

Free Speech and Anti-Discrimination Policy

Hagerstown Community College is committed to maintaining an atmosphere in which all members of the College community are free to take part in an open dialogue that furthers understanding of diverse philosophies, cultural perspectives and respect for individuals. The College values the ideal of cultural diversity and has included it in its mission statement as follows: “The College believes in and teaches the ideals and values of cultural diversity and a democratic way of life.”

To achieve its mission, the College will not tolerate any language, action or behavior that is hostile to others. All Hagerstown Community College students have the right to be free from unlawful intimidation or coercion, negative stereotyping and racial, gender or cultural slurs. This includes harassment distributed via any verbal, visual, and electronic means including distance education and social networking. Incidents and exchanges that negate the expressed intentions and policy of Hagerstown Community College beyond the bounds of protected free speech, as defined by Maryland Criminal Law, will be dealt with as a violation of the student code of conduct.

* It is recommended that this statement be used as an introductory notice to all online courses to establish course standards at the beginning of each term.