



Student Handbook

S T U D E N T H A N D B O O K

P O L I C I E S A N D R E G U L A T I O N S

ADMISSIONS

Advising and Guidance

Guidance is considered one of the College's most important services. Vocational and personal guidance begins at the time a prospective student indicates an interest in Empire College, and continues throughout and beyond the term of education. Our goal is to support our students and assist them in reducing any barriers, which might interfere with their studies.

Vocational Guidance

Our Admissions Office offers vocational guidance to help students set career goals and to select the most suitable educational programs. The Wonderlic Scholastic Level Exam (SLE) and the Wonderlic Basic Skills Test (WBST) are used. Students wishing to pursue a double major must have the prior approval of the Director of Education.

EDUCATION

Appearance Guidelines

A future in the business community is the goal of every student at the College. Part of the process of training for a career is developing a businesslike attitude and appearance. It is recommended that students begin to develop that attitude by dressing appropriately at school and by choosing clothing carefully in order to start or improve a business wardrobe.

Students' attire should be comfortable but appropriate for the office. The following attire is **NOT** considered appropriate at school: head coverings, shorts, jogging suits or sweats, bare midriff tops, revealing clothing, micro-mini skirts, tank tops, bare feet, flip flops, untidy clothing, and piercing jewelry other than earrings.

Display of gang colors, clothing, insignia, or hand signals is strictly forbidden and a violation of the Student Conduct Policy (see page 3). The College reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of appearance consistent with professional standards.

All Medical programs have appearance guidelines appropriate to those professions.

Class Hours

Full-time students attend College five or six hours per day, five days per week. Day classes may start as early as 8 a.m. and may end as late as 3:10 p.m. Class periods are fifty minutes in length and are defined as one clock hour. Evening classes are scheduled from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

The College reserves the right to alter class schedules and make changes at any time, as necessary.

Class Substitution

The Director of Education has the right to substitute appropriate classes. Substitutions are predicated on student employability, graduation deadline, or when deemed to be in the best interest of the student.

Class Scheduling

Students will receive a new schedule every five weeks. Students who take additional classes outside of their programs as designated on their enrollment agreements may do so only with the approval of the Director of Education or Assistant Director of Education.

The factors that will be taken into consideration in allowing students to take these additional classes are:

1. Student is progressing on schedule;
2. The additional classes do not conflict with required classes;
3. The classroom has space availability;
4. Student is not currently in grace period.

Students who take these approved additional classes may do so without a tuition charge, but they must pay for any books or supplies required.

Adding and Dropping Classes

Any student wishing to add or drop a class must do so with the approval of the Director of Education or Assistant Director of Education. Students attending the day school can request to drop a class during the first week of each module. During weeks 2 and 3 of each module, students can request to be withdrawn from a class and will have a "W" posted on their transcript. Student attending the evening school during a six week module can request a drop during weeks 1 and 2 of the module. They can request a class withdrawal during weeks 3 and 4. In a three week module, drops can be requested during week 1 and withdrawals during week 2.

Adding or dropping a class may affect Satisfactory Progress, Graduation Requirements, and disbursement of financial aid. Students will be advised of the implications of such a change.

Program Change

Counseling is provided for students who wish to change their programs. Application and approval for such changes rest with the Director of Education, Assistant Director of Education, and Financial Aid Officer.

New students wishing to change their programs during the first five weeks of classes (five weeks of class are considered a module) will have their tuition adjusted to the new program rate.

For students who wish to change their programs after the first five weeks of school, the tuition of the new program will be based upon the units to be completed, together with the cost of the previously scheduled units in the old program. If a student has been scheduled for 50 percent or more of the units in his/her present program and requests a change to a shorter course of study, no reduction in tuition will be made.

In the event a student is enrolled in a program and subsequently wishes to change to another program with a higher entrance test requirement, the student must have the approval of the Director of Education or Assistant Director of Education.

Honors Program

The College has established an Honors Program to recognize students with outstanding academic achievements. President's Honors are awarded to students with GPAs from 3.85 to 4.0 and no Incomplete or F grades. Dean's Honors are awarded for GPAs from 3.45 to 3.84 and no Incomplete or F grades.

