



Central Ohio Technical College
Academic and Enrollment
Policies and Procedures
2026-2027



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College Overview

Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) is a public institution offering over 40 associate degrees, certificates, and two bachelor's degree programs. COTC is dedicated to providing high-quality technical education and training that aligns with current and emerging employment needs in central Ohio. A complete listing of all degrees and certificates is available online at <https://www.cotc.edu/degrees-certificates>.

The Newark campus is uniquely co-located with The Ohio State University at Newark. While each institution maintains its own governance, faculty, and academic programs, they share facilities and administrative services, enhancing efficiency and collaboration. Additionally, COTC has campuses in Coshocton, Mount Vernon, and Pataskala.

COTC serves a diverse student population, with representation from more than 40 counties across Ohio. The average student age is approximately 23 years. The majority of students, about 80%, attend on a part-time basis, underscoring the college's dedication to supporting learners with varied life commitments. Since its establishment in 1971, COTC has conferred degrees to over 18,000 graduates. Institutional data is available online at <https://www.cotc.edu/post/institutional-data-reports>.

COTC continually evaluates the technical and general education curricula to ensure that the employment needs of central Ohio are being met. Program advisory committees comprised of workforce and community members play an important role in this process. Faculty are carefully selected for their academic credentials as well as for their actual work experience in technical fields. Most faculty members hold at least a master's degree. With small class sizes, students often receive individualized support.

COTC's programs are organized within the following academic areas: Arts and Sciences; Engineering and Information Technology, Business Technology; Health Sciences, and Public Services and Safety. Students can pursue associate degrees, certificates, and bachelor's degrees, with many programs designed to facilitate seamless transfer to four-year institutions.

COTC has established articulation agreements with numerous four-year colleges and universities, ensuring that students can transfer credits seamlessly to pursue bachelor's degrees. Additionally, COTC participates in the Ohio Consortium for Transfer Pathways to the Liberal Arts.

Mission

The mission of Central Ohio Technical College is to meet the technical education and training needs of students and employers in the area.

Statement of Commitment

Central Ohio Technical College affirms its dedication to educating students through free, open, and rigorous intellectual inquiry in pursuit of truth. The college is committed to equipping students with the intellectual skills necessary to form their own informed conclusions. COTC upholds the rights to free speech and lawful assembly without requiring, favoring, disfavoring, or prohibiting such expression. We strive to create a community dedicated to an ethic of civil and free inquiry, which respects the autonomy of each member, supports individual capacities for growth, and tolerates the differences in opinion that naturally occur in a public higher education community. The college treats all members of its community as individuals, holding them to equal standards and

ensuring equality of opportunity regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

Vision

Empowering lives through accessible education, COTC aims to transform students and communities, and advance regional workforce readiness.

For information on our strategic plan, priorities and values, visit <https://www.cotc.edu/strategic-plan>.

Accreditation

Central Ohio Technical College is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (Address: 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602-2504; Phone: 312-263-0456; Fax: 312- 263-7462).

A list of COTC's accreditation and memberships is located: <http://www.cotc.edu/accreditation-memberships>.

Public Comment on Central Ohio Technical College

Central Ohio Technical College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Federal regulations implementing the 1992 Higher Education Act Amendments require that accrediting agencies allow for public comment on the qualifications of those institutions accredited. The Commission invites interested parties to submit written, signed comments on Central Ohio Technical College.

Public Comment on Central Ohio Technical College
Higher Learning Commission
North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, IL 60602

Non-Discrimination Statement

Central Ohio Technical College is committed to supporting equal opportunity and eliminating discrimination and harassment. Members of the college community have the right to be free from all forms of protected class discrimination and harassment, which impede the realization of the college's mission. All members of the college community are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from discrimination and harassment. This expectation is consistent with our college's institutional values and the law.

COTC does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other basis under the law, in its activities, academic programs, admission, and employment.

For Title IX and discrimination, including disability discrimination concerns, contact Holly Mason, associate dean of students & Title IX coordinator: Warner Center Suite 226, 1179 University Drive, Newark, OH 43055. 740.366.9219. mason.536@mail.cotc.edu.

For more information, visit <https://www.cotc.edu/titleix>.

Equal Employment for Individuals with Disabilities

It is the policy of COTC that discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities is prohibited.

Pursuant to the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), Titles I and II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the college provides equal employment opportunities and reasonable accommodation for qualified individuals with disabilities. Complete Office of Human Resources Policies and Procedures are available at the following the link:

<https://www.cotc.edu/post/policies-and-procedures>

Employment on Campus

The purpose of the Student Employment program is to provide students with financial support while in pursuit of their academic goals and to provide opportunities for job experience. For more information on Student Employment, visit <https://www.cotc.edu/student-employment>.

Campus Facilities

Newark Campus

1179 University Drive
Newark, OH 43055
740-366-1351

<https://www.cotc.edu/newark-campus>

Buildings:

- Adena Hall
- Alford Science and Technology Center (Alford Center)
- Evans Hall
- Louella Hodges Reese Hall (Hodges Hall)
- Hopewell Hall
- LeFevre Hall
- The John Gilbert Reese Center (Reese Center)
- The John L. and Christine Warner Library and Student Center (Warner Center)
- North Classroom Building

Extended Campuses

Coshocton Campus

Montgomery Hall
200 North Whitewoman Street
Coshocton, OH 43812
740-622-1408

<https://www.cotc.edu/coshocton-campus>

Knox Campus

Ariel Hall
236 South Main Street
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-392-2526

<https://www.cotc.edu/knox-campus>

Pataskala Campus

8660 East Broad St.
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068
740-755-7090
<https://www.cotc.edu/pataskala-campus>

Workforce Training/Non-Credit Training Site (Commercial Driver's License - CDL)

Pataskala Annex
621 W. Broad Street
Pataskala, OH 43062

Facilities information may be found online at: <https://www.cotc.edu/facilities>

Additional Locations

COTC also partners with other institutions to offer classes. Classes held through these partners can include CNA/Basic Healthcare Skills, EFDA and Medical Coding.

Our partner institutions are:

Career & Technology Education Centers of Licking County (C-TEC)
150 Price Rd
Newark, OH 43055

The Knox Technical Center (KTC)
308 Martinsburg Rd
Mt Vernon, OH 43050

Building Hours

In general, COTC campus buildings are open when classes or events are scheduled. Hours are posted on each campus website - <https://www.cotc.edu/campus-locations>.

Tobacco Free Environment

As a part of our commitment to the health and well-being of faculty, staff, students and visitors, all COTC campuses are 100% tobacco-free. Please see the current smoking policy under the Health & Safety policies on the COTC website at: <https://www.cotc.edu/post/tobacco-free-cotc>

Admission Requirements

Regular admission as an associate degree or certificate seeking student to Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) is based upon meeting one of the following requirements:

1. High school graduate, or
2. Completed home schooling program, or
3. Passed the General Education Development Test (GED), or
4. Completed an adult diploma program (ADP), or
5. If an applicant has not met any of the above, must be 18 or older.

Before an applicant can be admitted as a regular degree or certificate seeking student, the following must be submitted:

1. Application for Admission (no application fee; available online)
2. Non-U.S. citizens are required to submit documentation of their current status. Documentation can include, but is not limited to:
 - a. Permanent Resident Card
 - b. DACA – employment authorization card
 - c. Asylee or Refugee documentation
 - d. I-94 Form
 - e. Notice of Action (I-797) Form
 - f. Passport showing visa status.
 - i. Visa status may impact enrollment eligibility, including program of study and full or part-time enrollment status.
 - g. COTC is not approved by the U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Services to issue I-20's or accept students seeking admission through an international student visa (F-1 or M-1).
3. A current College Credit Plus student in good standing who meets graduation eligibility for a certificate or degree program can be conditionally admitted as degree or certificate-seeking in the semester in which they are eligible to graduate.
 - a. The student will revert back to CCP/non-degree or certificate seeking if they continue in the CCP program after earning a COTC certificate or degree.

An official high school transcript, GED or ADP transcript, or home school completion documentation may be required for program admission requirements, scholarship eligibility, financial aid verification, and/or to meet prerequisites for courses.

Suspected Fraudulent Application Activity

Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) has established proactive measures to identify and prevent fraudulent applications and accounts in order to maintain the integrity of the admissions process and protect the College from cyber threats.

All applications are reviewed through LightLeap, an AI-powered fraud prevention software, which analyzes applications prior to acceptance. As part of this review, COTC may require proof of identity before an applicant can be admitted to the College. Identity verification can be completed online through LightLeap (applicants will be emailed instructions) and/or in person at the Gateway and requires submission of a valid (non-expired) government-issued photo ID (e.g., driver's license, passport, or state ID) and a selfie to confirm the applicant's identity.

When an account is identified as potentially fraudulent, the application and all associated account access will be temporarily deactivated.

If an account has been deactivated and the applicant believes the action was taken in error, the applicant must appeal in person, at which time proof of identity will be required to reinstate the account. Acceptable documentation includes any valid (non-expired) government-issued photo ID.

