
Aboriginal Education Enrolment Policy

- Purpose** To increase Aboriginal¹ participation and enrolment at Vancouver Community College.
- Policy** In recognition that Vancouver Community College serves a large Aboriginal population that is under-represented in post-secondary education, priority registration* will be given to qualified Aboriginal students in all courses and programs at VCC. We invite candidates to self-declare when applying for admission to the College.
- Applies to** VCC Aboriginal Education and Services, Registrar's office, and all VCC educational departments.
- Procedures** Priority registration will be made available for Aboriginal students in the following ways:
- a. Aboriginal students who are offered seats through this policy must meet all of the established prerequisites and criteria for program access.
 - b. VCC may request that Aboriginal students who apply under this policy provide proof of Aboriginal ancestry².
 - c. In programs with high demand, a number of seats will be reserved for Aboriginal students. This will be determined in consultation with the VP Education, Dean, or Director for the program area.

¹ "Aboriginal" refers to the descendants of the indigenous people of the region that is now called Canada, including First Nations, "Indians" (status and non-status), Métis, and Inuit persons as recognized by the *Constitution Act 1982, Part II, Section 35 (2)*

² Proof of Aboriginal ancestry, for the purpose of this policy, may include: A photocopy of a status card or Métis card. A letter from an Aboriginal community, organization, or agency. A letter of support from VCC's Aboriginal Education and Services Department. Final decisions regarding "proof of Aboriginal ancestry", for the purpose of this policy, will be made by the Director of Aboriginal Education and Services (or his/her designate).

- d. Where program demand is high, additional sections/programs funded by Aboriginal tuition revenue may be added to accommodate Aboriginal students. These will operate as fully funded cohorts. Special arrangements, such as community-based delivery, may be considered providing that there are sufficient resources and demand. This will be determined in consultation with the VP Education, Dean, or Director for the program area.
- e. Two spaces may be allocated for Aboriginal students, in consultation with Department Head and Dean for the program area.
- f. In the event that an Aboriginal student accepts an offer for a seat and then decides not to attend, prior to the start of the program or course, the vacant seat will then be offered to the next qualified candidate on the wait-list.

Sponsored by

The Registrar and Director of Aboriginal Education and Services.

Definitions

* **Priority registration** – A seat will be offered in the next available intake of a course or program, or the students intake of choice. Where programs have a waitlist longer than one year qualified Aboriginal applicants will be given priority on the waitlist.

1. **Policy Sponsor:** Operations Council

2. **Approvals:**

President: _____ Date: _____

Education Council Chair: _____ Date: _____

Operations Council Chair: _____ Date: _____

Board Chair: _____ Date: _____

3. **Amendments:**

President: _____ Date: _____

Education Council Chair: _____ Date: _____

Operations Council Chair: _____ Date: _____

Board Chair: _____ Date: _____

4. **Review Date**