

## **ADMISSIONS POLICY:**

1. Students wishing to be admitted to the PBCC Honors College must complete an Honors Application.
2. Students with less than 12 credit hours of college coursework must meet one of the following admissions criteria:
  - a. SAT combined score of 1170 (verbal & math)
  - b. ACT average score of 24 (English, math, and reading)
  - c. CPT reading score of 90 AND CPT writing score of 100
3. Students with at least 12 credit hours of college coursework must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or greater.
4. Transcripts that are older than 5 years will not be used in the calculation of the cumulative GPA.
5. Students who do not meet admissions qualifications may appeal for admission by submitting the application and a statement of support from a PBCC faculty member.

**RETENTION POLICY:** GPAs are reviewed every semester. Academic standing in the Honors College will be determined based on the following criteria:

**3.4 and above = "In Good Standing":** To remain "in good standing," an honors student must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of at least 3.4.

1. Students should note that the maintenance GPA is lower than the admission GPA. The reason for this is because the Honors College does not want to discourage students from taking challenging courses for fear that their GPAs will drop below 3.5. Risk-taking in intellectual ventures should be fostered.
2. While maintenance GPA is 3.4, students should remember that the graduation GPA remains at 3.5. Any student whose GPA is below 3.5 will not be eligible for graduation in the Honors College.
3. An honors student whose GPA is below 3.5 but at least 3.4 will receive a courtesy reminder at the end of each term. Reminders will inform students that while they remain in good standing in the program, they need to work to improve their GPAs in order to meet graduation requirements.

**3.0 – 3.39 = "Not In Good Standing":** An honors student whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.4 but is at least 3.0 will be retained in the program as an honors student "not in good standing."

1. Honors students who are not in good standing will be notified shortly after semester grades are posted.
2. An honors student who is not in good standing will be urged to meet with the Honors Manager to develop an academic plan and establish a reasonable timetable for returning to good standing.
3. Honors students who are not in good standing will remain honors students and will be able to register early. However, students who are not in good standing cannot take honors classes or enter into honors contracts
4. Students who are not in good standing will not be eligible for PBCC honors scholarships and will not be recommended for transfer scholarships.
5. Honors students who are not in good standing may not represent PBCC at honors conferences.

6. An honors student who is not in good standing shall retain status as an honors student even if his/her cumulative GPA is below 3.5 so long as his/her term GPA is at least 3.5 for each subsequent semester at PBCC.
7. An honors student who is not in good standing will become academically ineligible for honors participation if he/she fails to achieve the minimum term GPA of 3.5 even if his/her cumulative GPA is over 3.0.
8. To return to good standing, a student must achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5.
9. The loss of good standing in the Honors College is not intended as a punishment; it is a precautionary measure so that a student may focus attention on raising his/her GPA and returning to good standing in the program.

**Below 3.0 = Academic Ineligibility:** An honors student whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.0 will be academically ineligible to continue in the Honors College. The student will be encouraged to reapply once his/her cumulative GPA is at least 3.5.

**GRADUATION POLICY:** There are two tracks to Honors Graduation:

**Honors Certificate:** Students who satisfy the following requirements will be eligible for the Honors Certificate:

1. Complete 12 credit hours honors work (any combination of honors classes or honors project contracts);
2. Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5;
3. Earn at least a B in each honors class or honorized class.

**Honors Diploma:** Students who satisfy the following requirements will be eligible for the Honors Diploma:

1. Complete 21 total credit hours of honors work, of which
  - a. 3 credit hours must be IDS2105, "Knowledge Through the Ages";
  - b. No more that 6 credit hours can be in honors projects;
2. Maintain a minimum GPA of 3.5;
3. Earn at least a B in each honors class or honorized class;
4. Earn at least 40 points on the Honors Point System.

**Purpose /scope of tracks:** The Honors Certificate provides flexibility for students who want the honors experience but who may not be able to complete the requirements of the Honors Diploma. The Honors Diploma is intended for students who want a more intense honors experience and is especially recommended for students who plan to transfer to an upper-division Honors College or Honors Program. Graduates of either track are eligible for honors-specific transfer scholarships (e.g., FAU Community College Honors Scholarship).

**RIGHT OF APPEAL:** A student may appeal any decision concerning admission to, retention in, or graduation from the Honors Program. Appeals must be in the form of a letter addressed to the PBCC Honors Advisory Board; the letter should explicitly address any mitigating considerations. In addition, the student is encouraged to attach relevant documents supporting his / her case. Appeals should be filed with the Honors Program manager within thirty days of the initial decision. The Honors Program manager will arrange for the appeal to be heard by the Honors Advisory Board during the next regularly scheduled meeting.