

DSC

ACADEMIC
INFORMATION
AND
REGULATIONS

Dalton State College is a unit of the University System of Georgia and is governed by the policies of the Board of Regents of the University System. As a part of the System, it enjoys the reputation of the academic standards which have been established within the System, and graduates of this institution will have no difficulty in transferring appropriate credits to other colleges and universities. Dalton State College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, to award the Associate and Bachelor's degrees.

Dalton State College operates on the semester system, with each of the academic year semesters extending over a period of approximately sixteen weeks. Courses may be scheduled as A Session courses, which are taught over the full length of a semester, or as B or C Session courses, taught during the first or second half, respectively, of the semester. The semester hour is the unit of credit in all courses.

Classification of Students

Students are classified as freshmen, sophomores, juniors, or seniors. At the beginning of each term those with credit for fewer than thirty semester hours are classified as freshmen; with thirty to fifty-nine hours, as sophomores; with sixty to eighty-nine hours, as juniors; with ninety or more hours as seniors.

Students are considered full-time if they register for twelve or more semester credit hours; part-time, for fewer.

Class Load

A normal load consists of fifteen to eighteen credit hours per semester. A student regularly employed outside of college twenty hours or more per week should enroll for twelve or fewer semester hours of academic work. The College reserves the right to limit the class load of students who have received below average grades.

Students may receive permission from the Vice President for Academic Affairs to enroll for more than the normal load if they were placed on the Dean's List at the end of their last semester of enrollment, if they have a cumulative average above 3.0 on eighteen or more hours completed at Dalton State College, or if they are in their last semester of enrollment before graduation.

Transient Status

Written authorization for transient status must be secured from the Vice President for Enrollment Services for enrollment at another institution for resident, correspondence, or extension credit during any semester a student is enrolled at Dalton State College. In order to receive credit for coursework earned, students must obtain approval prior to enrollment.

Class Schedule

The courses required for most degree and certificate programs are available during day, afternoon, evening and Saturday class periods. However, some are scheduled only during day or evening class periods. Courses may also be offered in traditional, online, or hybrid formats. Information about the scheduling of specific courses may be obtained from the academic advisors, the Office of Enrollment Services, or the Office of Academic Affairs.

Registration

All students register for each term during announced registration periods. A student is regularly registered for a course only when all College requirements governing registration for the course have been met. Students not properly registered may not receive credit for courses completed. Any exception to this regulation is the responsibility of the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Orientation

Every student is expected to attend an orientation session prior to the start of his/her first term at Dalton State College. This session will provide detailed information regarding academic programs, student services, and registration procedures.

Dropping or Changing Classes

No changes in schedule are official or effective until a signed Schedule Adjustment Form is turned in to the Office of Enrollment Services.

Additions to class schedules are not permitted after the first three days of the term. If a course is officially dropped by the published drop date, the student will receive a "W." If a student drops a course without official approval or after the published drop date, a grade of "WF" is recorded. If a student ceases to attend a course without officially dropping, a grade of "F" is recorded.

The official and effective date of any change in schedule is that on which the change is initiated.

Students receiving financial aid should be aware that for financial aid purposes enrollment status is determined at the end of the drop/add period at the beginning of an A Session. A student receiving financial aid may owe money back to a financial aid program if his or her enrollment status changes after that point in time, as, for example, when a student drops a course, or a course is cancelled, and a \$100% tuition refund is made.

Withdrawal From College

To withdraw from all current classes, students must obtain a Dalton State College Schedule Adjustment Form which must be signed by authorized personnel in the Office of Enrollment Services. After the published drop date, withdrawal without penalty is permitted only in cases of extreme, non-academic hardship which prevents the student from completing the semester. Non-academic hardships must be fully documented by the student in order to receive consideration. All requests for hardship withdrawal must be initiated by the student no later than the last day of the term in which the courses were taken. Hardship withdrawals typically require that the student withdraw from all courses not yet completed at the time the request is initiated. The hardship "W" must be recommended by the instructor(s) of the course(s) for which the student is enrolled, endorsed by the division chair(s) involved, and approved by the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Withdrawal from Dalton State College is effective on the date that the withdrawal is initiated.