Determining Validity of High School Completion

Upon receipt of the high school transcript with date of graduation, the Gateway – Student Records office confirms the transcript is valid. If there is reason to believe the transcript is inauthentic or granted by an ineligible institution, further review may be necessary. Typically, validity is determined by confirming the high

school's accreditation status with the agency that has jurisdiction over the high school. If unable to validate through the accrediting agency and/or if additional information is needed, the Gateway – Student Records office performs due diligence with actions such as, contacting the high school for additional information or consulting with other post-secondary school leadership located in proximity to the high school in question.

Selective Admissions Programs

Some academic programs have additional specific admission requirements which may include but not be limited to age limitations. Admission to some programs is limited. Applicants to some programs must complete all admission requirements specific to their program and submit a separate application for that program (before the published deadline) to be considered for admission.

Non-Degree/Non-Certificate Status

Under certain circumstances an applicant may enroll as a non-degree/non-certificate seeking student. Non-degree/non-certificate seeking students are not eligible to receive financial aid and cannot earn a degree/certificate. Non-degree/non-certificate seeking students must adhere to all course prerequisites and cannot seek admission into a selective program. There is no restriction on the number of credit hours a non-degree/non-certificate seeker can earn. Applicants/students can switch to a degree/certificate seeking status by completing a Program Change Form. Students who change from non-degree/non-certificate seeking to degree/certificate seeking will be assessed a one-time acceptance fee on their billing statement after the change is completed.

Felony Applicants

Applicants with felony convictions may be denied general admissions to the college, admissions to specific academic programs, and may not be eligible for federal financial aid. Applicants are required to disclose on the application for admissions any prior guilty plea or conviction of a felony, or any pending felony charge. Additional information will be requested from the applicant, and the admission review board will assess the student's background for admission determination.

Admitted students may have to meet additional conditions prior to enrolling or for continued enrollment after being approved for general admissions. Failure to disclose felony information may result in the cancellation of admission. Students are required to notify the college of any felony arrest or conviction while enrolled. All documentation must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the start of the semester in which the applicant intends to enroll.

Students with a prior felony conviction will be restricted from enrolling in the following programs:

- Criminal Justice Technology
- Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology
- Early Childhood Technology
- Health Services Technology
- Nursing Technology
- Peace Officer Basic Training
- Radiologic Science Technology
- Respiratory Therapy Technology

Disciplinary Dismissal from Another College or University

Applicants who have been dismissed for disciplinary reasons from any college, university or other post-secondary institution or have any such action from any institution currently pending may be denied admissions

to the college or admissions to specific academic programs. Applicants are required to disclose any prior dismissal for disciplinary reasons on the application for admission. Examples of disciplinary dismissals include but are not limited to dismissal for academic dishonesty, student code of conduct violations, or expulsion from clinical or practicum site due to policy violation. Disciplinary dismissal does not include dismissal due to low GPA.

An applicant who indicates they have been dismissed for disciplinary reasons will be required to submit documentation, including a statement outlining reason for dismissal and an authorization for COTC to contact the other institution. The admissions review board will assess the documentation to determine applicant's eligibility to enroll. Failure to disclose a disciplinary dismissal from another institution may result in cancellation of admission. All documentation must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the start of the semester in which the applicant intends to enroll.

Re-Admission for Returning Students

A student who re-enters the College after an absence of at least one academic year (three semesters) will be required to submit an updated application for admissions. A student who is seeking re-entry into a selective health program should refer to the program handbook for re-admission policies. In situations where coursework is interrupted or where requisite skills may have been lost, courses submitted for acceptance for program requirements will be subject to review and approval by the academic dean.

Fresh Start Rule

A student who re-enrolls after an absence of two (2) or more years (minimum of 6 consecutive semesters) with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) below a 2.0 (on a 4.0 grade scale) may petition the Registrar to recalculate cumulative point-hour ratio of previous coursework. If the request is approved, the course(s) and grade(s) earned shall remain on the student's academic record; however, the GPA would be adjusted under the new calculation. Grades of "C" or higher and "S" - Satisfactory will continue to count toward graduation requirements. Academic departmental guidelines regarding grade requirements will supersede this policy.

A student will be required to complete a minimum of 6 credit hours with a 2.0 cumulative GPA within 3 semesters (1 year) after re-enrolling before being eligible to apply for Fresh Start. At time of re-application, students will be informed of the Fresh Start Policy and provided guidance on how to apply. Students will work with their enrollment navigator and a student success coach to develop a success plan. Once the student meets the GPA and credit requirements, they will be contacted by the Registrar's Office to initiate the Fresh Start application. Students will be required to meet with their Academic Advisor and with a Student Financial Specialist as part of the application process. The application will be reviewed by the Registrar and once approved, the student's academic record will be updated.

Once approved, the course(s) in which fresh start has been applied will have a designation of "#" next to the grade on the transcript. The student resumes enrollment with no cumulative point-hour, and therefore, is subject to the conditions of warning, probation, and dismissal that govern all students. Additionally, the student is subject to the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) policy. Under the provisions of this rule, the student must have at least fifteen semester hours remaining before completing an associate degree and/or at least twelve semester hours remaining before completing a one-year certificate. Students enrolled in short-term certificates will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The fresh start rule may only be used once.

Senior Citizens

Any person 60 years or older may enroll in courses tuition free on a non-credit, space-available basis. Some courses may be subject to specialized fees, which are the responsibility of the student.

Senior citizens enrolled on a non-credit basis are not held responsible for the regular class work and preparation of assignments. Courses do not apply toward the fulfillment of degree requirements.

A senior citizen wishing to receive college credit for coursework must enroll as a regular student and pay all appropriate fees and tuition.

Military/Veteran

In accordance with State of Ohio legislative law (R.C. 3345.422), COTC provides a student who is either a veteran or a service member with priority for course registration.

In accordance with State of Ohio legislative law (R.C. 3345.424), COTC does not charge a student who is a veteran or a service member any fee for the evaluation of, transcription of, or application for college credit for military experience.

COTC will permit any individual who is entitled to full educational assistance under Chapter 31 Vocational Rehabilitation, or Chapter 33, Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits to attend or participate in the course of education during the period beginning on the date on which the individual provides to COTC a certificate of eligibility, and ending on the earlier of:

1. The date on which the payment from the VA is made to the institution;
2. 90 days after the date the institution certified tuition and fees following the receipt of the Certificate of Eligibility.

COTC will not impose any penalty, including the assessment of late fees, the denial of access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities, or the requirement that the individual borrow additional funds to meet his or her financial obligations to the institution due to the delayed disbursement of funding from the Department of Veterans Affairs under Chapter 31 or 33.

An active service member or veteran who has not lived in Ohio for the past 12 months is eligible for immediate residency. However, an Application for Residency will be required in order to ensure out-of-state fees are removed.

Called to Active Service Duty

If a student service member received active duty orders, he/she should report immediately to The Gateway. The student will be given a "Call to Duty Checklist" with directions to meet with each instructor and/or Program Director within 48 hours. Instructors and/or Program Directors will determine the best course of action best suited to ensure the student's academic success and completion of the classes and program.

College Credit Plus

A student who is currently enrolled in an Ohio middle school (7/8th grades) or high school or an Ohio resident enrolled in a home school program may be eligible to enroll in courses or earn college credit through [College Credit Plus](#) (CCP).

Students who enroll at COTC through the College Credit Plus program are considered COTC students, admitted as non-degree, non-certificate seeking and are not eligible for state or federal financial aid. There are no tuition and fees costs to students for participation in CCP, however, the school district may seek reimbursement of costs if a student withdraws from a course after the census date or fails the course.

College Credit Plus Admission Requirements and Eligibility Criteria

Admission Requirements:

1. Submit an online Application for Admission
2. Must be an Ohio resident.
3. Submit an official high school transcript with unweighted GPA
4. Submit a Mature Subject Matter Permission Slip signed by both the student and parent.
5. Meet CCP eligibility criteria

Students must meet one of the **CCP eligibility criteria** as established by the State of Ohio.

1. Obtains a remediation-free score on one of the standard assessment exams as set forth in paragraph (D)(2) of rule 3333-1-65.3 of the Administrative Code; or
2. Has a cumulative unweighted high school grade point average of at least 3.00; or
3. Has a cumulative unweighted high school grade point average of at least 2.75 but less than 3.00 and received an "A" or "B" grade in a relevant high school course.

Registration will be permitted after the following:

1. Completion of the online CCP Orientation course
2. Placement testing (if applicable) *
3. Completion of the Mature Subject Matter Questionnaire by the student

*CCP does not allow for enrollment in any pre-college courses.

Concurrent Enrollment

The Concurrent Enrollment program provides an opportunity for high school students who either do not meet CCP eligibility requirements or have exhausted the maximum number of credit hours allowed under CCP to enroll in courses as a self-pay student. Under the Concurrent Enrollment program, tuition and fees will be charged at the CCP current [default tuition rates](#),* which are as follows:

Course delivered on the college campus or online.	Course delivered at the high school with college faculty instruction.	Course delivered at the high school, with credentialed teacher.
\$166.55	\$83.28	\$41.64

*Default rates are subject to change based upon as established by Ohio Revised Code 3365.07 and the Ohio General Assembly biennial budget process.

