

3357:13-14-75 Religious Accommodation Policy

- (A) Under the Testing Your Faith Act of 2023 and Section 3345.026 of the Ohio Revised Code, institutions of higher education are required to adopt a policy that reasonably accommodates the sincerely held religious belief and practices of individual students with regard to all examinations and absences for reasons of faith or religious or spiritual belief system.

- (B) It is the policy of North Central State College to permit absences during the academic semester for reasons of faith, religion, spiritual belief or organized activities connected to religious denomination, church, other religious/spiritual organization.
 - (1) Students will be permitted up to three (3) days of absences per semester for faith/spiritual belief participation in organized activities of a religious/spiritual organization.
 - (2) Students shall receive no academic penalty for taking absences under this policy.

- (C) Students will be eligible for alternative accommodations for examinations/academic requirements for absences if:
 - (1) Sincerely held belief severely affects the student's ability to take an examination or meet and academic requirement and,
 - (2) The student provides lists of dates within 14 days of first day of instruction in a particular course.

- (D) Instructors are required to accept without question the sincerity of the belief and must keep requests for alternative accommodations confidential. Instructors can schedule alternative dates to be before or after scheduled dates, but must do so without prejudice.

- (E) Instructors shall include in each course syllabus, a statement regarding the institution's policy on religious accommodation that includes both of the following:
 - (1) A description of the general procedure for requesting accommodations; and
 - (2) Contact information for the individual whom a student may contact for more information about the College's Religious Accommodation policy.
 - (3) The statement shall also include a link to a list of religious holidays/holy days for the current academic year (3357:13-14-751) accompanied by the statement that "this list of religious holidays/holy days is non-exhaustive and may not be used to deny

accommodation to a student for a holiday or festival of the student's faith or religious or spiritual belief system that does not appear on this list.”

- (F) Any student who feels they have been discriminated against or denied religious accommodation and wishes to notify the institution of a grievance regarding the implementation of this policy, shall refer to 3357:13-15-031 Discrimination Grievance Procedures.
- (G) Further questions, complaints, and third-party reports of policy violations regarding religious accommodation shall be made to the Title IX Coordinator (EO). The contact information for the EO is listed below.

Title IX Coordinator (EO)
North Central State College
Fallerius Technical Building Room 158
2441 Kenwood Circle
Mansfield, OH 44906
419-755-4538
Email:kgray@ncstatecollege.edu

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