Honors Lists are published in the school newspaper. Students who are on the Honors List after completion of two quarters are awarded an Honors Pin and Letter of Recognition.

Student Conduct

All students at Empire College are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner suitable to the employment fields they intend to enter by being thoughtful, courteous, and considerate to others. This includes turning off/muting cell phones and beepers in class. The general policy is addressed in the school catalog and the specifics are addressed below.

Cheating will not be tolerated at Empire College. Cheating is defined as "... to practice fraud or deceit, (or) to violate rules or agreements." (Webster's Dictionary).

Examples of conduct considered cheating are as follows:

- Turning in work, which is identical to another student's work, i.e., same typos, name of other student on the work, exact same language, etc.
- Plagiarism – turning in work copied from a published text or writing.
- Talking to your neighbor during testing, sharing test answers, looking at your neighbor's work.
- Using another student's ID to access their network files and/or working in another student's personal files in classes such as keyboarding, legal transcription, etc.
- Using notes, either on paper or on person, to take tests when a closed book test is given.

Empire College reserves the right to suspend or dismiss any student whose conduct in the opinion of the Administration is disruptive or in any way interferes with the learning process of other students. The College further reserves the right to terminate the enrollment of any student not abiding by the policies and regulations in this Catalog or as set forth in writing by the College. Unlawful activities on the campus will be grounds for immediate dismissal.

Computer Usage Policy

1. No one may download any software program of any type onto any lab computer unless specifically required to do so for a lab assignment in that classroom and with the permission of the instructor. This includes:
 - Email, or messaging programs such as AOL, MSN, ICQ, etc.
 - Music
 - Games
 - Software utilities and programs
 - Movies
 - Any other software not specifically required for a lab class.
2. No one may install any software program of any type onto any lab computer unless specifically required to do so for a lab assignment in that classroom and with the expressed permission of that instructor. Software programs may be installed on classroom computers with the full knowledge and permission of that instructor.

3. No one may install or download, or use any peer-to-peer file-sharing program. Programs such as Kazaa, Grutella and any similar program are strictly forbidden at all times, on all computers in all rooms, regardless whether it is a classroom, lab or other.
4. No one may use any type of hacking or cracking tool on any computers in the computer labs. Any utilities that are designed to locate vulnerabilities in computer systems, passwords, ports, network traffic, user or system accounts, or any other type are strictly forbidden. The only exception is when they are used under the expressed permission of an instructor's classroom.
5. Absolutely no pornography may be downloaded or viewed.

Any student not following these rules will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the College.

Drug-Free Awareness/Drug Prevention Program

Empire College has developed a five-point program, in compliance with federal regulations, to inform all students and employees about its policies concerning illicit drugs and alcohol, the legal sanctions relating to unlawful drug and alcohol possession or distribution, the health risks associated with substance abuse, counseling programs available, and the penalty that will be imposed if found in violation of Empire College policies.

Harassment Policy

Verbal, physical, visual, and sexual harassment of students and employees of Empire College is absolutely forbidden. It is expected that all students will be sensitive to the feelings of others and will not act in a way that might be considered harassment by someone else.

If you think you or one of your fellow students has been the victim of harassment, you must report it immediately to the Director of Education, Assistant Director of Education, or the Director of Administrative Services, so that your report may be investigated.

Sexual Assault

Students, staff, and faculty are required to report any sexual assault, either actual or attempted, immediately to the Director of Education or the Director of Administrative Services. The Director of Education, Assistant Director of Education, or Director of Administrative Services will make an immediate investigation and involve the local law enforcement authorities as required. Assault victims will be counseled and given information on local agencies that will provide support services. If applicable, the alleged offender will be placed on administrative leave of absence until a determination of guilt or innocence is reached.

The College adheres to guidelines relating to sexual assault as defined by the U.S. Office of Education.

Satisfactory Progress Statement

Empire College has specific standards students are expected to achieve in order to maintain Satisfactory Progress in their programs of study. These standards are based on grades and the completion of program requirements within a maximum time frame. Compliance with Satisfactory Progress standards has substantial effect on the disbursement of Title IV financial aid funds. All students will be requested to acknowledge receipt of the Satisfactory Progress Statement, which outlines these standards, at the time they meet with Business Office or Financial Aid Office personnel.