Students will be responsible for all textbook and supply costs.

Concurrent Enrollment Admission Requirements:

1. Complete the online Application for Admission
2. Must be an Ohio resident.
3. Submit an official high school transcript with a minimum 2.5 cumulative unweighted GPA.
4. OR meet remediation-free score on one of the standard assessment exams (ACT, SAT, Accuplacer, etc.).

* Applicant may be required to complete a placement assessment to determine appropriate course placement.

Ohio Residency Requirements

In accordance with definitions and rules adopted by The Ohio Department of Higher Education, the following

information shall be the policy of Central Ohio Technical College in regard to determination of Ohio residency. The Application for Residency must be submitted by the first day of the semester.

1. Intent and authority

- a. It is the intent of the Ohio Department of Higher Education in promulgating this rule to exclude from treatment as residents, as that term is applied here, those persons who are present in the state of Ohio primarily for the purpose of receiving the benefit of a state-supported education.
- b. This rule is adopted pursuant to Chapter 119 of the Revised Code, and under the authority conferred upon the Ohio Department of Higher Education by section 3333.31 of the Revised Code.

2. Definitions

- a. For purposes of this rule: A "resident of Ohio for all other legal purposes" shall mean any person who maintains a twelve-month place or places of residence in Ohio, who is qualified as a resident to vote in Ohio and receive state welfare benefits, and who may be subjected to tax liability under section 5747.02 of the Revised Code, provided such person has not, within the time prescribed by this rule, declared himself or herself to be or allowed himself or herself to remain a resident of any other state or nation for any of these or other purposes."
- b. "Financial support" as used in this rule, shall not include grants, scholarships and awards from persons or entities which are not related to the recipient.
- c. An "institution of higher education" as used in this rule shall mean any university, community college, technical institute or college, general and technical college, medical college or private medical or dental college which receives a direct subsidy from the state of Ohio.
- d. For the purpose of determining residency for tuition surcharge purposes at Ohio's state-assisted colleges and universities, "domicile" is a person's permanent place of abode; there must exist a demonstrated intent to live permanently in Ohio, and a legal ability under federal and state law to reside permanently in the state. For the purpose of this policy, only one domicile may be maintained at a given time.
- e. For the purpose of determining residency for tuition surcharge purposes at Ohio's state-assisted colleges and universities, an individual's immigration status will not preclude an individual from obtaining resident status if that individual has the current legal status to remain permanently in the United States.

3. Residency for subsidy and tuition surcharge purposes

- a. The following persons shall be classified as residents of the state of Ohio for subsidy and tuition surcharge purposes:
- b. A dependent student, at least one of whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) has been a resident of the state of Ohio for all other legal purposes for twelve consecutive months or more immediately preceding the enrollment of such student in an institution of higher education.
- c. A person who has been a resident of Ohio for the purpose of this rule for at least twelve consecutive months immediately preceding his or her enrollment in an institution of higher education and who is not receiving and has not directly or indirectly received in the preceding twelve consecutive months, financial support from persons or entities who are not residents of Ohio for all other legal purposes.
- d. A dependent child of a parent or legal guardian, or the spouse of a person who, as of the first day of term of enrollment, has accepted full-time, self-sustaining employment and established domicile in the State of Ohio for reasons other than gaining the benefit of favorable tuition rates.

- i. Documentation of full-time employment and domicile shall include both of the following documents:
 - a) Sworn statement from the employer or the employer's representative on the letterhead of the employer or the employer's representative certifying that the parent or spouse of the student is employed full-time in Ohio.
 - b) A copy of the lease under which the parent or spouse is the lessee and occupant of rented residential property in the State; a copy of the closing statement on residential real property located in Ohio of which the parent or spouse is the owner and occupant; or if the parent or spouse is not the lessee or owner of the residence in which he or she has established domicile, a letter from the owner of the residence certifying that the parent or spouse resides at that residence.
 - e. A (Forever Buckeye) public or private Ohio high school graduate who leaves Ohio but returns to enroll in an undergraduate or graduate program at an Ohio college and also establishes residency in Ohio.
- 4. Additional criteria which may be considered in determining residency for the purpose may include but are not limited to the following:
 - a. Criteria evidencing residency:
 - i. If a person is subject to tax liability under section 5747.02 of the Revised Code;
 - ii. If a person is qualified to vote in Ohio;
 - iii. If a person is eligible to receive state welfare benefits;
 - iv. If a person has an Ohio driver's license and/or Motor Vehicle registration.
 - b. Criteria evidencing lack of residency:
 - i. If a person is a resident of or intends to be a resident of another state or nation for the purpose of tax liability, voting, receipt of welfare benefits, or student loan benefits (if the student qualified for that loan program by being a resident of that state or nation);
 - ii. If a person is a resident or intends to be a resident of another state or nation for any purpose other than tax liability, voting, or receipt of welfare benefits (see paragraph (D) (2) (a) of this rule).
- 5. Exceptions to the general rule of residency for subsidy and tuition surcharge purposes:
 - a. A person who is living and is gainfully employed on a full-time or part-time and self-sustaining basis in Ohio and who is pursuing a part-time program of instruction at an institution of higher education shall be considered a resident of Ohio for these purposes.
 - b. A person who enters and currently remains upon active-duty status in the United States military service while a resident of Ohio for all other legal purposes and his or her dependents shall be considered residents of Ohio for these purposes as long as Ohio remains the state of such person's domicile.
 - c. A person on active-duty status in the United States military service who is stationed and resides in Ohio and his or her dependents shall be considered residents of Ohio for these purposes.
 - d. A person who is transferred by his employer beyond the territorial limits of the fifty states of the United States and the District of Columbia while a resident of Ohio for all other legal purposes and his or her dependents shall be considered residents of Ohio for these purposes as long as Ohio remains the state of the person's domicile as long as such person has fulfilled his or her tax liability to the state of Ohio for a least the tax year preceding enrollment.
 - e. A person who has been employed as a migrant worker in the state of Ohio and his or her dependents shall be considered a resident for these purposes provided such person has worked in Ohio at least four months during each of the three years preceding the proposed enrollment.

6. Procedures

- a. A dependent person classified as a resident of Ohio for these purposes UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH (C) (1) OF THIS RULE and who is enrolled in an institution of higher education when his or her parents or legal guardian removes their residency from the state of Ohio shall continue to be considered a resident during continuous full-time enrollment and until his or her completion of any one academic degree program.
- b. In considering residency, removal of the student or the student's parents or legal guardian from Ohio shall not, during a period of twelve months following such removal, constitute relinquishment of Ohio residency status otherwise established under paragraph (C) (1) or (C) (2) of this rule.
- c. For students who qualify for residency status under paragraph (C) (3) of this rule, residency status is lost immediately if the employed person upon whom resident student status was based accepts employment and establishes domicile outside Ohio less than twelve months after accepting employment and establishing domicile in Ohio.
- d. Any person once classified as a nonresident, upon the completion of twelve consecutive months of residency, must apply to the institution he or she attends for reclassification as a resident of Ohio for these purposes if such person in fact wants to be reclassified as a resident. Should such person present clear and convincing proof that no part of his or her financial support is or in the preceding twelve consecutive months has been provided directly or indirectly by persons or entities who are not residents of Ohio for all other legal purposes, such person shall be reclassified as a resident.
 - i. Evidentiary determinations under this rule shall be made by the institution which may require, among other things, the submission of documentation regarding the sources of a student's actual financial support.
- e. Any reclassification of a person who was once classified as a nonresident for these purposes shall have prospective application only from the date of such reclassification.
- f. Any institution of higher education charged with reporting student enrollment to the Ohio Department of Higher Education for state subsidy purposes and assessing the tuition surcharge shall provide individual students with a fair and adequate opportunity to present proof of his or her Ohio residency for purposes of this rule. Such an institution may require the submission of affidavits and other documentary evidence which it may deem necessary to a full and complete determination under this rule.

Selective Service

Under the provisions of Section 3345.32 of the Ohio Revised Code, a male student born after December 31, 1959, who is at least 18 years of age and who is classified as an Ohio resident for fee purposes by the state-assisted college or university he is attending is required to be registered with the Selective Service System or be charged a tuition surcharge equal to that charged a non-resident student.

According to SSS.gov, Selective Service bases the registration requirement on gender assigned at birth and not on gender identity or on gender reassignment. Individuals who are born male and changed their gender to female are still required to register. Individuals who are born female and changed their gender to male are not required to register.

Students are exempt from registration with the Selective Service System on the basis of one of the following:

- Female;
- Under 18 years of age;
- Over 26 years of age;
- Currently on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States.
 - Training in a Reserve or National Guard unit does not constitute active duty;
- A nonimmigrant alien lawfully in the United States in accordance with Section 101 (a)

- (15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, U.S.C. 1101, as amended;
- A permanent resident of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, or the Republic of Palau.

