

First-Week Attendance Now Mandatory at Centralia College

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A new attendance policy will go into effect at Centralia College starting summer quarter.

The policy requires registered students to attend class or receive prior approval for their absences from their instructors the first week of class, according to a press release from the college.

Students who do not attend class the first week or who fail to secure prior approval for their absences will be dropped from the classes. The new policy allows the college to prove students commenced attendance, a federal requirement. It also allows the college to ensure classes are full and seats are not held for student who aren't attending.

"Our most popular classes are frequently full with students waiting for open seats, but, until now, we didn't require that students who didn't attend get dropped to make room for waiting students," Vice President of Student Services Robert Cox said in the release. "This attendance policy is a big shift for us, but we know it will help students get the classes they need in a timely way and will assist us in being in compliance with federal law."

The new policy will be mailed and emailed to students. Information will also be available in the summer class schedule and online, stated the release.