New policies/amendments to student-facing regulations, policies and procedures for 2021-2022

Policies are available from the University College Latest Policies webpage https://www.aecc.ac.uk/about/how-we-work/latest-policies/

For Amendments, only key changes are highlighted below.

Sponsored Student Academic Engagement Monitoring Policy and Procedures

This new policy applies only to students sponsored by AECC University College to study in the UK. It replaces the previous Tier 4 Attendance Monitoring Policy, in the light of changes to Home Office immigration rules.

Student engagement policy and procedures:

This new policy replaces the previous Student Feedback and Student Engagement in Quality Assurance and Enhancement policies and procedures. It explains how AECC University College works in partnership with students to support them in actively engaging with and participating in, quality assurance and enhancement activities, and sets out the mechanisms through which such engagement is encouraged, enabled and used.

Assessment Regulations (version 2.3)

The Assessment Regulations for AECC University College awards have been amended for the 2021-2022 academic year, with changes made to the degree classification algorithm (the way final degree classifications are calculated), and to the way marks are rounded for this purpose.

These regulations apply to

(i)   all undergraduate students entering Levels 3 or 4 in 2021-22 (including students entering Level 4 from Gateway and student transferring between University College courses into Level 4 or Gateway),

(ii)   all postgraduate (MSc) students entering year 1/stage 1 in 2021-22.

(iii)   any student repeating Levels 3 or 4.

Students outside these cohorts should continue to refer to version 2.2 of the regulations.

Academic Appeals Policy and Procedures (Taught Awards)

The policy has been amended to
- Clarify the procedure relating to the review of Investigating Panel decisions
- Improve language and terminology for clarity
- Change Panel membership at the Appeals Panel and Review Stage
- Align to Office of the Independent Adjudicator (OIA) best practice guidance

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Academic Misconduct Policy (formerly Academic Offences Policy)

The policy name has been changed, in the context of ongoing work to improve awareness of academic integrity.

The key change is to link the policy to the Student Conduct Framework, such that those on courses leading to professional registration who are found to have committed academic misconduct will be referred to a Fitness to Practise panel.

Review of Recognition of Prior Learning& Credit Transfer Policy and Procedures

There have been minor changes of wording, for clarity, following the periodic review of the policy.

Student Disciplinary Policy

The key change is to link the policy to the Student Conduct Framework, such that those on courses leading to professional registration who are found to have committed a disciplinary offence will be referred to a Fitness to Practise panel. Other changes are to:
- Broaden the roles that can conduct investigations,
- Change the membership of the appeals panel for disciplinary cases
- Align with OIA best practice guidance
- Improve wording and language for clarity

IT Acceptable Use Policy /Patch Management Policy/IT Security and Password Policy

The IT Acceptable Use policy has been revised. It applies equally to all users of any IT facilities and has been updated to reflect some recent changes in technology and the cyber security landscape.

The Patch Management Policy is mainly applicable to staff and University College systems, but includes some guidance that all users should pay attention to, to protect themselves and their data.

The IT Security and Password Policy has been revised and renamed. It includes a section on password complexity requirements which students must adhere to for any University College accounts.. We also strongly encourage students to adhere to the password requirements for any personal accounts as this will help to instil good practice and protect your devices and data against unauthorised access and/or data loss. The IT Security and Password policy also includes sections on Physical and Data Security which provide good guidance to students.