Note that Selective Service System registration compliance must be met before the awarding/disbursing of any state financial aid funds, including but not limited to state grants and loans. Males within 30 days of becoming 18 years of age must register with the Selective Service System at: www.sss.gov.

Articulation Agreements

COTC recognizes that some courses completed in a career technical education program in high school or at a career center may be equivalent to college entry-level coursework. In order to avoid repetition of such courses, COTC has entered into articulation agreements with area high schools and career centers. This allows the awarding of credit for certain coursework completed at the high school or career center where articulation agreements are in place.

Articulated credit is transcribed with an “TC” grade designation. Articulated credit can be applied toward completion of a certificate or degree at COTC but may not be transferable to other institutions.

COTC will proactively collect articulation agreement forms for students who have completed the career technical program at the end of each academic year and conduct outreach to ensure potential students are aware of the credit opportunity. Students must enroll within 3 years of graduating or completing the career technical program in order to be eligible for articulated credit.

Please contact The Gateway for information concerning eligibility for articulation credit.

Enrollment

Orientation for New and Returning Students

COTC requires completion of an online orientation course for new and returning students and for College Credit Plus students.

All new students, including those participating in College Credit Plus (CCP), enrolling for the first time and returning students enrolling after an absence of one academic year (3 semesters) are required to complete an online orientation course prior to registering for classes. CCP students will be required to complete the traditional online orientation course when continuing at COTC after high school.

Applicants who finish orientation but don't enroll that academic year may be required to complete a new orientation if they intend to register during the following academic year.

Students will be automatically enrolled in the appropriate online orientation course after admittance to COTC and provided instructions on how to access the course via email.

Academic Advising

All students will work with an enrollment navigator to enroll in their first semester. Students are then assigned to an academic advisor at the start of their first semester. After accumulating 12 COTC credit hours, students in non-health programs will be assigned to a faculty advisor in addition to an academic advisor. Students who are admitted to a selective admissions program will be assigned to a faculty advisor in addition to an academic advisor upon admission to the program. Students in a pre-health program will not be assigned a faculty advisor

until admittance into their selective health program. Additional programs may also assign faculty advisors earlier based upon program policy.

Academic advisors assist students with academic program requirements, college policies and procedures, and campus resources. Additionally, academic advisors collaborate with students on goal setting, academic planning, and course registration. Faculty advisors assist students with career planning, program specific requirements/policies, and field experience placement.

All new and former CCP students are required to complete an academic advising appointment during the first semester of enrollment. This mandatory appointment is used to assist the student with goal setting and creating an academic plan in Student Planning. Failure to complete the mandatory advising appointment will result in a block on registration.

Advisor approval for registration is required for students until they complete 12 credit hours. Students will work with their assigned academic advisor to create an academic plan and request course approval for registration. An advisor restriction may be placed on a student account at the discretion of their assigned academic advisor or the director of academic advising for additional interventions or requirements.

Students who change their academic program may be assigned to a new academic advisor. If a student wants to change their academic advisor, he/she can complete the "Request for Advisor Change".

Student Success Coaching

All students are assigned a student success coach in their first semester based on their campus, last name, and program. Success coaches assist students in building academic and college-life skills to prevent, prepare for and respond to common obstacles students encounter in higher education.

Students who are on academic probation or who are reinstated will be placed on a success plan requiring at minimum two meetings with a success coach in the subsequent semester. Any student whose cumulative GPA falls below a 2.0 may be placed on a success plan requiring meeting with a success coach. Any Nursing student who falls below a certain GPA or HESI score threshold is required to meet with a success coach at least once during their first semester in the program.

Students who change their primary campus location may be assigned to a new success coach. If a student wants to change their success coach, he/she can request a success coach change by emailing the Student Success inbox cotcsuccess@mail.cotc.edu.

Registration

COTC opens registration windows based upon priorities. Current students will receive an email from the Registrar when their window opens.

- First priority: Active military service members, veterans and students admitted and enrolled in a selective health program.
- Second Priority: Students registered with disability services and students who have earned 31.00 credit hours or more.
- Third Priority: Students who have earned 30.50 credit hours or less.
- Open Registration: Open to all new, returning, and current students; CCP students.

Students with less than 12 credit hours will require advisor approval to register online.

A student may not register for more than 18 semester credit hours per semester without permission. Student must email their assigned enrollment navigator or academic advisor and include the rationale for requesting

enrollment in more than 18 semester credit hours. The request will be reviewed by enrollment leadership, and the student will be notified of the outcome via email.

No student may register for classes whose meeting times overlap.

Students are required to submit a Student Financial Responsibility Agreement each semester prior to registering for classes. Course registration may be blocked if the student has outstanding financial obligations or for other policy-related reasons.

Independent Study

Central Ohio Technical College offers the option of independent study (IS) in rare circumstances where a course substitution is not available, or course enrollment is extremely low.

In cases where an independent study is approved, the faculty member must maintain the same level of rigor as that in a traditionally delivered course and is expected to give the student the attention needed to successfully complete the course. In all cases, preliminary approval must be given by the Dean before the learning plan is established.

Additionally, per HLC regulations, the faculty member must maintain at least weekly contact, preferably either physically or via Zoom, to ensure that the student is progressing to meet all Student Learning Outcomes by the end of the term.

Independent Study is not offered out of convenience. All options, including adjustments to the student's schedule and/or course substitutions, should be exhausted prior to seeking a course to be delivered as an IS. Decisions to offer IS are to be made in cases where a student must have a specific course in a specific term to stay on track for graduation.

Lab courses are generally not offered in an IS format.

Process:

1. Student will connect with their Academic Advisor to review their individual situation to determine if individual study is the only viable option.
2. If it is determined that independent study is the only option, student will complete and submit the Permission for Independent Study (IS) form to their academic advisor.
 - a. Form will be marked for tracking in the student information system and forwarded to the Assistant Registrar.
3. Permission for Independent Study form is routed to the appropriate Dean for review.
4. If approved, the Dean routes the form to the appropriate faculty member for review and consent to manage the study and adds it to the semester master schedule.
 - a. Faculty member agrees to manage the independent study.
 - i. Meets with student to develop individual learning plan.
 - ii. Revises course syllabus to reflect individual learning plan.
 - iii. Attaches the syllabus and the learning plan to the form and routes it to the appropriate Dean.
 - b. Faculty member payment for independent study is adjusted in accordance with Faculty Agreement.
5. Routes form with final approval to the Assistant Registrar.
 - a. Student and Academic Advisor are notified by email as to the Dean's decision.
 - b. Form is copied into the imaging system.
6. Student will connect with their Academic Advisor to register for the approved Independent Study.

- a. Student must complete a Course Registration and Schedule Change Form.

Auditing Courses

A student may register for and attend a course(s) as an auditor on a space-available basis, with priority given to credit students. The student is not held responsible for the regular class work and preparation of assignments and receives no credit for the course. Students are encouraged but not required to take the listed prerequisite and/or co-requisite requirement when auditing a course.

Course tuition and fees are the responsibility of the student, and the course is considered part of the student's total course load. Audited courses will not apply toward the fulfillment of graduation requirements. Financial aid cannot be applied toward an audited course.

A change to audit status cannot be made after the last date to drop classes in the semester, term, or flexibly scheduled class section.

Course Registration

First Time Registration/Adding Courses

First time registration or course additions must be completed by the first day of the semester/term. No new course registration is permitted after the first day of the semester/term unless there are extenuating circumstances. Courses offered in conjunction with a partnering agency, such as basic healthcare skills or medical coding, may have additional requirements and earlier registration deadlines.

Changing Sections of a Course

A student may change sections in open full semester courses within the first five days of the semester. Any section change request after the first week of the semester will require instructor permission. No section changes are permitted after week 3 for semester length courses.

No section changes are permitted for term or flex courses after the first day of the course.

Registration dates and deadlines are posted online at <https://www.cotc.edu/post/cotc-registration-dates>.

Cancelled Courses

All courses are subject to a minimum enrollment. *The College reserves the right to cancel scheduled classes that do not have the minimum number of enrollees.* Students will be notified of any course cancellations by the Gateway.

Dropping or Withdrawing Course Section(s)

See Withdrawal Policy 5.1.10: <https://www.cotc.edu/college-policies>

Course Prerequisite(s)

A prerequisite is a course taken prior to another course(s). Certain courses require that the student meet prerequisites in order to register for the course. Prerequisites have been established in order to ensure that the student has sufficient competency to complete the course successfully. The prerequisite(s) may be one or more courses, a minimum placement test score, or a minimum grade in a prerequisite course(s). These prerequisites are indicated in the course descriptions. A student must have successfully completed the listed course

prerequisite(s) prior to the start of the next semester in which the subsequent course begins. A prerequisite check is conducted by The Gateway -Student Records prior to the start of each semester. Students who fail to meet a course prerequisite will be dropped from the course and notified via email.

