POLICY / PURPOSE:

It is the policy of Coastal Alabama Community College to establish and follow a formal procedure for addressing student complaints.

SCOPE:

This policy applies to all Coastal Alabama Community College students.

DEFINITIONS:

*Days*: For the purpose of this policy, "days" refers to business days or days in which the College is open.

DETAILS:

1. **Student Complaint**: The student has the right to submit a written Student Complaint. The student may first meet with the supervisor responsible for the applicable policy to attempt to resolve the complaint. If a resolution cannot be achieved, the student should submit the completed [Complaint Form](#) online with documentation (police report, hospital records, doctor excuse, obituary, witness statements, etc.) to support any extenuating circumstances.

2. **Types of Student Complaints**: Complaints and/or Appeals may include but are not limited to the following:
   - Academic Complaint and Grade Appeals
   - Admissions status
   - Financial Aid Awards or Loss of Aid
   - Traffic Citations and Fines
   - Business Office, student refunds, returned checks
   - Student Code of Conduct Suspensions/Dismissals
   - Audit to Credit/Credit to Audit Registrations
   - ADA Accommodations
   - Title IX Accommodations
   - Discrimination
   - Harassment

3. If a resolution cannot be achieved at the college level, the student can submit a complaint to the Alabama Community College System (ACCS).

PROCEDURE(S):

1. Before submitting a Complaint Form, the student should contact the appropriate supervisor to discuss an informal resolution.
Financial Aid Awards or Loss of Aid
- Director – Financial Aid
  Gail.Beggs@coastalalabama.edu
  251-580-2151
- Chief Financial Officer
  Jessica.Davis@coastalalabama.edu
  251-580-2207

Student Refunds, Fiscal Services Office Procedures
- Director – Fiscal Services
  Jill.Cabaniss@coastalalabama.edu
  251-580-2136
- Chief Financial Officer
  Jessica.davis@coastalalabama.edu
  251-580-2207

Admissions & Records Procedures
- Director - Enrollment Management
  Beth.Bryars@coastalalabama.edu
  251-580-2112
- Dean - Student Services
  Dendi.Moseley@coastalalabama.edu
  251-580-2103

Academic Complaints and Grade Appeals
- Dean - Academic Instruction
  Mary.Lancaster@coastalalabama.edu
  251-809-1500
- Dean - Career Technology
  Linda.Grant@coastalalabama.edu
  334-637-3151
- Dean - Nursing and Allied Health
  Tiffany.Scarborough@coastalalabama.edu
  251-580-2266

Student Conduct, Title IX Complaints, Harassment, and Discrimination
- Dean - Student Services
  Dendi.Moseley@coastalalabama.edu
  251-580-2103

Americans with Disability Act Complaints and Appeals
- ADA Specialist
  Lee.Barrentine@coastalalabama.edu
  251-580-2109
COASTAL ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Policies and Procedures Manual

Title: Complaints (Formal - Students)  
Insert: 05.08  Date: 04/01/2022  
Replace: Date: 02/19/2024  
Reviewed: Date: 02/19/2024  
Remove:  

Approved by:  

- Dean - Student Services  
  Dendy.Moseley@coastalalabama.edu  
  251-580-2103  

College Police Complaints  
- College Police Chief  
  Jonathan.Davidson@coastalalabama.edu  
  251-580-2222  

2. In the event the matter is not resolved in the conference with the director or designee, the student can initiate a formal student complaint. The complaint or appeal will be submitted to the Student Appeals Committee for review.  
   
a. Complete the Complaint Form found  
at: http://www.coastalalabama.edu/titleix/submit_a_student_complaint/.  

b. This complaint will be reviewed by the Student Appeals Committee. This committee is comprised of program directors, campus directors, faculty, staff, students. Committee members and the committee chairperson shall be appointed each year by the President or designee.  

c. The Student Appeals Committee shall render a decision within 14 days to the students’ college email address.  

d. All decisions are subject to review by the President of the College.  

3. A student must exhaust their rights under the institution’s official complaint/grievance policy before advancing any complaint to the Alabama Community College System (ACCS) office. Students may file consumer/student complaints with the Alabama Community College System (ACCS) by following these procedures:  
   
a. If, after exhausting all available institutional processes, a student's complaint remains unresolved, the student may appeal to ACCS using the System's official Complaint Form. Students may submit completed complaint forms by printing the form, signing it, and then either (1) scanning it and emailing it to complaints@accs.edu or (2) mailing it to:  
  Alabama Community College System  
  Attention: Division of Academic and Student Affairs  
  P.O. Box 302130  
  Montgomery, AL 36130-2130  

b. The Division of Academic and Student Affairs will investigate the complaint within 30 days of receipt.
The institution which is the subject of complaint has 30 days to provide a written response to questions and/or concerns raised during the investigation. Such response may or may not contain a resolution.

d. The Division of Academic and Student Affairs will adjudicate the matter and write a report or letter to the institution and student detailing corrective action, if any is necessary, or stating that the school has no violation of policies.

e. If corrective action is needed the institution will have 30 days to comply or develop a plan to comply with the corrective action.

f. The System Office will monitor the institution’s compliance to ensure the completion of any required corrective action.

**ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS/INFORMATION:**

Refer to [http://www.coastalalabama.edu/titleix/submit_a_student_complaint/](http://www.coastalalabama.edu/titleix/submit_a_student_complaint/).
Refer to [https://www.accs.edu/student-complaints/](https://www.accs.edu/student-complaints/).

NOTE: Some academic programs (for example, Nursing) may require additional or more stringent requirements. Refer to the applicable Program Handbook for additional information.