At Empire College, satisfactory progress for **ALL** students is defined by the following criteria:

1. Students are permitted to attempt up to 1.5 times the number of credits in their program of study.
2. Failure of two or more major courses at any required evaluation point may result in withdrawal from the program, at the discretion of the Director of Education. If the student has demonstrated satisfactory progress in other coursework, a program change may be allowed. Such changes must be approved by the Director of Education.
3. Students must successfully meet or exceed the minimum GPA or course completion standards set forth below. The evaluation points are based on the percentage of credit hours attempted.

All students (full- and part-time) must meet the following minimum standards of academic achievement and successful course completion while enrolled at Empire College. The student's progress will be reviewed at the end of each module to determine satisfactory academic progress. Empire College does not allow students to remain in school who are not meeting the standards of satisfactory progress.

Required Evaluation Point	Minimum GPA		Successful Course Completion (Required % of Credit Hours Earned of Total Credit Hours Attempted)
25% of maximum program length ¹	1.5	AND	55%
50% of maximum program length ²	2.0	AND	60%
100% of maximum program length ²	2.0	AND	Satisfactory Completion of all Program Requirements

Students must successfully complete 36 units at the end of each academic year to remain eligible for financial aid. For financial aid purposes, an academic year is defined as at least 30 weeks and at least 36 units for day students, and at least 45 weeks and 36 units for evening students.³

¹ Student not meeting standards will be placed on probation, but will not be dismissed. Failure in more than two major courses may result in withdrawal from the program.

² Student not meeting standards must be dismissed; probation not allowed at this point.

³ Students enrolled in one of the degree programs must meet or exceed this standard at the end of the second academic year or be dismissed.

Minimum Academic Achievement: A student must achieve cumulative grade point averages (CGPAs) of the following: 1.5 at 25% of the maximum time frame; 2.0 at the midpoint of the maximum time frame; and a 2.0 at the maximum time frame.

Transfer Credit and Change of Program: Program changes and transfer credits will affect the overall program length, the maximum program length, and the satisfactory progress evaluation points for the student.

Reinstatement as a Regular (Title IV Eligible) Students: When a former Empire College student returns within 6 months of his/her last day of attendance, all grades earned in the previous enrollment(s) that apply to the reinstated program will be reviewed. The College's Satisfactory Academic Progress standards are applied to those grades/credit hours to determine whether the student's progress is satisfactory.

If it is determined that the student is returning on probation, he/she will be eligible for Federal Student Aid but must repeat the classes which have caused the probation status. See "Academic Probation" below.

If a student returns subject to dismissal, he/she will be allowed to return on a cash basis only and must attempt to improve the deficient areas that led to the dismissal. See "Extended Enrollment as a Regular (Title IV Eligible) Student" below.

Academic Probation: Students who do not maintain satisfactory progress will be placed on probation for one quarter. The student on probation will be counseled and given assistance, if needed, in order to improve his/her GPA. Students who have not achieved the required standards at evaluation points other than the 50% point of the maximum program length and the end of the second academic year will be placed on probation and will continue to be eligible for financial aid. After the student reestablishes satisfactory progress, the student will remain on probation for one module

Academic Probation – Veterans or VA Eligible Persons: A veteran or VA eligible person placed on probation for unsatisfactory progress shall be dismissed if his or her academic progress remains below published standards after two quarters. If the veteran or eligible person is allowed to remain on probation beyond this period, he or she will have all veteran's benefits discontinued and any further certification of benefits terminated.

A veteran or VA eligible person whose attendance is below 80 percent after two consecutive quarters will have all veteran's benefits discontinued.

Extended Enrollment as a Regular (Title IV Eligible) Student: Students who have been dismissed due to the failure to maintain the academic minimums outlined above may apply to continue their studies at Empire College in an extended enrollment status. During this time, the student is not eligible to receive federal financial aid or loans and must attempt to improve the deficient areas that led to the dismissal, retaking courses he/she has failed, or practicing previously learned skills in order to re-establish satisfactory progress. The student will be responsible for all costs incurred during this quarter. At the completion of this quarter, a student who has established satisfactory progress according to the preceding table may apply to the administration to return to a regular student status and reinstate his/her eligibility for financial aid. A meeting will be scheduled between the Director of Education and the student applying for reinstatement to determine if the student has the academic ability and desire to successfully

continue in the program. If reinstated, the student will be placed on probation for a period of one quarter.