A student who has satisfied a prerequisite at another educational institution will need to submit a transcript from the institution demonstrating that they have satisfied the prerequisite of the course under consideration. An unofficial transcript may be used for purposes of registration; however, if the official transcript is not received prior to the following semester, the student will not be permitted to register.

A student who feels that they already possess the knowledge and skills covered in the prerequisite course will need to provide evidence to support this claim and submit the "Authorization for Waiver of Prerequisite Course Form". Approval of the waiver does not grant credit for the prerequisite course. To request credit for a prerequisite course based upon prior learning or work experience, students must apply for credit using the guidelines in the Prior Learning Assessment policy.

Course Repeat Policy

A student may only repeat courses in which she/he has received a grade of "C-", "D+", "D", "D-" "F", "FN", "U", "UN", or "R". All courses will remain on the student's permanent record, but only the best grade and corresponding credit hours will be counted in computing the grade point average or will count toward credit hours for graduation.

A student is not permitted to repeat a course for which they have previously successfully completed with a "C" grade (2.00) or better (student may enroll in such courses for audit). Exceptions to this rule include course repeats for technical coursework older than 10 years, credentialing courses, or clinical courses.

A student enrolled in or seeking enrollment in a selective program should consult the academic department guidelines or policies on repeating a course. Academic department guidelines will supersede this policy.

A student who received transfer credit for a course may not then take the course for credit. The student may audit a course in which transfer credit was awarded. COTC will not remove transfer credit to allow a student to repeat a course completed at another institution.

A student who is unsuccessful in a COTC course will be required to establish a Student Success Plan with an academic advisor and student success coach prior to re-enrolling in the course. A Student Success Plan reviews factors that resulted in an unsuccessful grade and establishes proactive strategies to support the student being successful, such as tutoring, study skills workshops, check-ins with a success coach or academic advisor, etc.

Students who are using financial aid should connect with Student Financial Services prior to registering for a course repeat or refer to the [Satisfactory Academic Progress](#) policy for additional course repeat information.

Academic Probation and Dismissal

Any student who earns below a 2.00 cumulative GPA any semester will be sent an academic warning letter.

The Academic Board reserves the right to place a student on probation with limited hours and/or courses when their cumulative GPA falls below a 2.0. Students on probation will be required to complete a Student Success Plan with their academic advisor and success coach.

Probation restrictions will only be lifted once the student earns a 2.00 cumulative GPA. Credit hour restrictions may be changed at the recommendation of the academic advisor once a student has demonstrated academic

success. A VA recipient can only be on probation for a max of two terms before being dismissed for failure to meet SAP.

A student will be dismissed from COTC if his/her grade point average is below the following levels:

- After attempting 12 credit hours, below 1.00 (except for first semester students; no student will be dismissed who has completed less than two semesters)
- After attempting 24 credit hours, below 1.25
- After attempting 30 credit hours, below 1.50
- After attempting 45 credit hours, below 1.75
- After attempting 60 plus credit hours, below 2.0

A student who has been dismissed from COTC for failure to maintain minimum scholastic requirements must remain out for at least one semester.

Reinstatement

A student who has been academically dismissed from COTC for failure to maintain minimum academic requirements must submit a “Request for Reinstatement” after remaining out for at least one semester. The “Request for Reinstatement” is due at least four weeks prior to the start of the semester in which the student is seeking reinstatement. The Academic Board will meet with each student individually to learn more about the circumstances surrounding their dismissal and how the student plans to be successful once reinstated. The Academic Board may place the student on probation with restrictions.

Grade Scale

The following chart is COTC’s grading scheme, which is used in reporting and recording a student's academic achievement. The grade point average is obtained by dividing the total number of points earned by the total number of credit hours attempted. Students can view their grades in myCOTC or request an official grade report from the Gateway. Grades cannot be disclosed over the phone.

Grade	Legend	Value
A	Excellent	4.00
A-	A-	3.70
B+	B+	3.30
B	Good	3.00
B-	B-	2.70
C+	C+	2.30
C	Average	2.00
C-	C-	1.70
D+	D+	1.30
D	Poor	1.00
D-	D-	0.70
F	Failed	0.00
S	Satisfactory	0.0
U	Unsatisfactory	0.0

The following chart represents alternative grade/credit designations, which are not used in the calculation of the cumulative GPA.

Grade	Legend
AA	Articulation Agreement (Designation replaced with TC in 2019)
AL	Local Apprenticeship Prog
AP	Advanced Placement (AP) Credit
AS	Advanced Standing/CLEP
ATS	Applied Technical Studies (ATS)
AW	Statewide Apprenticeship Prog
CB	Competency Based Education
CE	Credit Equivalency for Training
CL	College Level Examination Program (CLEP)
CT	Career/Technical Credit
EX	Institutional Credit by Exam
HL	Higher Level International Baccalaureate
I (grade)	Incomplete with alternate grade (grade student would receive if no other work completed, i.e. IF)
IT	Industry-Recognized Credential Transfer Assurance Guides (ITAG)
K	Transfer Credit
K (grade)	Transfer credit with grade earned at original institution indicated
LE	Portfolio/Life Experience
MC	Military Credit
MT	Military Transfer Assurance Guide (MTAG)
NG	No Grade Reported
OM	ATS Building and Industry Tech block credit
ON	ATS Business Technology block credit
OO	ATS Health & Allied Health Tech block credit
OP	ATS Information Technology
OQ	ATS Services Technology
OT	Other
PO	Other Institutional PLA
PP	Portfolio PLA
R	Audit
SL	Standard Level International Baccalaureate
TC	Credit awarded from education institutions not covered by other codes (Includes Articulation Agreement)
TG	Transfer Assurance Guides (TAG)
TM	Ohio Transfer 36 (OT36)
W	Withdrew After 14th Day/Census Date
X	Proficiency Exam

Incomplete Grade

A grade of incomplete is given when, because of an extenuating circumstance, a student is unable to meet all course requirements.

A student must make a reasonable attempt to connect with the instructor prior to the end of the term or semester to request an incomplete in a course, otherwise, no credit will be given toward the final grade for the work not completed. A student will have an additional 6 weeks into the next term for a semester course and 3 weeks into the next term for a term or flex course to complete any missing work. Students should work closely with the instructor to develop a plan to ensure this deadline is met.

If the student makes up missing or incomplete assignments to the satisfaction of the instructor, the instructor will submit a Grade Change Form. Upon approval, the grade of incomplete will be removed, and a new grade recorded on the student's academic record.

If no additional work is completed by the deadline, the incomplete grade will be removed. The grade will be updated to the alternate grade.

The instructor may for good reason allow a student additional time in which to complete the work. The student must email their instructor to request an extension of the incomplete prior to the original deadline and include the following:

- 1) Reason for the request
- 2) Proposed date of completion (date cannot exceed the end of the semester in which the missing work is due)

If approved, the instructor submits the "Extension of Incomplete Deadline" form online, which is signed by both the student and the instructor indicating the agreed upon timeline for completion. An extension can only be requested once and cannot extend beyond the end of the next term or semester.

An incomplete grade in a course listed as a prerequisite for a future registered course must be resolved before the start of the subsequent course.

Note: A student receiving financial aid who plans to request a grade of incomplete should first consult with a student financial specialist in Student Financial Services since receiving a grade of incomplete could adversely impact the student's Satisfactory Academic Progress.

Grade Appeals

A student may appeal the final grade (not individually graded assignments) that they received in a course if they feel that the final grade was awarded unfairly.

A grade appeal must be based on one or both of the following criteria: mistake (for example, the instructor did not calculate the student's course point total accurately) or bad faith (for example, the syllabus notes that a lack of class participation will not affect final grade calculations, but the instructor lowers the student's final grade expressly because the student had failed to participate in class).

A grade appeal must be formally initiated within three (3) weeks of the final grade's having been posted. In addition, the burden of proof to show the instructor's alleged mistake or bad faith is the responsibility of the student.

The steps for appealing a final grade are outlined below:

1. The student should email their instructor to give the instructor a chance to explain the basis upon which the final grade was awarded and to give the student an opportunity to present a case for a different final grade. Please allow ample time for the review. Scheduled breaks and holidays may impact response time as faculty are not obligated to check their email during scheduled time off. If no resolution can be agreed upon with the instructor, then the student may proceed to Step Two.
2. Within ten (10) calendar days of the student receiving the instructor's final decision, the student should email their academic advisor or success coach to initiate a formal grade appeal. The academic advisor or success coach will initiate an electronic Grade Appeal Form and discuss the types of documentation that needs to be included to support the grade appeal.

