

**LEHMAN COLLEGE
OF THE
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

DIVISION OF ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

Policy Change

1. **Type of Change:** Policy Change

2. **From:**

The Fresh Start Program

The Fresh Start Program offers eligible students seeking readmission to Lehman College the opportunity to return to the College and begin their GPA anew. ~~Under the Fresh Start Program, students whose cumulative GPA does not meet Lehman College's academic standard and who earned no more than 45 indexable credits during their initial enrollment at the College will have none of their previous Lehman College coursework counted toward the computation of their grade point average.~~

~~Eligibility:~~

~~The following reinstated students may qualify for the Lehman College Fresh Start Program:~~

- ~~• Students who have completed an associate's degree and have earned a minimum GPA of 2.75~~
- ~~• Students who have earned 45 credits at an accredited institution following their initial enrollment at the College with a minimum GPA of 2.75;~~
- ~~• Students who have not attended a college or university for 5 or more years.~~

~~Terms of the program:~~

- ~~• Upon acceptance of an appeal for readmission, students who meet the above criteria will be invited to apply to the program by the Committee on Admission and Standing.~~
- ~~• Admission to the program is at the discretion of the Committee. Decisions are final and may not be appealed.~~
- ~~• Upon acceptance to the Fresh Start Program all previously earned grades will be removed from the calculation of the index but will remain visible on the transcript. A notation will indicate students' enrollment in the Fresh Start Program.~~
- ~~• Students accepted to the program must adhere to a Fresh Start Program Contract which requires regular meetings with an assigned academic advisor as well as the utilization of campus support services.~~

- ~~• Fresh Start Program participants must comply with all residency requirements for the College following their acceptance to the program, which stipulate the completion of at least 30 credits of coursework at Lehman, including at least half the number of credits in the student's major and half in the minor or half of the credits in an interdisciplinary program.~~
- ~~• Students who fail to meet the academic standards of the College following their acceptance to the program will be subject to the policies governing dismissal as outlined in the College Bulletin.~~
- ~~• The Fresh Start Program may be implemented only once during a student's academic career at Lehman.~~
- ~~• Credits earned prior to the Fresh Start Program will be treated as transfer credits. As such, all grades removed from the index under the Fresh Start Program guidelines will not be used in the calculation of any indices.~~

3. To: Underline the changes
The Fresh Start Program

The Fresh Start Program offers eligible undergraduate students seeking readmission to Lehman College the opportunity to begin their GPA anew. Under the policy, students will have their previous Lehman College coursework no longer included in the computation of their grade point average.

Eligible students must have earned no more than 60 indexable credits during their initial enrollment at the College, must have a Lehman GPA below a 2.0, and must not have previously been granted a Fresh Start.

In order to apply, the student must also meet one of the following requirements:

- Completion of an associate's degree; or
- Completion of 45 credits at an accredited institution following their initial enrollment at the College with a minimum GPA of 2.5; or
- Non-attendance in any college or university for 5 or more years.

Terms of the policy:

- Students must submit a Fresh Start appeal along with supplemental materials to be considered for a Fresh Start.
- Eligibility for Fresh Start is at the discretion of the Appeals Committee, housed within the Office of Academic Standards and Evaluation. Decisions are final and may not be appealed.
- Students granted a Fresh Start will be readmitted to the college under the Adult Degree Program (ADP) and must adhere to the Fresh Start Policy Contract.
- Prior to registration, students must review this contract with an ADP advisor and agree to meet with their advisor at least once per semester.

- Upon the Fresh Start being applied, all previously earned grades will be removed from the calculation of the index and will be converted to Pass/No Credit grades. A notation will indicate both a students' enrollment in the Fresh Start Policy and previous grades earned.
- Fresh Start Policy participants must comply with all graduation requirements, including residency requirements and completion of major courses with a passing letter grade. Grades of Pass (P) do not count towards major or minor requirements.
- There is no Fresh Start for financial aid. All financial aid utilized previously will continue to contribute towards the lifetime eligibility usage and will not reset.
- Students who fail to meet the academic standards of the College following their Fresh Start will be subject to the policies governing dismissal as outlined in the undergraduate College Bulletin.

4. Rationale (Explain how this change will impact the learning outcomes of the department and Major/Program):

The need to revisit the college's Fresh Start Program arose due to recent changes in the academic standing policy. The present policy is exclusionary, as students are not able to opt into consideration for a "fresh start" instead relying on information presented as part of a re-admission appeal to drive an invitation from the appeals committee to apply for a fresh start. This is evidenced by fewer than 10 students being granted such appeals since the program was first launch nine years ago.

The proposed program revision allows students who have shown academic promise since last attending Lehman the ability to apply for a "fresh start." In addition, the program has been redesigned to ensure that the student is supported in a much more intentional and holistic manner.

5. Date of CAEAS approval: March 11, 2024