Mitigating Circumstances: The Director of Education may waive the standards of academic progress for circumstances of poor health, family crisis, or other significant occurrence outside the control of the student. These circumstances must be documented by the student to demonstrate that they had an adverse impact on the student’s performance. No waivers will be provided for graduation requirements.

Appeals: Should a student disagree with the application of these satisfactory progress standards, he/she must first discuss the situation with the Director of Education. If still dissatisfied, the student may then appeal to the Academic Review Committee. The decision of the Academic Review Committee is final and may not be further appealed.

Academic Review Committee: The Academic Review Committee is composed of the President (or Vice President), Director of Education (or Assistant Director of Education or Evening School Dean); Financial Aid Director or Financial Aid Advisor; and the Student Success Advisor.

The purpose of the Academic Review Committee is to review students whose academic performance do not meet Satisfactory Progress Standards, resulting in their suspension or dismissal. The Academic Review Committee also reviews students whose inappropriate conduct may result in suspension or dismissal. The Committee reviews appeals and petitions for reinstatement and readmission.

Grading System: Students will receive a progress report of their grades at the end of every five weeks. All class work is reported in terms of a letter grade as described below.

Grade	Ranking	Grade Points
A	Excellent	4.0
B	Above Average	3.0
C	Satisfactory	2.0
D	Barely Passing	1.0
P	Pass	0.0
F	Failure	0.0
I	Incomplete	N/A
R	Repetition	See “Repeating a Course” Below
WF	Withdrawal Failing	N/A
TC	Transfer Credit	N/A
__T	Transfer Grade	*

*Any grade ending in a T indicates a grade transferred from a prior program taken at Empire College; the grade points are calculated based upon the letter grade preceding the T.

Plus (+) or minus (-) does not affect grade point average and is used only to indicate a higher or lower ranking within the grade category. For classes wherein students receive a pass/fail grade, these pass/fail grades do not affect grade point average. Credit hours are earned for “Pass” grades and no credit hours are earned for “Fail” grades. All incomplete work must be submitted no later than five weeks from the end of a class, or a final grade will be assigned for the work completed.

At the completion of all subject matter in each program, the student is eligible to receive a degree, diploma, or a certificate provided each subject has been completed with no less than a “D” and a 2.0 cumulative grade point average. The grade point average for the quarter is determined by multiplying the number of credit hours for each course by the number of points identified for each grade outlined above and dividing by the total number of credits for the quarter.

Incompletes: Students receiving a grade of “I” will be evaluated according to the minimum standards for academic progress and will be re-evaluated at the end of the following five-week module. This grade is not included in the calculation of CGPA, but will count as credit hours attempted for the purposes of calculating the successful course completion percentage. Courses indicating an “I” at the end of the five-week module will automatically become an “F” and will be calculated in the CGPA.

Withdrawal from a Course: A student who wishes to change his/her schedule by dropping a course may do so only with the permission of the Director of Education, Assistant Director of Education, or Evening School Dean. Withdrawals during the first week of the module will result in no grade or credits attempted being assigned for the course. During the second and third weeks of the module, the grade of “W” will be assigned. “W” grades are not calculated into the CGPA but will be considered credits attempted. Students who withdraw from a course after the third week of the module will be assigned a grade commensurate with the work completed.

Repeating a Course: A student is required to repeat any course in which he/she has received a grade of “F” or has withdrawn from prior to completion. The new grade will replace the original grade for the purposes of the calculation of the cumulative grade point average. However, both courses will be considered credit hours attempted for the purpose of determining successful course completion percentages.

Grace Period/Continuing Students: Students who do not satisfactorily complete all of the courses in their programs by their graduation dates may attend up to one additional quarter with the approval of the Director of Education or Assistant Director of Education at no cost to meet graduation requirements.

Students requiring additional time beyond their grace period will be charged at an hourly rate, as determined by their program tuition, on a quarterly basis. Students must make arrangements with the Director of Education or Assistant Director of Education to request Continuing Student status.