On the form, students should include a summary of the grade appeal and why they feel their assigned grade is incorrect. A student must upload the following when submitting the form:

- a) Documentation to support her/his appeal, including but not limited to sample work, email communication with faculty, proof of grading error, etc.
 - b) Copy of course syllabus.
3. The Grade Appeal Form will be sent to the academic dean who oversees the academic area in which the course is housed. However, the following exceptions apply:
 - a) Social Work Assistant course grade appeals will be directed to the Program Director for Social Work Pathways for initial review/consideration.
 - b) The program administrator or academic dean will review the grade appeal with the instructor in an attempt to resolve the matter. When first reviewed by the program administrator, the grade appeal will also be sent to the academic dean for final review/decision.
 - a) Within ten (10) calendar days of the review, the academic dean will decide and communicate that decision, in writing, to the faculty member, the student, and the provost. The academic dean will also forward all relevant materials and correspondence to the Office of the Provost.
 4. If the student disagrees with the academic dean's decision, then, within ten (10) calendar days of notification of the decision, the student may request a meeting (in-person or virtual) with the provost to appeal this decision.
 - a. Within ten (10) calendar days of this meeting, the provost will render a decision and will convey the decision, in writing, to the student, the faculty member, the appropriate administrator, and The Gateway-Student Records. The decision of the provost will be considered final.
 - b. If grade appeal is approved, the instructor will submit a Grade Change Form to the Gateway-Student Records, and the grade will be updated within ten days of notification.

Academic Honors

Each semester, the Dean's and President's Honors lists give recognition to those students who demonstrate outstanding academic achievement. COTC publishes the Dean's and President's Honors List each semester and only includes the students who have not withheld publishing of directory information. Additionally, students will receive a letter of recognition from the Office of the Provost. Students should contact The Gateway – Student Records at cotcrecords@mail.cotc.edu if they have questions related to honors or their directory information status.

Dean's Honors List

Students who have a grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 or higher and have completed 6 or more credit hours (excluding satisfactory/unsatisfactory courses) in a semester are recognized for academic achievement by being named to the Dean's Honors List.

President's Honors List

Students who have a grade point average (GPA) of 4.0 and have completed 6 or more credit hours (excluding satisfactory/unsatisfactory courses) in a semester are recognized for academic achievement by being named to the President's Honors List.

Academic Class Rank

Credits Accumulated	Rank
Less than 30.5 credits	Freshman
31-60.5 credits	Sophomore
61-90.5 credits	Junior
91+ credits	Senior

Academic Program

Catalog of Record

Requirements for completion of a degree or certificate are initially based on the Plan of Study which is in force during a student's first semester of credit enrollment at COTC and/or admission to a selective program.

If a student completely withdraws or is academically dismissed from the program and re-enters following an absence of at least one academic year (three semesters) or more, the program requirements in the current Plan of Study at the time of re-entry are in effect.

If a student changes programs, the requirements of the current Plan of Study at the time of the change are in effect. Any student may elect to move to a more recent Plan of Study; however, once the new Plan of Study has been elected, a student may not revert back to any previous year's Plan of Study.

No degree will be granted based on graduation requirements from a Plan of Study older than five years. Students may elect to complete work under a more recent Plan of Study but must fulfill all requirements of the new Plan of Study.

Technical Courses

Technical courses older than ten years will not count toward the degree or certificate completion. A student should be aware that some programs may have more restrictive timelines for technical courses. Students can submit the "Petition for Appeal of Time Limit for Completing Degree" to request a review of expired coursework by the appropriate academic dean.

Exceptions to the preceding procedures may be necessary when changes in certifications or licensure standards mandate changes in academic requirements or in college programs.

General Education Courses

There is no expiration date for general education courses.

Change of Program

Applicants and students can change their program by submitting the “Program Change Form” online. New or returning students will work with an admissions representative or their assigned enrollment navigator, and current students will work with their assigned academic advisor. Students with completed coursework will need to meet with their enrollment navigator or academic advisor to review program requirements, applicability of prior coursework to the new program, and any potential course substitutions.

Additional Program(s)

A student planning to earn one or more additional degrees, majors or certificates must meet all technical and general course requirements as outlined on each plan of study. The students must connect with their assigned enrollment navigator or academic advisor to discuss the additional program requirements and submit a “Request for Additional Program(s) Form. Students can track progress toward any active degree or certificate program in Student Planning.

Substitution of Courses

In some circumstances, an academic or faculty advisor may recommend a course substitution to allow an alternate course to count toward graduation in replacement of a required course on the plan of study. Course substitutions must be within a related category, such as an Arts and Humanities course may substitute for another required Arts and Humanities course, or a technical course may substitute for another required technical course within the same discipline. Approval of a course substitution by the academic dean does not affect the number of credit hours required for graduation. A “Course Substitution Form” must be completed by the student and academic or faculty advisor and will be forwarded to the academic dean of the respective program for approval. The approval is only for the student’s current plan of study indicated on the form. If the student changes their program, the course substitution is no longer valid.

Course substitutions are determined on several factors, including program learning outcomes and accreditation standards if applicable. As program learning outcomes and/or accreditation standards change, it is possible that courses previously approved for substitution may no longer be considered appropriate for future requests.

Student Academic Records

Student academic records include all official records, files, and data directly related to a student who has attended classes at COTC.

These include all material that is incorporated into the student's cumulative electronic file and intended for college use or to be available to authorized parties outside the college, and specifically including, but not necessarily limited to, identifying data, academic work completed, and level of achievement (grades, standardized achievement test scores).

All transcripts from other institutions, including high school and colleges, are a part of the student's permanent record and will not be released back to the student. If a copy of these transcripts is needed by the student, the copy should be requested from the original institution.

Records of Deceased Students

Academic records of deceased students are kept confidential. Academic records of deceased former students may be released or disclosed, at the time of death, upon written request, to a spouse, a parent, the executor of the estate, the eldest surviving child, the eldest surviving sibling, and surviving descendent, or pursuant to a

court order or subpoena. The request should be addressed to the Registrar. Only the Registrar or his/her designee may release the academic records of deceased students. Please allow up to 30 days for the release of individual student records. FERPA no longer applies, and the disposition of records becomes a matter of institutional policy.

The petitioner must provide as much of the following information as possible within his/her written request:

1. Student's name (and former name, if applicable)
2. Student's Social Security Number
3. Student's date of birth
4. The dates that the deceased student attended COTC
5. Death Certificate (a photocopy is acceptable)

The Petitioner must also provide the following personal information within his/her written request:

1. Name
2. Address
3. Phone Number
4. Evidence that he or she is qualified to receive the records based on the above criteria or, in the absence of evidence, a statement certifying same
5. Signature
6. Date of request

Transcripts of Grades

A student may request an official transcript online through the College's **authorized third-party transcript servicer**. The first two transcripts will be provided at no cost; each subsequent transcript is subject to a per-transcript processing fee. No transcripts are released without the written approval of the student.

Degree Requirements

Central Ohio Technical College is a state-assisted post-secondary institution of higher education and as such, is authorized by the Ohio Department of Higher Education to offer two-year associate degree and certificate programs in business, engineering, health, and public service technologies, bachelor of applied science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography and Nursing, and the Associate of Technical Studies, the Associate of Arts and the Associate of Science degrees.

General Education Requirements

The General Education guidelines can be found here: <https://www.cotc.edu/post/general-education-philosophy>.

Associate of Applied Business and Associate of Applied Science Degrees

The Associate of Applied Business Degree is awarded to those students who successfully complete the two-year planned programs of instruction in Business or Information Technologies. The Associate of Applied Science Degree is awarded to those students who successfully complete two-year planned programs of instruction in Digital Media Design, Early Childhood Education, Engineering, Health or Public Safety Technologies.

The Associate of Applied Business or the Associate of Applied Science degree is awarded to those students who successfully complete the two-year planned program of instruction as outlined in the Ohio Department of Higher Education "Guidelines & Procedures for Academic Program Review" document:

- Technical Studies: 30 semester credits in completed courses clearly identifiable with the technical

skills, proficiency, and knowledge required for career competency. Most courses classified as technical should include laboratory experience. Generally, technical courses should be distributed more or less evenly among four semesters of the degree program.

- Non-Technical Studies: 30 semester credits in non-technical studies, including:
 - General Education requirements consisting of 15 semester credit hours of completed courses in written communication and oral communication, and mathematics as well as completion of two of the following three category courses: social and behavioral science, arts and humanities and natural and physical laboratory science.
 - 15 semester credit hours of completed courses basic to the technical field and closely related to the technical specialty.

Associate of Technical Studies Degree

The Associate of Technical Studies Degree is awarded to those students who successfully complete the two-year planned program of instruction as outlined in the Ohio Department of Higher Education “Guidelines & Procedures for Academic Program Review” document.

The Associate of Technical Studies is awarded for successful completion of a minimum of 60 semester credit hours of an individually planned technical education program designed to respond to needs for specialized technical education not currently available in the formal degree programs at COTC.

An Associate of Technical Studies Degree will be granted to the student completing the following requirements:

Graduation Requirements

- a. The satisfactory completion of no fewer than 60 semester credit hours (composed of 30 non-technical and 30 technical credit hours).
- b. A cumulative grade point average of 2.00 and complete the formal petition.

Specific Graduation Requirements

- a. Completion and approval of ATS program application must include an outline of specific coursework to be taken in the intended area(s) of concentration and a detailed statement of the academic and career goals of what is planned to be accomplished by pursuing the ATS degree.
- b. No fewer than 15 of the 60 overall semester credit hours must be completed at Central Ohio Technical College.
- c. Completion of a minimum of 30 semester non-technical credit hours of coursework.