Class Attendance

Students are expected to attend all scheduled class sessions. These may include field trips, seminars, and individual conferences as well as lectures and laboratory sessions. The attendance policy for each course will be explained by the instructor at the beginning of each term. Absences may result in a grade reduction.

Grades and Symbols

The following grades are approved by the University System for use by Dalton State College in the determination of the grade point average:

Grade	Description	Quality Points
A	Excellent	4
B	Good	3
C	Satisfactory	2
D	Passing	1
F	Failure	0
WF	Withdrew, Failing	0

The following symbols are approved for use in the cases indicated but are not included in determination of the grade point average.

- I This symbol indicates that a student was doing satisfactory work but, for non-academic reasons beyond the student's control, was unable to meet the full requirements of the course. The "I" must be removed by the end of the next term of enrollment or the Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services will change the "I" to "F". Without regard to enrollment, the "I" must be removed within one year or it will be changed to "F".
- IP This symbol indicates that credit has not been given.
- W This symbol indicates that a student officially dropped from a course by the published day to drop classes without penalty. After this date, withdrawal is permitted only in cases of extreme, non-academic hardship which prevent the student from completing the term and must be approved by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.
- WM This symbol indicates that a student was permitted to withdraw for military service without penalty at any time during the term.
- S This symbol indicates satisfactory performance in a course carrying institutional credit.
- U This symbol indicates unsatisfactory performance in a course carrying institutional credit.
- K This symbol indicates that a student was awarded credit for the course by examination (CLEP, AP, SAT II, or institutional examination).
- V This symbol indicates that a student audited the course. Enrollment status in a course cannot be changed from audit to credit or credit to audit after the add period ends.

Grade Changes and Appeals

The assignment of grades and symbols is the responsibility of the instructor. Any change in an assigned grade or symbol must be recommended by the instructor who assigned the original grade or symbol and be approved by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

All appeals by students for grade or symbol changes must be made by midterm of the semester following award of the grade(s) or symbol(s). The sequence of appeal is the student's instructor, the chair of the department or division, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Grade Reports

At the end of each term a full report of courses taken and grades and symbols earned during the term is posted on Banner Web. Students may access their grades with a student identification number and pin. Grades are not mailed to students. Students are encouraged to consult with individual instructors to determine their progress at any time during the term.

Transcripts

Official Dalton State College transcripts will be mailed directly to other institutions as requested. Any transcripts given to the student will be unofficial. Each request must be made in writing and signed by the student.

Academic Renewal

The academic renewal policy allows University System of Georgia degree seeking students who have experienced academic difficulty to make a fresh start and have one final opportunity to earn an associate or bachelor's degree. Former students may apply only if they have not been enrolled at any higher education institution in the previous five years and if they have successfully completed all learning support requirements prior to the commencement of the five year period of absence. The granting of academic renewal does not supersede financial aid policies regarding satisfactory academic progress. Students must apply for academic renewal within the first year of re-enrollment. Contact the Office of Enrollment Services for more information and to request an application for academic renewal.

Policy on Release of Student Information

Students in the University System of Georgia have the right to the assurance that their academic records, compiled and maintained by a unit within the System, will be recorded accurately and retained in confidence. Dalton State College follows the policy of the University System of Georgia on release of student information. A complete copy of this information is on file in the Office of Enrollment Services and is available for viewing by the student and authorized faculty.

Regents' GPA/Cumulative Average

The Regents' GPA is computed by dividing the total number of quality points earned at Dalton State College by the total number of academic semester hours attempted in which a grade of A, B, C, D, F, or WF has been received. This average is used for determining eligibility for special honors and is the average that appears on the student's permanent record. All "institutional credit" hours and grades are excluded from the cumulative average. Learning Support courses, COLL 1101, and Regents' Skills courses carry institutional credit.

Institutional GPA/Graduation Average

The institutional GPA is computed by dividing the total number of quality points earned at Dalton State College by the total number of academic semester hours attempted in which a grade of A, B, C, D, F, or WF has been received. ****Note** -If a student repeats a course, only the most recent attempt will be figured in the institutional GPA calculation. ******The institutional GPA is used to determine a student's academic progress (probation, suspension, and exclusion) and for graduation. Students are expected to achieve an institutional GPA of 2.0 or higher for graduation. Students

should understand that most institutions use the cumulative average, which includes all hours attempted and all grades earned, in determining the eligibility for transfer admission.