Financial aid is not available during grace periods and continuing student status.

Any student who requires additional time beyond the maximum time frame will receive a Certificate of Completion and is not eligible to receive a Diploma/Degree even though the student has completed all course requirements for that Diploma/Degree.

Students attending during their grace periods or as continuing students must comply with the standards set forth in the Catalog.

REGISTRAR

Transcripts

Upon written request to the Registrar, transcripts will be sent to other schools, employers, or individuals.

Official transcripts of scholastic record will not be released if students have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the College or if their student loans are delinquent or in default.

It is the policy of the institution to maintain all records required by the Reform Act at its primary administrative location for a minimum of five years. Additionally, it is the policy of the College to maintain student transcripts for a period of at least 50 years.

Lockers

Locker space is available to students within the College premises. Generally, students receive locker assignments during the first week of class. Students must provide their own locks.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Attendance

Since students at Empire are training for their employment future, it is expected that they be in regular attendance. Students must attain overall attendance of 80 percent or better to meet graduation requirements. Students who have below 80 percent attendance for two consecutive quarters may be subject to dismissal from the College.

On each day of absence, the student is required to call one of the Student Success Advisors. If the student does not call, the Student Success Advisor will contact the student. If the Student Success Advisor is unable to reach a student, the person designated to be notified in case of an emergency may be called.

Leave of Absence

A student is considered to be on a leave of absence if he/she interrupts his/her educational program for any reason for one full module from beginning to end as long as the prior module has been completed. Interruption at any other time in a module is considered to be a withdrawal and students will go through the normal return of Title IV and State aid calculations. A leave of absence is not treated as a withdrawal and no return of Federal or State financial aid is calculated.

A student may be granted one leave of absence in a 12-month period. A student must request a leave of absence in writing prior to taking a leave. At the time the leave of absence is requested, the Student Success Advisor will meet with the student to review his/her eligibility. If a student does not return at the expiration of an approved leave of absence, he/she is considered a withdrawal based on the date the student began the leave of absence. The school must report to the loan holder the student's change in enrollment status as of the withdrawal date.

Upon return, students are required to complete course requirements as indicated in the most current catalog. Leaves of Absence may adversely affect financial aid eligibility and will change the student's graduation date.

Withdrawal from School

Students considering withdrawal from the College should contact the Student Success Advisor. A student who is a Title IV recipient must see the Student Loan Repayment Advisor to be aware of the possible consequences a withdrawal may have on his or her loan repayment terms, change in financial aid refunds (return of Title IV funds), and the resulting change in amounts owed to the College.

Should the student decide to withdraw from school, an exit interview with the Director of Administrative Services is required to complete withdrawal paperwork and to discuss student aid and financial obligations due the College.

Grievance Procedure

Students who believe they have a grievance with the College are encouraged to first discuss the matter with the Director of Education, Assistant Director of Education, Director of Administrative Services, or Student Success Advisor prior to filing a grievance petition with the Academic Review Committee. All petitions will be reviewed. The decision made by the Academic Review Committee will be final.

If the College has not satisfactorily answered any questions, the student should contact the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools or the Department of Consumer Affairs.

CAREER PLACEMENT

Career Placement Assistance

Empire College is as successful as its graduates. Our reputation and ultimate growth are dependent upon producing high-caliber employees and placing them in meaningful employment. For this reason, we maintain a vital interest in the job placement of our graduates and matriculating students.

Graduating students who have completed a program of 625 hours or more (or a modified program as approved by the Director of Education) are eligible to receive placement assistance after satisfying all financial obligations to the College. Job notices are posted and instructions on how to contact the employer are given to qualified graduates. Résumé preparation and interview techniques are directly addressed in all basic class work.

Full-time students who need to work while they are attending school and who are able to maintain satisfactory academic progress are assisted in securing part-time employment.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Student Activities

Empire College hosts a variety of holiday parties throughout the year for students and their families. Easter festivities include an egg hunt for the children. Halloween can be an extremely colorful day, as both students and staff vie for showing their most original disguises and costumes. Everyone is invited to join the Christmas Party and Raffle, held before winter vacation, at which youngsters are able to visit with Santa Claus.