The 30 semester non-technical credit hours must include the following:

- 3 credit hour English Composition and oral communication course
- 3 credit hour Mathematics course

Completion of the 30 semester non-technical credit hours must also include completion of 3 credits each in 2 of the 3 categories below:

- 3 credit hours course in Arts & Humanities
- 3 credit hours course in Social & Behavioral Sciences
- 3 credit hours course in Natural Sciences

- d. Completion of a minimum of 30 semester credit hours in technical studies which are clearly identifiable with a career objective and are composed of a combination of technical courses drawn from two or more technical programs currently offered by the College. The completed 30 technical credit hours must come from an area of concentration from either of the following:
 - i. 30 semester credit hours in technical studies which are clearly identifiable with a career objective and are composed of a combination of technical courses drawn from two or more technical programs currently offered by the College.
 - ii. Courses completed or training received by a student at other institutions of higher

education, vocational centers, or other educational enterprises judged by the institution to be of college level and for which the institution awards degree credit, to a maximum of thirty credit hours.

Application Process - Associate of Technical Studies Degree

The Associate of Technical Studies is awarded for successful completion of a minimum of 60 semester credit hours of an individually planned technical education program designed to respond to needs for specialized technical education not currently available in the formal degree programs at COTC.

Associate of Technical Studies application must identify the area of concentration and designate the courses to be taken to complete the ATS degree.

Students interested in pursuing an Associate of Technical Studies (ATS) degree program must follow the outlined procedure:

- a. Student must meet with an enrollment navigator (new students) or academic advisor to determine if an ATS degree is the appropriate program to reach the student's academic and career goals. If deemed an appropriate program, the student must fill out the application for "Associates of Technical Studies" for approval.
- b. The application must include all the courses that the student will take to complete the ATS Degree, along with a detailed statement from the student that includes the academic and career goals and what is being planned to be accomplished by the ATS degree.
- c. The application will then be forwarded to the appropriate academic dean for approval and review.
- d. If approved, the degree awarded must contain the name of the student's area of concentration. Additionally, the final ATS application will be forwarded to The Gateway- Records office to be kept in the student's record file.

Following approval of the application, each candidate will be required to complete no less than fifteen (15) semester credit hours of course work under the supervision of the institution granting the degree.

Associate of Arts/ Associate of Science Degrees

The Associate of Arts Degree (AA) or the Associate of Science Degree (AS) is awarded to those students who successfully complete the program requirements. The AA and AS degrees serve as the first two years of a bachelor's degree to provide maximum transferability of courses from the associate level to the bachelor's level. Courses on the AA and AS degrees include courses that are part of the statewide transfer guarantee programs, such as the [Ohio Transfer 36 \(OT-36\)](#) or [Transfer Assurance Guides \(TAG\)](#).

One-Year Certificate Programs

COTC is authorized by the Ohio Department of Higher Education to offer one-year certificate programs. A certificate will be awarded to those individuals who successfully complete the one-year planned program of instruction, as outlined by specific technology programs. While the certificates are designed to have value apart from a degree, these certificates serve as building blocks to an associate degree. The technical certificate is designed for an occupation or specific employment opportunity. These certificates prepare the student for a valid occupational license or third-party industry certification, if available, related to the field of study.

Short-Term Certificates

A student may earn a short-term certificate in a number of fields of study. A short-term certificate is awarded for the completion of a program of study of less than 30 semester credit hours that is designed for an occupation or

specific employment opportunity. These certificates prepare the student for a valid occupational license or third-party industry certification, if available, related to the field of study.

Short-term certificate program credits may be applicable toward a one-year certificate or associate degree requirements.

State Authorizing Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)/Individual State Educational Requirements for Professional Licensure

Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) participates in the **State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)**, which allows the College to offer distance education courses and approved field placement experiences in U.S. states and territories that participate in the agreement, without seeking additional state approval.

State authorization regulations govern the educational activities COTC is permitted to offer outside the State of Ohio. Students may be impacted by state authorization regulations if:

- They are located outside of Ohio and are interested in taking online courses at COTC;
- They wish to participate in a COTC-approved field placement or clinical experience outside of Ohio; or
- They physically relocate to another state or U.S. territory while enrolled at COTC.

COTC programs that are designed to meet Ohio licensure or certification requirements satisfy the educational standards established by the State of Ohio. However, **participation in SARA does not determine whether a program meets professional licensure or certification requirements in states outside of Ohio**. Licensure and certification requirements vary by state and are established by individual state licensing boards.

Students who reside outside of Ohio or who intend to seek licensure or certification in a state or territory other than Ohio are strongly encouraged to contact the appropriate state licensing agency to determine whether successful completion of a COTC program will meet that state's educational requirements. In addition to educational requirements, state licensure boards may require examinations, background checks, supervised fieldwork, work experience, or other conditions for licensure.

COTC makes reasonable efforts to determine whether its programs meet educational requirements for professional licensure in other states when required; however, licensure laws and regulations may change at any time. Completion of a COTC program does not guarantee licensure or certification in any state outside Ohio.

Student Location Determination

COTC recognizes the student address on file in the student information system as the student's physical location.

Due to federal and individual state regulations, COTC is limited in providing online courses and programs to students in certain states. Acceptance into an online program or enrollment in an online course is based on where the student is physically located while taking the course(s). Some additional activities, such as completing clinical and internship requirements in a location outside of Ohio, are also governed by these regulations.

A student's physical location is recorded in the student information system at the time of enrollment and will remain in effect unless and until the student provides official notification to the college. Official notification of change in address is defined as completion of an online address change, submitting a personal data change form and/or providing written notification via student email account to the student's academic advisor. Dependent on the new location, COTC may or may not be able to allow the student to continue taking online courses or approve clinical or internship placements.

Graduation

Graduation ceremonies are available for students completing an associate degree or certificate program. Each student is responsible for the fulfillment of all graduation requirements in their curriculum. To ensure current degree requirements are being met, a graduation application request will not be accepted after the first day of the seventh (7th) week in the semester in which he/she intend to graduate.

A student expecting to graduate must successfully complete the prescribed curriculum, attain a cumulative grade point average of 2.00, and submit the online graduation application. *It is not necessary to be officially registered for classes in the semester in which the student applies to graduate.*

Each student receives a certificate or diploma upon graduation. The name printed on the certificate or diploma can be either the student's legal name or their chosen name at the time of graduation. On the graduation application, students may opt to have their first or middle name displayed as an initial rather than spelled out, but cannot add other names. If your preferred name differs from what is recorded in the system, approval from the registrar will be required.

Example: student's legal name is "John Paul Jones". Request on diploma might be "John P. Jones" or "J. Paul Jones".

A student who plans to transfer credit to COTC during their last semester at COTC from another institution to meet graduation/ completion requirements must inform the Registrar prior to the semester of graduation.

Graduation ceremonies are held in May and December with the conferring of degrees and certificates. By attending commencement, students and guests consent to photography, audio recording, video recording, live streaming and its/their release, publication and advertising in any form. Images, photos and/or videos may be used to promote COTC. Students and guests release COTC, its officers and employees, and each and all persons involved from any liability connected with the taking, recording, digitizing, storage, or publication and use of photographs, video, and/or audio recordings.

Any outstanding financial obligations must be satisfied before COTC will release the official copy of the degree(s) or certificate(s) to the student.

The college has the right to auto award a student's degree or certificate that is complete on behalf of the student. The student has the right to opt out of this option at any time and should contact the Gateway if they do not want their degree automatically awarded after requirements are complete.

Issuing Diploma

Students will be issued a certificate or diploma after completing the requirements for a certificate or degree. COTC partners with a third-party vendor to issue digital and printed diplomas and certificates after confirming all requirements are met.

Digital diplomas and certificates will be available via text and/or your COTC student email four to five weeks after the end of the semester. Printed diplomas and certificates will be mailed out by Parchment Award® and should arrive 15 to 20 business days after that.

Students should contact the Gateway- Student Records at cotcrecords@mail.cotc.edu with any questions or concerns.

Replacement Diploma Policy

Reprint requests are managed through the College's authorized third-party servicer. Students may request diploma or credential reprints by submitting the "[Request for Diploma Reprint](#)" form and pay a \$20 reprint processing fee online.

Students can request the diploma or certificate to be printed with the original name previously used, a chosen name or a different legal name. If the student's legal name has changed, they should contact the Gateway-Student Records to update their name in our student information system. The replacement diploma will carry the current titles and signatures of all college officials.

Digital diplomas and certificates will be available via text and/or your email within 5 business days and printed awards will be mailed out by Parchment Award and should arrive 15 to 20 business days after that.

Individuals with additional questions concerning this policy should call 740-366-9222 for assistance or email The Gateway Student Records office at cotcrecords@mail.cotc.edu

Technology

Students are expected to follow the college's [Responsible Use of Computing and Network Resources](#) policy when using campus email, Canvas, computer labs, Wi-Fi networks, or other college-maintained computer information technology.