HOPE GPA

For purposes of calculating HOPE Scholarship eligibility, the total number of quality points earned at every higher education institution attended is divided by the total number of academic semester hours attempted at all institutions in which a grade of A, B, C, D, F, WF, or W has been received. Grades of K, V, S, U, I, IP, and WM are excluded from the GPA calculation.

Academic Honors

The Dean's List, published at the end of each term, includes the names of students who earn a grade point average of 3.5 or greater and receive no grade of WF or U during a term in which they are enrolled for 12 or more semester hours of academic credit.

The Honor List, also published at the end of each term, includes the names of students who earn a grade point average of 3.5 or greater and receive no grade of WF or U during a term in which they are enrolled for less than 12 semester hours of academic credit.

Graduation with Honors

Students who achieve superior academic averages on all coursework completed at Dalton State College and who complete all requirements for graduation receive diplomas or certificates inscribed with honor designations.

Bachelor's and Associate degree honors:

Cum Laude – Cumulative grade point average of 3.5 to 3.74

Magna Cum Laude – Cumulative grade point average of 3.75 to 3.99

Summa Cum Laude – Cumulative grade point average of 4.0

Certificate honors:

With Merit – Cumulative grade point average of 3.5 to 3.74

With Distinction – Cumulative grade point average of 3.75 to 3.99

With Excellence – Cumulative grade point average of 4.0

Students completing all requirements of the Dalton State College Honors Program will receive additional special designation on their diplomas.

The Honors Program

The Dalton State College Honors Program (DSCHP) provides able and highly motivated students with a rich and rewarding educational experience that will foster and encourage personal growth, intellectual curiosity, analytic ability, ethic and civic responsibility, and multicultural awareness. The Honors Program seeks to promote high standards of scholarship and leadership, and in so doing, help exceptional students realize their full personal, academic, and professional potentials.

In addition to the intellectual benefit, participants in the Honors Program are eligible for extended library borrowing privileges, participation in Honors student activities, and opportunities to travel with their professors on field trips to educational destinations such as research libraries, museums, theaters, and formal academic conferences. Among the enriching experiences available to Honors students are interaction with faculty in academic mentoring relationships; interaction with like-minded

and talented peers in academic and social situations; and service as tutors and interns for the Supplemental Instruction Program or as peer advisors in the Academic Advising Center.

The Honors Program is open to students at the associate's and bachelor's levels who qualify for admission any time during their enrollment at Dalton State College. It is best suited, however, for students early in their programs of study, in their first couple of semesters of college work. Students accepted into the Honors Program may take Honors courses that satisfy General Education requirements and earn Honors certificates and designations on transcripts for having completed Honors classes. Students in the program seek an associate's or bachelor's degree with College Honors, a curriculum consisting of completing the Honors Seminar and four Honors courses and/or Honors designated courses (a minimum of 14 credit hours total) that can be integrated into the requirements of any associate's or bachelor's level major.

Admission Requirements to the Honors Program

For **Early Admission**, applicants (first-time freshmen and Early Enrollment students) should demonstrate/complete/submit the following:

- a minimum high school GPA of 3.5
- a minimum combined SAT score of 1100 or above with a verbal score of at least 580 for tests taken before March 1, 2005
- a minimum combined SAT score of 1650 or above, with a critical reading score of at least 580 for tests taken since March 1, 2005
- a minimum ACT composite score of 24 or above
- a minimum TOEFL score of 550 (paper) or 213 (computer) for the international student for whom English is a second language
- an Honors essay
- two letters of recommendation specifically written to accompany the candidate's application from individuals who can attest to the candidate's character and academic ability and promise
- an interview with the Honors Program Director and Honors Committee Representatives

(Home-schooled students need to contact the Honors Director to discuss documentation of qualifications for application and admission to the program.)