The College holds Graduation Ceremonies twice a year, honoring all students who have completed their programs. These events, with guest speakers and presentation of awards, give everyone a chance to celebrate our students' success.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ♦ FACILITIES

Americans with Disabilities Act

Empire College acknowledges that the building provides facilities, which meet city, state, and federal regulations. The services provided are specially designed restroom facilities, drinking fountains, parking stalls, handrails, and ramps.

Empire College recognizes that disabilities include mobility, sensory, health, psychological, and learning disabilities, and will make every effort to provide reasonable accommodations to the extent it is readily achievable. While our legal obligation relates to disabilities of a permanent nature, it is our practice to also provide accommodations, when possible, for temporary disabilities.

Students requesting and/or utilizing disability accommodations have certain obligations and responsibilities surrounding their use of such accommodations. Empire College will make a reasonable accommodation to all individuals with disabilities to attend unless it imposes an undue hardship on the College's operation. A copy of the College's Americans with Disabilities Act Policy is available from the Director of Education.

Eating Facilities

The school policy is to prohibit food and drink in the classrooms and hallways other than bottled water. We encourage all students not to eat or drink in classrooms and hallways.

Vending machines and microwave ovens are provided in the College's student lounge, and many restaurants are located within a short distance as well.

Parking

“**Faculty Parking**,” “**Visitor**,” “**Student of the Month**,” and any marked or numbered parking spaces are **assigned parking and/or staff member parking only**.

There are designated parking areas at the Courthouse area (north side of campus) as well. These spaces are available for judges, court staff, jurors, and/or any individual who need to be in court. Parking space at the College is ample.

Transportation

Golden Gate Transit serves the campus and connects with Sonoma County Transit and Santa Rosa City Transit in the downtown area, making it possible to commute by bus to school from many locations within Sonoma County. Freeway access is convenient.

Commuter air flights are available to many major northern California cities; local air services connect with national and international airlines at San Francisco International Airport. Commuter buses depart from the San Francisco Airport to Santa Rosa approximately every 30 minutes.

BOOKSTORE

Bookstore

For the convenience of students and faculty, the College operates a bookstore which stocks texts and supplies needed for study at the College. Students are not required to purchase their materials from Empire College, however.

The hours of operation is posted outside the bookstore.

SUPPLEMENTARY STUDENT SERVICES

Study Groups

The College fosters study groups in several of its classes. The purpose of the groups is to provide student interaction and teamwork as well as build leadership qualities and reliance on the group to solve problems and generate ideas.

Personal Guidance and Referral: Students with personal problems are encouraged to talk with the Student Success Advisor, the Director of Education, the Assistant Director of Education, or the Director of Administrative Services. Since the College maintains an open-door policy, all members of the staff are accessible and encouraged to help students in any way they can. Many students find that the support, assistance, and referral services received can reduce or eliminate problems, which, if addressed, might improve progress in school.

Educational Advising: The Director of Education and Assistant Director of Education are available to assist students with academic advising. Any student having difficulty with a particular class or scheduling should see the Director of Education.

Instructional Assistance: Instructors are available during school hours to assist students in making arrangements for special help. Students needing an instructor's help should meet with the instructor, the Department Head, or the Director of Education to discuss their individual needs.

Tutoring: A tutoring center is available to all students at no additional charge. The tutoring center is staffed by a current student after school hours under the supervision of an instructor. Some programs provide additional tutoring if a student tutor is available.

Satisfactory Progress Advising: Students who are not achieving Satisfactory Progress may be required to meet with the Director of Education, Assistant Director of Education, Student Success Advisor, or Director of Administrative Services to review their progress and develop a plan for improvement.

Brush-Up Privileges

The College encourages graduates to return for review and brush up in typing. This service is provided at no cost to all graduates.

In addition, a student who has successfully completed any one of the computer software courses may retake the latest version of the software during the evening at no cost except for books and supplies.

Arrangements for brush-up classes should be made with the Director of Education.

Housing

Empire College does not have on-campus housing nor does it assist students in finding housing. However, the College is centrally located in Santa Rosa with many apartment complexes nearby. The approximate monthly cost of an apartment ranges from \$600 to \$800. Housing resource information is available to all prospective students from the Admissions Office.

