



Responsible Executive:

Vice President, Organizational
Development and Human Resources and
Campus Presidents

Policy Contacts:

Specific Authority: 1001.64, F.S.

Law Implemented: 1001.64, F.S.

Effective Date: 03-22-1995

Date of Last Policy Review:

03-22-1995

Accommodation of Religious Observances by Students

**Policy
Statement:**

It is the policy of Valencia College to reasonable accommodate the religious observance, practice, and belief of individual students with regard to admission, registration, official ceremonies, and attendance in class (including the scheduling of class activities, work assignments, and examinations), by the provision of reasonable alternative means for students to carry out their responsibilities as students.

- I. A student shall, upon notifying his or her instructor, be excused from class without penalty to observe a religious holy day of his or her religious faith. Notification must be made no later than one week prior to the holy day, or as prescribed by the instructor at the beginning of the Session.
- II. Each student excused from class to observe a religious holy day shall be responsible for material covered in his or her absence, but shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time, as determined by the instructor, to make up any missed examination/assignment. Whenever practicable, major class assignments, major examinations and official ceremonies should occur on days other than major religious holy days.
- III. A religious holy day is defined as a significant day of religious observance as recognized by the highest governing body of that particular religious faith. Evidence of recognition shall be provided by the student unless previously designated by the College. College designation shall be based on listings in the current year Multi-Cultural Resource

Calendar (Amherst Educational Publishing). Information on College designation shall be made available in the Student Services office of each campus/center.

- IV. A student who believes that he or she has been unreasonably denied educational benefits due to his or her religious beliefs or practices may seek redress in accordance with Valencia College Policy 6Hx28:2-01 “Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity.”
-

Policy

History:

Adopted 3-22-95; Formerly 6Hx28:10-19

Related Policies:

Policy 6Hx28:2-01 “Discrimination, Harassment and Related Misconduct”

Policy supersedes amended policy - 02-24-2021