

Catalog Rights-Continuous Enrollment

Students graduating within five (5) academic years of initial enrollment shall have the option of completing either: (a) the degree requirements of the College catalog in effect at the time of initial enrollment; or (b) any set of revised degree requirements published in a subsequent Bakersfield College catalog if the student satisfies continuous enrollment requirements.

Initial enrollment begins when the student earns a transcript notation such as a grade of A, B, C, D, F, NP, P, I, IP, RD, W, EW, MW, UG, SP, M, or M+ in at least one course at a California Community College, California State University, or University of California. Students must submit transcripts for evaluation to establish initial enrollment if it begins at an institution other than Bakersfield College.

Students graduating more than five (5) academic years after initial enrollment must adhere to the specific degree requirements in effect in any Bakersfield College catalog within the five-year period prior to the students' graduation, if the student satisfies continuous enrollment requirements for the 5-year period.

To maintain catalog rights, the student must maintain continuous enrollment during the five (5) year period. Continuous enrollment means the student must earn a grade of A, B, C, D, F, NP, P, I, IP, RD, W, EW, MW, UG, SP, M, or M+ in at least one course each academic year within the Kern Community College District.

For the purposes of continuous enrollment, the 2025 - 2026 academic year begins with the summer semester and includes the following fall, spring, and summer terms. Beginning with the 2026-2027 Catalog, an academic year will begin with the fall semester and include the following spring and summer terms. Students may petition to regain catalog rights with a Counselor or Educational Advisor.

Catalog rights apply only to Bakersfield College graduation and program requirements. If other institutions change their requirements for entrance, graduation, satisfaction of general education patterns, or in other ways, it may be necessary for the student to meet the new requirements upon transfer, even if continuous enrollment has been maintained.

Students are strongly encouraged to meet with a Counselor or Educational Advisor to discuss and clarify the specific expectations and requirements of potential transfer institutions, as well as any unique program requirements that may apply.

Students who fail to maintain continuous enrollment risk losing their catalog rights, which may affect their ability to graduate under the original or subsequent catalogs.