CAMPUS CRIME AND SECURITY

“Jeanne Clery” Disclosure Act

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, codified at 20 USC 1092 (f) as a part of the Higher Education Act of 1965, is a federal law that requires colleges and universities to disclose certain timely and annual information about campus crime and security policies. All public and private post secondary educational institutions participating in federal student aid programs are required to comply with it. The law, originally enacted by Congress in 1990 as the Campus Security Act, was initiated by Howard and Connie Clery after their daughter Jeanne was tragically murdered at Lehigh University in 1986. Amendments to the Act in 1998 renamed it in memory of Jeanne Clery.

The Clery Act requires colleges and universities to publish an annual report every year by October 1st that contains 3 years of crime statistics and certain policy statements including sexual assault policies which assure basic victims’ rights and where the students should go to report crimes. The complete text of the Clery Act and the U.S. Department of Education regulations are available on the Security On Campus, Inc. website at www.campussafety.org.

POLICY FOR REPORTING CRIME STATISTICS

To comply with the Act, we collect crime statistics which would have occurred on campus to include public property immediately adjacent to our facility. Empire College’s annual security report includes statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on campus, on public property within or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus. The College does not have an off-site campus/property.

The Assistant Director of Education distributes a copy of Empire College Campus Crime and Security Report on the second week of the module to all new students in the Career Transitions Class.

Employees also receive the same information when completing the application process for employment.

RESOURCES

SONOMA COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES	
Sonoma County Sheriff’s Department	(707) 565-2511
Windsor Police Department (SCSO contract)	(707) 838-1234
Santa Rosa Police Department	(707) 543-3600
Petaluma Police Department	(707) 778-4372
Sonoma County Probation Department	(707) 565-2149
Rohnert Park Department of Public Safety	(707) 584-2612
Healdsburg Police Department	(707) 778-4372
Cotati Police Department	(707) 792-4612
Sonoma Police Department (SCSO contract)	(707) 996-3602
Sebastopol Police Department	(707) 829-4400
Cloverdale Police Department	(707) 894-2150

Community Resources	
United Against Sexual Assault	(707) 545-7273
Sonoma County Victim/Witness Assistance	(707) 565-2002
Sutter Medical Center	(707) 576-4000
Warrack Hospital	(707) 542-9030
Petaluma Valley Hospital	(707) 778-1111
Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital	(707) 546-3210
YWCA (Temporary Restraining Order Clinic)	(707) 546-7115
YWCA 24 hour Domestic Violence Crisis Line	(707) 546-1234
YWCA Emergency Shelter	(707) 546-1234
Sonoma Valley Crisis Line	(707) 938-HELP
Child Protective Services	(707) 565-2245
Child Protective Services 24 hour Emergency Line	(707) 565-2246
Suicide Prevention	1-800-746-8181
Sonoma County Mental Health	(707) 576-8181
MEN (Men Evolving Non-Violently) – Offender Hotline	(707) 528-2626
Legal Aid	(707) 523-8823
Legal Services / Lawyer Referral	(707) 546-5297
Chrysalis Counseling Services	(707) 545-1670
WOMAN, Inc. – Lesbian Services	(415) 864-4722

On-Campus Support Resources	
Department of Education	(707) 546-4000 ext. 246
Student Success Office	(707) 546-4000 ext. 263 or 265
Administrative Services	(707) 546-4000 ext. 262
Human Resources	(707) 546-4000 ext. 222

SMOKE-FREE CAMPUS

Smoking and all other uses of tobacco are prohibited on all property in all indoor and outdoor spaces owned and controlled by Empire College. The only designated smoking area is **at the kiosk located at the south end** of our parking lot. Everyone is asked not to smoke in any location on Empire except the specified designated smoking area.

It is the objective of Empire College to promote a safe and healthful atmosphere for students, faculty, staff and visitors on our facility by reducing the health risks associated with tobacco smoke and related products and minimizing discomfort and inconvenience to all concerned. To meet this obligation, the College has implemented a smoke-free campus.

It is the responsibility of all students, faculty, staff, and visitors to observe and follow Empire College’s smoke-free mandate. Please pitch in and help keep our college sites beautiful, clean, and healthy.