at the District’s actual cost; and 1) the instructional material is otherwise generally available, but is provided solely or exclusively by the District for health and safety reasons or 2) the instructional material is provided in lieu of other generally available but more expensive material which would otherwise be required.

“Required instructional and other materials which are of continuing value outside of the classroom setting” are materials which can be taken from the classroom setting and which are not wholly consumed, used up, or rendered valueless as they are applied in achieving the required objectives of a course to be accomplished under the supervision of an instructor during class hours.

I. Announcement of Fees
All course material fees shall be included in the class schedule and available on the District’s web-site. Courses with fees will be properly flagged on materials used in the Office of Admissions and Records. A fee statement, including the amounts of the fees, will be included in the course Descriptions). The presence of fees on specific courses will also be included in all newspaper and periodical advertising of courses.

II. Collection of Fees
Course material fees will be collected with enrollment fees. Once classes have started, students will not be dropped for non-payment of fees. However, registration in subsequent terms will be blocked until such fees are paid.

III. Refunds
 Students who withdraw from a class with a materials fee will receive a 100% refund through the first two (2) weeks of instruction or a proportional amount of time for a shorter-than-semester class. No refunds will be made after the second week of instruction or proportional amount of time for shorter-than-semester offering. A complete refund for material fees will be made on classes which are canceled by the College. Students will receive a materials fee credit in transferring from one fee class to another, providing the transfer occurs during the first two (2) weeks of class.

IV. Disbursements
Material fees collected will be credited to the General Fund (1000). Divisions will be informed of the amounts of fees collected and these funds will be budgeted and available for appropriate material expenditures.

(Course Repetition)

References:
Title 5 Sections 55000, 55045, 56029
Education Code Section 76224

When a student repeats a course that is not designated as repeatable and receives a satisfactory grade, then the student may not repeat the course again unless there is another provision that allows the repetition.

When a student repeats a course to alleviate substandard academic work, the previous grade and credit may be disregarded in the computation of grade point averages as long as the student is not allowed additional repetitions for more than three semesters or five quarters.

A. Students may repeat courses under the following circumstances:
1. The student is repeating the course to alleviate substandard work which has been recorded on the student’s record.
   a. The term substandard is defined as course work for which the evaluative grading symbol “D,”
“F,” “FW” or “NP” has been recorded.

b. A student is limited to a maximum of three (3) allowable attempts per course including any combination of withdrawals (W’s) or substandard grades. Withdrawals due to military orders (MW’s) are not included in the number of allowable attempts.

c. A “Request for Course Repetition”* is required for any exceptions to “b” above.

2. The student’s previous grade is, at least in part, the result of extenuating circumstances,

a. Extenuating circumstances are verified cases of accidents, illness, or other circumstances beyond the control of the student, *

3. There has been a lapse of time (at least 36 months) since the student last took the course. (See Administrative Procedure 4228)

a. The course outline of record has been officially changed and demonstrates significant curricular changes.*

b. There has been a significant change in industry or licensure standards such that repetition of the course is necessary for employment or licensure. Students may be asked to certify or document that there has been a significant change as noted necessitating course repetition.

4. A student with a disability may repeat a special class for students with disabilities any number of times based on an individualized determination that such repetition is required as a disability-related accommodation for that particular student for one of the reasons specified in section 56029. The district policy may allow the previous grade and credit to be disregarded in computing the student’s GPA each time the course is repeated.

5. Repetition of courses where substandard work has not been recorded shall be permitted when such repetition is necessary for a student to meet a legally mandated training requirement as a condition of continued paid or volunteer employment. Students may be required to provide documentation that the course repetition is legally mandated.

a. Such courses may be repeated for credit any number of times, regardless of whether or not substandard work was previously recorded, and the grade received each time shall be included for purposes of calculating the student’s grade point average.

B. The policy and procedure may not permit student enrollment in active participatory courses, as defined in section 55000, in physical education, visual arts or performing arts that are related in content, as defined in section 55000, more than four times. This limitation applies even if a student receives a substandard grade or “W” during one of more of the enrollments in such a course or petitions for repetition due to extenuating circumstances as provided in section 55045.

C. The following conditions apply:

1. When course repetition occurs at RCCD, the permanent academic records will be annotated in such a manner that all work remains legible, ensuring a true and complete academic history. Courses repeated will be indicated on the permanent record by using an appropriate symbol. In all instances, the most recent grade earned will be used to compute an adjusted grade point average.

2. For courses taken or repeated at another accredited college or university, the most recent grade earned in the repeated course will be used to compute an adjusted cumulative grade point average (GPA). The adjusted cumulative GPA will be used in determining eligibility for the cumulative GPA requirement for the Associate in Arts degree, Associate in Science degree and occupational certificates.

3. Procedures for course repetition shall be listed in the current official college catalogs.

4. Courses taken at other accredited colleges or universities for which substandard academic performance was recorded may be repeated.

