

POLICY TITLE: PREREQUISITES

I. Purpose

Lansing Community College believes that students' chances for success in college-level courses are significantly increased when students possess basic skill levels, prior course work, and/or content mastery determined to be critical to a successful learning experience. In addition, we are committed to a system of assessing student preparedness that is flexible, convenient, easily understandable, fair and which provides reasonable access to learning for our students.

II. Scope

This policy applies to all courses and programs where the department faculty has decided that students need to demonstrate basic skill levels.

III. General

The decision on which courses and programs require students to demonstrate basic skill levels and/or particular course prerequisites prior to registration is the province of faculty in a program or discipline. In order to serve students well, faculty must assess a course or program's prerequisite requirements through a careful analysis of the reading, writing, math, and content knowledge necessary to succeed. Other considerations include the role the course or program plays in transferability, the matriculation status of the course, and the relationship of the course to our institution's CORE and MACRAO requirements.

It is appropriate to allow exceptions to required prerequisites for individual students who can otherwise demonstrate their ability to succeed in a course or program based on criteria established by the faculty in the discipline and/or when legally required.

The College will develop a system for assigning prerequisites to courses and programs, deciding whether such prerequisites are to be enforced or recommended and granting exceptions that reflect the wording and spirit of this policy.

IV. Responsibility

The Divisional Instructional Leaders along with the Department Chairs are responsible for preparing divisional procedures to implement this policy.