

**IMPERIAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
AP 4030 Academic Freedom**

References:

Title 5 Section 51023;

ACCJC Accreditation Eligibility Requirement 20 and ACCJC Accreditation Standard I.C.7 (formerly II.A.7)

The common good of society depends upon the search for knowledge and its free exposition. Academic freedom is essential to both these purposes and is the right of reasonable exercise of civil liberties and responsibilities in an academic setting. As such it protects each person's freedom to express opinions both inside and outside the classroom, to practice one's profession as teacher and scholar, librarian, or counselor, to carry out such scholarly and teaching activities as one believes will contribute to and disseminate knowledge, to express and disseminate the results of scholarly activities in a reasonable manner, and to select, acquire, disseminate and use documents in the exercise of one's professional responsibilities, all without interference and all with due and proper regard for the academic freedom of others.

Academic freedom does not require neutrality, but rather makes commitment possible. However, academic freedom does not confer legal immunity, nor does it diminish the obligations of practitioners to meet their duties, their responsibilities, and their scholarly obligations to base research and teaching on an honest search for knowledge.