



TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
OF THE LOWCOUNTRY

**POLICY: Academic Freedom**  
**Number: 3.3.1**

Responsibility: Academic Affairs  
Last Updated: February 23, 2023  
State Policy/Law:

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Commission Chair

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President

The Technical College of the Lowcountry supports and defends academic freedom to ensure instruction programs marked by excellence. In the development of knowledge, research endeavors, and creative activities, faculty and students must be free to cultivate a spirit of inquiry and scholarly criticism. Faculty are entitled to classroom freedom in discussions of their subject, but they should be careful not to introduce matters which have no relation to the subject being taught. Faculty and students must be able to examine ideas in an atmosphere of freedom and confidence and to participate as responsible citizens in community affairs.

The Technical College of the Lowcountry also recognizes that every freedom carries responsibilities. Faculty members must fulfill their responsibilities to society and to the profession by manifesting academic competence, professional discretion, and good citizenship. When they speak or write as a citizen, they will be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but their special position in the community imposes special obligations. As professional educators, they must remember the public may judge their profession and their institution by their utterances. Hence, they should be accurate, exercise appropriate restraint, show respect for the opinions of others, and make efforts to indicate they are not speaking for the institution.

At no time shall the principles of academic freedom prevent the institution from making proper efforts to assure the best possible instruction for all students in accordance with the objectives of the institution.