For **Current Student Admission**, applicants (current DSC students, current Early Enrollment students, and transfer students to DSC) should demonstrate/complete/submit the following:

- an academic GPA of at least 3.5 in nine or more semester hours in core curriculum coursework (Areas A-F) at DSC
- an Honors essay
- two letters of recommendation specifically written to accompany the candidate's application from individuals who can attest to the candidate's character and academic ability and promise
- an interview with the Honors Program Director and Honors Committee Representatives

Students who do not meet the GPA or required test-score requirements may apply for admission to the program if recommended by two or more individuals attesting to

the candidate's superior academic promise in letters specifically written to accompany the candidate's application to the Honors Program.

The application process for the Honors Program is separate from the general admissions process. Please complete and return the general application for admission to DSC prior to or immediately following this Honors Program application if applying for Early Admission.

The Honors Program application (including the Honors essay and two sealed letters of recommendation) should be sent in one packet directly to:

Dr. Barbara Murray, Honors Program Director
Dalton State College
650 College Drive
Dalton, GA 30720

For more information, please contact the Honors Program:

Honors Program(706) 272-2569
E-mail: bmurray@daltonstate.edu
Honors Program Assistant, Ms. Donna Hendrix.....(706) 272-4403
E-mail: dhendrix@daltonstate.edu
Enrollment Services(706) 272-4436
College, toll free.....(800) 829-4436

Academic Progress

Dalton State College seeks to provide ample opportunities for all students to fully realize their academic potential and goals. In turn, all students are expected to demonstrate reasonable academic progress by maintaining the following minimum institutional grade point averages. (Institutional grade point averages do not include “institutional credit” hours and grades.)

Credit Hours Attempted	Minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average
15	1.60
30	1.80
45 or more*	2.00

*Students enrolled in certificate programs requiring less than 45 hours must earn a GPA of 2.0 in order to graduate. All students enrolled in baccalaureate programs must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0.

Any student whose average falls below the required level will be placed on **ACADEMIC PROBATION** and will be expected to confer immediately with his/her academic advisor. Students on academic probation may be advised to reduce their course loads and are not eligible to hold office on the Student Activities Council or to serve on any official college committee.

Any student on academic probation who fails to raise his/her institutional average to the standard specified above after attempting fifteen additional credit hours will be placed on **ACADEMIC SUSPENSION**. Students on suspension are not eligible to register for any courses at Dalton State College unless they appeal the suspension to a Readmissions Committee and are approved for readmission by the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Readmission is subject to the conditions stipulated by the Readmissions Committee and the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

The advance registration of any student placed on academic suspension is canceled and all prepaid fees refunded if the student is not officially readmitted to the College.

To initiate an appeal of an academic suspension, the student must submit a written request to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The letter should explain the reasons for the student's previous poor academic performance and why the student believes future performance will improve. The letter must also include (1) the name of the student's advisor (who will chair the Readmissions Committee), (2) the name of one other faculty member to serve on the Committee, and (3) the student's day-time telephone number, address, and social security number. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will appoint a third member of the Committee.

All appeals should be submitted as soon as possible after the notification of suspension. **Appeals for readmission for a semester will not be accepted after the published date of regular registration for that semester.**

All suspended students who are readmitted are on academic probation until such time as their institutional grade point average reaches the required minimum level (see page 94). A student who fails to meet the conditions of readmission is ineligible to appeal for a second readmission for a period of one semester. A student who fails to meet the conditions of a second readmission is placed on Indefinite Suspension and is ineligible to appeal for readmission for a period of twelve months. **Credit earned at other institutions or by correspondence while a student is on suspension from Dalton State College will not be applied toward a Dalton State College degree or certificate or used to improve the grade point average.**

Graduation Requirements

To be qualified for graduation with a **Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Social Work, Bachelor of Business Administration or Bachelor of Applied Science degree**, candidates must meet the following requirements:

1. The completion of an approved academic program of study with a minimum of one hundred and twenty (120) semester hours of credit (plus applicable physical education requirements and satisfactory completion of the computer literacy requirement).
 - a. Thirty (30) semester hours of upper-level course work must be completed at Dalton State College, excluding credit-by-examination.
 - b. All 3000 and 4000 level courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or higher.
 - c. No more than thirty (30) of the semester hours required for a degree can be earned through correspondence courses.
2. The demonstration of a satisfactory knowledge of United States and Georgia history and constitutions by examination or by passing History 2111 or 2112 and Political Science 1101.
3. A grade of C or higher in ENGL 1101.
4. An institutional GPA of 2.0 ("C") or higher.
5. Formal approval by the faculty. The faculty reserves the right to require additional tests, special examinations or certifications that may be appropriate to establish the academic competence of potential graduates.
6. Certification by the Vice President for Fiscal Affairs that all financial obligations to the College have been satisfactorily discharged.

