



# Catalog Rights

WHAT THEY ARE AND WHEN THEY CHANGED

# What are catalog rights?

- ▶ The rights a student has to the graduation requirements held within a specific catalog
- ▶ Determines who may graduate using the requirements in a specific catalog (and who may not)
- ▶ Essentially: The catalog used to determine graduation eligibility

# What determines catalog rights?

- ▶ Continuous enrollment
  - ▶ Attended at least one Fall or Spring semester per catalog year (Fall thru Summer)
  - ▶ Received a letter grade, including W, NP, EW, INC for the semester
- ▶ Summer does not count for continuous enrollment
  - ▶ For example, a student cannot attend only summer courses and be considered continuously enrolled because they would have missed two semesters in a row (fall and spring).
  - ▶ Students whose first semester is in summer, however, may use the prior catalog, or the subsequent catalog if they continue to attend.
- ▶ Catalog rights themselves are specific to a catalog
  - ▶ Students must have rights to a catalog to be eligible for the rights outlined in that catalog

# Continued...

- ▶ Once a student's catalog rights have lapsed, the only way to reset them is for the student to re-enroll in classes for the new term (and earn a letter grade.)
- ▶ Only the most recent period of continuous enrollment can be used.
  - ▶ Students may stop and start multiple times during their career at MiraCosta, but every time their continuous enrollment lapses, their catalog rights get reset when they re-enroll.

# What's changed?

The good news is that catalog rights rarely change. The requirement to be enrolled in at least one semester during a catalog year has been the same for many years.

However, there has been one significant change that happened in 2019....

# 2010 - 2018

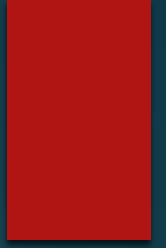
- ▶ From at least 2010 thru 2018, students who needed 6 or fewer units in order to satisfy all degree requirements could be evaluated under the original catalog that applied.
  - ▶ This essentially meant, if a student broke continuous enrollment but needed only .5 to 6 units to complete the requirements that were in effect when they last attended, they could transfer in those remaining 6 units and graduate using their original catalog.
  - ▶ Even if the student re-enrolled to complete their remaining .5-6 units, we could still use their original catalog.
- ▶ Outside of the last 6 units needed, students weren't permitted to transfer back units after they left MiraCosta.

# 2019 - present

- ▶ Beginning Fall 2019, the 6 unit maximum has been removed.
  - ▶ After a student leaves MiraCosta, they can now transfer back as many units as are needed to complete their requirements under their last period of continuous enrollment.
  - ▶ HOWEVER, keep in mind that if they re-enroll at MiraCosta their catalog rights get reset to the current catalog, regardless of how many units they originally needed to complete requirements.
- ▶ Generally speaking, this is overall a very good change! Students are typically able to meet current requirements much easier than those from older catalogs.

# The most important takeaways to remember are:

- ▶ Students can only follow the requirements in a specific catalog by being enrolled during that catalog year.
- ▶ They cannot follow requirements from a catalog year during which they weren't enrolled.
- ▶ They can use any catalog in effect during their most recent period of continuous enrollment
- ▶ If their continuous enrollment has lapsed, they must re-enroll if they want to use the current catalog.



Questions?