

Academic Affairs

1 BP 4030 ACADEMIC FREEDOM

2 References:

3 Title 5, Section 51023;
4 ACCJC Accreditation Eligibility Requirement 13 and 20;
5 ACCJC Accreditation Standard 4.1

6 Cerritos College serves the common good by expanding the boundaries of knowledge
7 and transmitting it imaginatively, preparing students for occupations, and preparing them
8 to live successfully in a free society. The fulfillment of this function necessarily rests on
9 the preservation of academic freedom which protects the rights of teachers to teach and
10 students to learn.

11 The exercise of academic freedom is necessary if society is to receive the benefits of
12 honest intellectual search and unbiased transmittal of knowledge. Cerritos College
13 scholars must be free from pressures or demands which restrict their intellectual
14 searches. The transmittal of knowledge at Cerritos College shall not be impeded by
15 special interests, conflicting public opinion, or unpopularity. Cerritos College shall avoid
16 a climate of education in which either students or faculty dare not assert their ideas for
17 fear of reprisal. At the same time, Cerritos College faculty and students have a
18 responsibility, under the guidelines of academic freedom, to engage in teaching and
19 learning that honors and respects divergent viewpoints that are grounded in cultures of
20 reason, logic, evidence, responsible scholarship, and creativity.

21 Office of Primary Responsibility: Vice President, Academic Affairs

Date Adopted: August 15, 2007

Date Reviewed: January 16, 2019; June 4, 2025