7. Candidates for Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Applied Science, or Bachelor of Social Work degrees must pass the Regents' Testing Program (RTP) examination in basic writing and reading skills.
8. All Business graduates must complete BUSA 4700 with a "C" or better.

To be qualified for graduation with an **Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, or Associate of Applied Science degree**, candidates must meet the following requirements:

1. The completion of an approved academic program of study with a minimum of sixty (60) semester hours of credit (plus applicable physical education requirements and satisfactory completion of the computer literacy requirement).
 - a. Twenty semester hours must be completed at Dalton State College, excluding credit-by-examination and institutional credit.
 - b. No more than fifteen (15) semester hours required for a degree can be earned through correspondence courses.
 - c. All academic programs designed for transfer may be modified if necessary to meet the requirements for graduation from University System of Georgia senior colleges or universities as designated in their current catalogs. The student must present a copy of the latest catalog when requesting modification.
2. The demonstration of a satisfactory knowledge of United States and Georgia history and constitutions by examination or by passing History 2111 or 2112 and Political Science 1101.
3. A grade of C or higher in ENGL 1101.
4. An institutional GPA of 2.0 ("C") or higher.
5. Formal approval by the faculty. The faculty reserves the right to require additional tests, special examinations or certifications that may be appropriate to establish the academic competence of potential graduates.
6. Certification by the Vice President for Fiscal Affairs that all financial obligations to the College have been satisfactorily discharged.
7. Candidates for Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, Associate of Science in Nursing, and Associate of Applied Science degrees must pass the Regents' Testing Program (RTP) examination in basic writing and reading skills.

To be qualified for graduation with a **Certificate**, candidates must meet the following requirements:

1. The completion of an approved program of study (plus satisfactory completion of the computer literacy requirement).
 - a. Minimum of eighteen semester (18) hours must be completed at Dalton State College, excluding credit-by-examination and institutional credit.
 - b. No more than one-fourth of the semester hours required for a certificate can be earned through correspondence courses.
2. A cumulative or a graduation average of 2.0 ("C") or higher.
3. Formal approval by the faculty. The faculty reserves the right to require additional tests, special examinations or certifications that may be appropriate to establish the competence of potential graduates.

4. Certification by the Vice President for Fiscal Affairs that all financial obligations to the College have been satisfactorily discharged.

Second or Subsequent Degrees and Certificates

Any student applying for a second or subsequent associate degree or certificate must complete eighteen (18) semester hours of academic credit with a grade of “C” (2.0) or better earned at Dalton State College, excluding credit-by-examination, which have not been applied to the requirements of a previous degree or certificate. Students applying for a second bachelor’s degree must complete an additional thirty-six (36) hours of upper-level credit with a grade of “C” or higher earned at Dalton State College, excluding credit-by-examination, which have not been applied to the requirements of a previous degree. The eighteen (18) and thirty-six (36) hours constitute a “residence requirement” and may be taken on the main campus or at any extended campus site of Dalton State College.

Application for Graduation

All candidates for degrees and certificates must submit an application for graduation to the Enrollment Services Office at least 30 days prior to registration for the term in which they anticipate completing graduation requirements. According to the repeat grade policy, if a course is repeated, only the most recent attempt will count toward graduation requirements.

Students who fail to apply by the graduation application deadline may forfeit the chance to adjust any errors or omissions made in their programs and may not be certified for graduation.

