## E.1.2 (Policy) Academic Calendar

Responsible Department: Vice Chancellor for Academic Success, Vice Chancellor for

**Student Success** 

Board Adoption: 5-19-09 Last Board Action: 5-19-09

Reviewed: 8-8-13

The College District shall set its academic year and calendar in conjunction with guidelines published by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (Coordinating Board).

## **Term Length**

A semester normally shall include at least 15 weeks for instruction and one week for final examinations or a total of 16 weeks instruction and examinations combined. Every fall semester will end before Christmas but not later than December 23.

The summer session shall be considered an integral part of the college year. Each of the two summer terms shall include no less than five and one-half calendar weeks including registration, instruction, and final examinations.

Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to preclude experimentation and innovation looking toward full utilization of facilities on a year-round basis.

## **Parameters**

The official College District calendar shall be prepared by the administration according to the following parameters:

- 1. The calendar shall be compatible with elements of the common calendar adopted by the Coordinating Board.
- 2. Insofar as practicable, efforts shall be made to coordinate the College District calendar with high school commencement dates and vacation schedules of area independent school districts.
- 3. The two regular semesters shall be conducted within nine months.
- 4. The calendar shall provide for faculty members on nine-month contracts to serve in conformance with standards of the Coordinating Board and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Legal Reference - TACC Policy Reference Manual EA(LEGAL) - School Year and Calendar