5. The District will honor similar, prior course repetition action by other accredited colleges and universities.

Nothing in these Procedures can conflict with Education Code Section 76224 pertaining to the finality of grades assigned by instructors or with Title 5 or District procedures relating to retention and destruction of records.

When a student has exhausted the maximum allowed number of course attempts, they may petition for approval to repeat a course a final time if extenuating circumstances, consistent with 55045, justify such repetition.

*A Request for Course Repetition must be completed and can be obtained in Admissions office and the Dean of Instruction office on any campus. Requests are approved or denied by the Dean of Instruction, or designee.

COURSE REPETITION – SIGNIFICANT LAPSE OF TIME

References: Title 5, Section 55043, 55000, 55040

Students may be permitted to repeat courses in which a “C” or better grade was earned where there was a significant lapse of time of no less than 36 months since the most recent grade was obtained.

Students are required to repeat courses in which a “C” or better grade was earned where there was a significant lapse of time since the grade was obtained if:

• The District has established a recency prerequisite for a course or program; or

• An institution of higher education to which a student wishes to transfer has established a recency requirement that the student cannot satisfy without repeating the course.

If the District determines that a student needs to repeat an active participatory experience course in physical education or visual or performing arts, or an active participatory experience course that is related in content, 55000, due to significant lapse of time, that repetition shall be counted in applying the limit on repetitions, 55040. If a student has already exhausted the number of repetitions permitted, an additional repetition due to significant lapse of time may be permitted or required by the District.

When a student needs to repeat an activity course due to a significant lapse of time, each repetition attempt will be counted toward the established repetition limits. However, if a student has already exhausted the number of permitted repetitions, then an additional
repetition due to significant lapse of time may be permitted or required by the District.

When a course is repeated due to a significant lapse of time, the District may disregard the previous grade and credit when computing a student’s grade point average.

A Request for Course Repetition is required and can be obtained in the college Admissions offices and from the offices of the Dean of Instruction at the three colleges. Requests are approved or denied by a Dean of Instruction, or designee.

**COURSE REPETITION – VARIABLE UNITS**

Reference: Title 5, Section 55044, 55040(b)

Students may be permitted to enroll in variable unit open-entry/open-exit courses as many times as necessary to enable them to complete the entire course curriculum once, except if the course is an active participatory course in physical education, in which case each enrollment in a portion of the course counts toward the courses that are related in content limitation.

Students may not repeat any portion of the curriculum for the course unless:

- The course is required for legally mandated training; or
- The course is a special class for students with disabilities which needs to be repeated, 56029; or
- Repetition of the course is justified by extenuating circumstances, 55045; or
- The student wishes to repeat the course to alleviate substandard work, 55042

Each time a student enrolls in a physical education activity course offered on an open entry/open exit basis, regardless of the number of units for which the student enrolls, the enrollment shall count as a repetition of the course for the purposes of sections 55041 and 58161.

**REPEATABLE COURSES**

Reference:
Title 5, Sections 55040, 55041, 55000, 55042, 55253 and 56029

Students may repeat courses in which a C or better grade was earned. Only the following types of courses are repeatable: courses for which repetition is necessary to meet the major requirements of CSU or UC for completion of a bachelor’s degree, intercollegiate athletics, and intercollegiate academic or vocational competition courses that are related in content.

The following conditions apply to repeatable courses:

A. For those courses that are designated as repeatable, a student may enroll multiple times in the course, but in most cases, the limit will be 4 enrollments.
B. Repeatable courses are identified in the college catalog.
C. All grades and units will be used in the computation of the grade point average and earned units, with the following exceptions:
   1. When a repeatable course is taken and a substandard grade earned, the course may be repeated to alleviate the substandard grade with the most recent grade used in the computation of the grade point average.
   2. Grades from other repeats will be used in the computation of the grade point average.

Students are allowed to repeat a course when repetition is necessary to enable that student to take courses that are determined to be legally mandated. These are courses that are required by statute or regulation as a condition of paid or volunteer employment. Students can repeat such courses any number of times, even if they received a grade of C or better; however, the grade received by the student each time will be included in calculations of the student’s grade point average. Students may be required to provide documentation that the course repetition is legally mandated.

Students with disabilities can repeat a special class for students with disabilities any number of times when an individualized determination verifies that such repetition is required as a disability-related accommodation for that particular student as specified in 56029.

Students are allowed to repeat a course in occupational work experience under the circumstances described in section 55253. A student may earn a total of 16 semester units in occupational work experience. When an occupational work experience course is repeated, the grade received each time shall be included for the purposes of calculating the student’s grade point average. If a college offers only one course in occupational work experience in a given field, students may be permitted to repeat this course any number of times as long as they do not exceed the limits set forth in 55253. After a student has attempted a course three (3) times and in instances where a student is permitted to repeat a course multiple times, the student may be required to register for the course, in person, at the Admissions and Records office of any campus.

(This is the policy and/or procedure at the time of printing. Policies and procedures are continually being updated. In order to be sure you have the most recent language, please check the latest online version at: www.rccd.edu/administration/board/Pages/BoardPolicies.aspx.)