Students may satisfy the curricular requirements for a degree or certificate by completing the program of study listed in the catalog in effect during their initial enrollment in the College or they may complete their program of study under the catalog in effect at the time of their graduation. There are several instances when a student will be required to satisfy the curricular requirements of the catalog in effect when/if they:

- change programs of study;
- are required to complete a course for which a prerequisite has been established since the student’s initial enrollment, in which case the prerequisite must be fulfilled;
- re-enter the college after a period of two or more consecutive calendar years in which they earned no academic credit at Dalton State College;
- have not graduated by the time their entering catalog edition is 10 years old.

Graduation is held once each year at the end of the Spring Term. Diplomas and certificates are awarded at these exercises. Students who complete graduation requirements at the end of Summer and Fall Terms receive letters certifying completion and stating that the appropriate diplomas or certificates will be awarded at the next graduation exercises.

All students who complete requirements for degrees or certificates at the end of Summer, Fall, and Spring Terms are encouraged to participate in the graduation exercises for that college year. Graduates who do not attend the annual exercises may obtain their diplomas or certificates later from the Office of Enrollment Services.

Regents' Testing Program (RTP)

Students enrolled in Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Business Administration, Bachelor of Social Work, and Bachelor of Applied Science degree programs; Associate of Arts degree programs; Associate of Science degree programs; Associate of Applied Science degree programs; and the Associate of Science in Nursing (R.N.) degree program must pass the RTP as a graduation requirement. The test requires the student to write an acceptable essay in an hour and pass a one-hour reading exam.

Students will have the option of satisfying their Regents' Test Reading and Essay requirements with scores from a national administration of the SAT or ACT. Scores from institutional SAT or residual ACT tests will not be acceptable for this purpose. Test scores must be less than 5 years old.

- Students with SAT - I Verbal scores of at least 510 or ACT Reading scores of at least 23 will be considered as having fulfilled the reading comprehension requirement of the Regents' Test and do not need to take the reading portion of the Regents' Test.
- Students with College Board Advanced Placement (AP) English Language and Composition or English Literature and Composition scores of at least 3, International Baccalaureate (IB) higher-level English scores of at least 4, or SAT II English Writing scores of at least 650 will be considered as having fulfilled the essay requirement of the Regents' Test and do not need to take the essay portion of the Regents' Test.
- Students who have earned an "A" in English 1101 will be considered as having fulfilled the essay requirement of the Regents' Test if they have earned either of the following test scores; an SAT-I Verbal score of at least 530 or an ACT English score of at least 23. Students who have earned a "B" in English 1101 will be considered as having fulfilled the Regents' essay requirement if they have earned either of the following test scores: an SAT-I Verbal score of at least 590 or an ACT English score of at least 26. Students meeting these conditions do not need to take the essay portion of the Regents' Test.

Students are strongly advised to take the Regents' Test in the semester after passing English 1101 but MUST take the test once they have earned 30 hours of degree credit. Students who have not taken the RTP by the time they have earned 45 hours of degree credit MUST take Regents' Writing Skills (RGTR 0199) and/or Regents' Reading Skills (RGTR 0198) in each semester of attendance until they have passed both parts of the test. Regents' Writing Skills (RGTR 0199) and Regents' Reading Skills (RGTR 0198) each carry two hours of institutional credit and are considered a part of the student's course load for the assessment of fees.

Students who have earned 45 or more semester hours or who have failed the RTP twice, whichever occurs first, must enroll in the Regents' Reading Skills (RGTR 0198) and Regents' Writing Skills (RGTR 0199) remediation courses and the RTP every semester until passing the RTP.

Transfer students from outside of the University System and matriculating students from Division of Technical Education must meet the RTP requirements before beginning their 3rd semester of enrollment in an Associate's or Bachelor's degree program.

First-time test takers not enrolled for classes may take the RTP as long as they register for the test by the deadline specified each term. Questions about the RTP should be directed to the Testing Coordinator.

Students who register and who do not appear for the test may have their graduation date delayed.

Graduation Requirements for Transfer Students

Students transferring to Dalton State College will be evaluated by the same standards of academic progress applied to native students. In order to graduate, a transfer student must have both a minimum graduation grade point average of 2.00 on all Dalton State College courses used to complete graduation requirements and a cumulative minimum graduation grade point average of 2.00 for all courses (both Dalton State College courses and transfer courses) used to complete graduation requirements.