COTC and The Ohio State University Newark share technologies that support teaching and learning on campus and online. This includes computers, communication systems such as Zoom, and Microsoft Teams, as well as the networking technology that allows you to connect to the internet from any device. All faculty, staff, students, and guests are expected to use these resources in safe and responsible ways that don't jeopardize the security of anyone in the campus community.

Email Accounts

Upon acceptance, all students are given a student COTC email account, which is the official means of communication for the college. The address format is last name-#@cotcmail.cotc.edu. **Students should expect that official college correspondence will come to this e-mail account upon acceptance and should access the e-mail account on a regular and timely basis.**

Students experiencing problems with their COTC email account should contact the Help Desk at 740-366-9244.

College Use of Email

Email is a mechanism for official communication within COTC. The college expects that such communications will be received and read in a timely fashion. Official email communications are intended only to meet the academic and administrative needs of the campus community. As stewards of the process, the Office of Technology and Digital Innovation is responsible for directing the use of official student email.

Assignment of Student Email

A COTC email account will be created upon the student's acceptance to the college. The student will receive information with access information in person via email or U.S. mail. The student COTC email account will be used from that point forward to communicate with the student (registration, coursework, etc.).

Expectations about Student Use of Email

Students are expected to check their email on a frequent and consistent basis in order to stay current with college-related communications. Students have the responsibility to recognize that certain communications may be time sensitive. Infrequent checking is not an excuse for missing official college communications sent to the student's COTC email account. Additionally, no student is permitted to share his or her COTC email password with any other individual.

Re-directing of Email

Re-directing email from COTC addresses to another email address is not a supported service. Please be aware that if you do arrange to have your email forwarded to another provider (e.g., Yahoo, Gmail, Roadrunner, AOL) the College is not involved in the action and is not responsible for misdirected or undelivered mail. Since COTC email provides students with important messages regarding enrollment and studies, it is strongly suggested that students use COTC email from the COTC webmail site. In addition, please realize the internet email accounts such as Yahoo, Gmail etc., are not secure and the college cannot be responsible for any problems related to delivery or security of this information.

Authenticating for Confidential Information

The COTC Code of Student Conduct lists "dishonest conduct" as a violation. "Dishonest conduct" includes, but is not limited to, behavior such as "submission of information known by the subscriber to be false". To minimize this risk of fraud, some confidential information may be made available only through web-accessed programs which are password protected and use multifactor authentication (MFA). In these cases, students will receive email correspondence directing them to the web page, where they can access confidential information only by authenticating (logging in). Confidential information will not be available in the email message. Again, because password protection and multifactor authentication is a key component of COTC security, students are not permitted to share their passwords or devices used for MFA.

Privacy

E-mail is not a secure form of communication. Those sending email should exercise extreme caution in using email to communicate confidential or sensitive matters and should not assume that email is private and confidential. It is especially important that users are careful to send messages only to the intended recipient(s). Particular care should be taken when using the "reply" command during email correspondence.

Educational Uses of Email

The faculty will determine how electronic forms of communication (e.g. email) will be used in their classes and must specify their requirements in the course syllabus. The "Email as Official Means of Communication Policy" will help ensure that students will be able to comply with email-based course requirements specified by faculty. Faculty can therefore assume that students' COTC email accounts are being accessed, and faculty can use email for their classes accordingly.

Policy on Student Campus Account Username Changes

A student at COTC who desires to change their campus account username after a legal name change must do the following:

1. Complete the "Personal Data Change" form to change the legal name and bring your updated social security card to The Gateway so a copy can be made for the student's academic record.

2. To change your network/email account name, login to myCOTC to complete the “Student Account Username Change Request”. Further details, instructions and procedures for your new account will be emailed to you from the Help Desk.

Inactive Student Email Accounts

Student email accounts are only for active students who are currently enrolled. If a student does not attend classes for one calendar year, the student’s account will be deleted from the campus email system and the student will receive a new email when returning to COTC. This is done for security reasons.

Student Health: General Requirements

COTC is contractually obligated to affiliated healthcare and other agencies regarding assured healthcare status of students enrolled in clinical, practicum, field experience, or other on-site learning experiences.

Each COTC student enrolled in a course section requiring attendance at an affiliated agency is responsible for verifying his/her healthcare status as required by the technology/program and COTC’s affiliated agencies. The student should be aware that the agency, particularly in clinical settings, may request copies of health information, such as vaccine records, to verify compliance. At the beginning of the on-site experience, or if a student experiences during the timeline of the course meeting dates/times a health alteration which has the potential to negatively impact the student’s performance, the student must inform the course section faculty, or the program administrator as outlined in specific technology/program guidelines, of any disability, change in health status and/or therapy which may affect ability to safely perform in the clinical, practicum, field experience, or other on-site learning experience. The student may be required to provide a written release from their healthcare provider, verifying that they may perform without limitations.

A student will not be permitted to go to the affiliated agency to complete his/her learning experience until all required health information is provided and all required immunization and other health requirements are complete. Individual COTC programs may have additional requirements regarding student health issues specific to that program. These additional requirements are listed in the individual program guidelines which may be found on the COTC website.

COTC Student Vaccinations Policy

COTC does not have an immunization requirement for students. Please note that some partner clinical sites may have vaccination policies within specific disciplines.

Student Health: Pregnancy

Students are not required to disclose pregnancy to the College. Students who are pregnant or experiencing pregnancy-related conditions may seek reasonable accommodations through the Office for Disability Services. Students should also refer to their individual academic program policies/handbook for any program-specific clinical, practicum, field experience, or safety requirements.

Student Leave of Absence

COTC does not offer students a leave of absence.

Class Cancellations and Emergency Closing Information

Should the closure of any COTC campus be necessary due to weather or other emergencies, text announcements will be sent via the Campus Emergency Alert System. Students are automatically enrolled in the Campus Alert

Notification System. An announcement will also be placed on the COTC homepage and on myCOTC, the student portal. Students can also contact Public Safety for status updates on campus closures at 740-366-9237.

Campus Closure/Limited Campus Operations

In the event of a short-term closure of all or part of the campus due to weather or other emergencies, notifications will be sent via the Campus Emergency Alert System, and the campus will operate with limited services. Updates will also be posted on the [COTC website](#).

Campus Closure

When campus operations are limited due to inclement weather or other emergencies, all offices and classes at all COTC campuses will operate remotely:

- Campus will remain open with limited essential services. Only essential staff are to report to campus.
- Nonessential staff should not report to campus and should plan to work from home, where possible, and remain available during normal business hours.
- Campus in-person classes are cancelled, however, all instructors are encouraged to hold virtual synchronous classes, where feasible. Classes scheduled to meet online will occur as planned. Faculty are to notify students of alternative teaching methods when in-person class meetings are cancelled. Alternative teaching methods can include virtual, synchronous, class meetings or asynchronous activities, including but not limited to videos, podcasts, supplemental readings or discussion posts. In situations where synchronous instruction is not feasible, asynchronous activities are encouraged. It is at the discretion of the instructor as to which alternative method of teaching will occur when in-person classes have been cancelled. We ask instructors to be as flexible as possible with students.
- Students participating in practicums, internships, student teaching or other experiential learning are expected to follow the program's policies which can be found in the program handbook.
- COTC students should check in with their faculty for guidance.

Delayed Opening

If a campus opening is delayed, students are expected to report to their respective classes where they would normally be at the time campus reopens (e.g., if COTC delays opening until 10 a.m., a student in an in-person class scheduled from 9-11 a.m. would be expected to report to class at 10 a.m.).

Staff will report at the specified opening time.

Conditions for Limited Campus Operations

The safety of students, faculty and staff is the top priority. If COTC has not issued an official notice of limited campus operations or delayed opening, students are expected to exercise their judgment in determining whether to attend classes. Students are accountable for any material and assignments missed during an absence without an official closure or delay. When COTC is open, vacation time will be used by employees who choose to stay at home or are unable to travel to their campus work location.

The decision to move to limited campus operations or cancel in-person classes in the event of severe weather is made using guidelines that are, by design, very flexible. There is no absolute temperature, snowfall or other specific hazard that triggers limited on-campus operations. Many groups provide information and recommendations through the Department of Public Safety to campus leadership. Campus officials also monitor

the latest forecasts from the National Weather Service. Some factors taken into consideration in the decision to cancel in-person classes and/or move to limited operations:

- If a Level 1 or 2 Snow Emergency is declared COTC Newark will make every effort to remain open.
- If a Level 3 Snow Emergency is declared in Licking, Knox or Coshocton counties, COTC on-campus operations will be limited in that location and in-person classes will be canceled (moved to remote, where appropriate).

Individual Classes

Individual class cancellations are posted online under the Class Cancellations tab at my.cotc.edu.

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All college policies, including academic, enrollment and student life policies can be found online at cotc.edu/college-policies.

Academic programs may have program specific policies. Enrolled students should refer to the academic program webpage or program handbook for more information.