Repeated Coursework Policy

Effective July 1, 2011, Federal Financial Aid regulations limit the number of times a student may repeat a course and receive federal financial aid for that course. The regulations state that a student may receive federal aid when repeating a course that was previously failed regardless of the number of times the course was attempted and failed. Once the passing grade is received, the student may receive federal financial aid for only one repeat of the course. Failing grades include F, U, I or W; Passing grades include A, B, C, D, R, P or S.

An exception to the new regulation is repetitions of previously passed courses mandated by the school policy due to students failing other coursework. An institution may not pay a student for retaking previously passed courses if the student is required to retake those courses because the student failed a different course in a prior term.

The regulations do not affect Highland Community College’s policies governing whether a student may retake coursework, including repeating courses to achieve a higher grade. The regulations only apply to determining enrollment status for title IV, HEA program purposes.

Students enrolled in a program that requires students to enroll in a course on a continuing basis (using the same course number) would not be considered to be retaking coursework provided the course content was different for each term. Note that simply changing the syllabus for a course that is offered every term does not mean that students can receive aid repeatedly for the same course.

Examples of repeated coursework that may be counted towards enrollment status:
- Student receives a failing grade. He/she may repeat a failed course until it is passed.
- Student receives a ‘D’ grade in a course which requires a ‘C’ grade for his/her major. He/she may repeat the course one time.

Example of repeated coursework that may not be counted towards enrollment status:
- Student receives a grade of ‘D’ then repeats the course and receives another grade of ‘D’. If the student decides to repeat the course a second time, the course would not count towards his/her enrollment status.

Note that all courses affect financial aid standards of satisfactory academic progress calculations. All repeated coursework counts as attempted credits regardless of whether financial aid was received.