Cooperative Education Program (Co-op)

The mission of the Cooperative Education Program at Dalton State College is to provide a structured process of education through partnerships with business, industry, and government which provides students with professional work experience related to an academic field of study.

To be admitted to the Cooperative Education Program, the student must have completed 15 hours of 1000 level or above coursework with a minimum grade point average of 2.75 in his/her major, be in good academic standing with the college and have exited all learning support courses; present three letters of recommendation, and complete a panel interview. Acceptance into the Co-op Program does not guarantee placement with an employer.

The Cooperative Education experience will appear on the academic transcript. In addition, students who complete all requirements of the Cooperative Education Program will receive a Co-op Certificate upon graduation. Students in a technical certificate program must work a minimum of one work rotation to receive the Co-op Certificate upon graduation. Students in an A.A., A.S., or A.A.S. degree program must work two rotations to receive a Co-op Certificate upon graduation. Students in a Bachelor's degree program must work three rotations to receive a Co-op Certificate upon graduation.

The two types of work rotations in the Cooperative Education Programs are:

Alternating — Students alternate between one semester of full-time (40 hours per week) work experience and one semester of full-time academic study. Students must receive permission from the Co-op Coordinator to work a back to back work rotation such as fall semester and spring semester. In some cases, students may be permitted to take up to six hours of coursework while working full time, with the permission of the academic advisor and Co-op Coordinator. Students will enroll in a sequence of Co-op courses (COOP 1500, COOP 1501, COOP 1502, COOP 1503). Students will not receive academic or institutional credit for the Cooperative Education experience. A grade of CC for Co-op Credit will appear on the transcript with zero credit hours. Students are not charged a fee for enrolling in a Co-op experience.

Parallel — Students enroll in college for nine credit hours or less with the approval of the academic advisor and the Co-op Coordinator and work part-time (18-20 hours per week) simultaneously. The work facility must be located in the Dalton area. Students will enroll in a sequence of Co-op courses (COOP 1000, COOP 1001, COOP 1002, COOP 1003). Students will not receive academic or institutional credit for the Cooperative Education experience. A grade of CC for Co-op Credit will appear on the transcript with zero credit hours. Students are not charged a fee for enrolling in a Co-op experience.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Mission Statement

Academic advising at Dalton State College is an ongoing, individualized communication process between academic advisors and students designed to provide students with guidance regarding programs of study, resources available, and degree completion requirements. When needed or solicited by students, academic advisors will also assume a mentoring role to enable and encourage students to examine their career goals, match those goals with strengths and abilities, and ensure appropriate program and course selections to achieve their goals.

To achieve these ends, both advisors and advisees have certain responsibilities.

Academic advisors should

- be familiar with and refer students to available academic programs and resources
- understand academic regulations and requirements at the College and System levels (e.g., RTP, Learning Support, prerequisites, major requirements, sequencing of course offerings)
- assist with course selection, being aware of the student's academic history, work obligations, and personal obligations
- aid in decision-making regarding majors and careers
- be reasonably accessible and punctually meet appointments with students
- communicate academic concerns and enable and encourage students to examine their strengths and weaknesses as they relate to life/educational goals
- encourage students to make the most of their college experience
- be pleasant and supportive
- provide accurate, appropriate, and up-to-date information

Advisees should

- become familiar with the course-of-study requirements, reviewing the catalog, course descriptions, course prerequisites, previous sequencing of course offerings, and schedule of classes prior to meeting with the advisor
- come prepared to advising/registration sessions with a tentative schedule of classes and, if possible, an alternate schedule
- seek out the advisor for academic assistance and guidance and communicate academic concerns
- make use of campus resources if undecided about a major
- accept responsibility for their academic goals
- learn to use BANNER and take advantage of pre-registration
- be aware of drop/add/withdrawal policies
- initiate graduation procedures
- see division secretaries to change advisors/majors prior to registration
- make the most of their college experience by taking advantage of campus resources (labs, library, tutoring, recreational facilities)
- update personal information at the records office
- meet appointments punctually as scheduled
- have reasonable expectations
- be courteous and flexible