

Students are encouraged to make wise use of all services made available in the Office of Student Services. Every student enrolled is assigned a faculty advisor. Students are encouraged to discuss their plans, problems, and needs with their faculty advisors or other members of the counseling staff.

#### ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT

The primary purpose of academic advising is to support students in their pursuit of meaningful educational programs that will assist them in fulfilling goals. Academic advisement is provided for each student at Lawson State Community College. Each student is expected to meet with his/her academic advisor at least once each semester to arrange a schedule of classes for the subsequent semester. Visits with the academic advisor not only facilitate matching a student's interests, strengths, and goals with career needs, but also provides the advisor an opportunity to become familiar with each student enrolled in his/her program area. The advisor can also assist with awareness of resources and opportunities that can enhance a student's chance of academic success.

Students are assigned to their advisors through the Office of Admissions and Records with input from the department chairperson of their respective program of study. Designated Student Services staff also provides academic advisement services.

One of the goals of the college is to teach each student to assume responsibility for his/her academic career. In order to accomplish this goal, the following guidelines have been adopted to assist the student in reaching his/her academic goal.

#### The responsible student should:

1. Be familiar with the contents of the Lawson State Community College Student Handbook and General Catalog.
2. Be familiar with written college policy statements that must be followed in order to complete degree, diploma, or certificate requirements.
3. Verify that his/her high school and/or college transcripts have arrived in the Registrar's Office and that appropriate written requests have been completed for transfer of credits and/or advanced placement.
4. Be familiar with the current academic calendar (days classes meet, approved holidays, deadlines for drop/add, and final exam dates).
5. Be familiar with the attendance policy.
6. Consult his/her advisor about his/her degree or certificate plans.

7. Be familiar with the requirements of his/her major program and develop a long-range graduation plan. A student should also be aware of any developmental course prerequisites that may be required. (See COMPASS planning sheet provided after assessment.)
8. Pre-register for classes each term in order to insure a place in class. (Registration is not complete unless all tuition and fees are paid.)
9. Monitor the accuracy of his/her grade report each term and report errors to his/her advisor and/or instructor. (An incomplete grade that is not removed within the first six weeks of the following term automatically becomes an "F".)
10. Inform the Registrar if a change of name or address occurs. Each student is expected to maintain current and accurate information on file in the Registrar's Office and to respond promptly to all communications from the college. All changes should be submitted to the Registrar.
11. Notify the Student Services staff if he/she is unable to keep scheduled appointments or if he/she is unable to contact his/her advisor for assistance.

#### The responsible advisor will:

1. Post specific office hours.
2. Be familiar with the contents of the Lawson State Community College Student Handbook and General Catalog.
3. Be available to listen to a student's concerns and to discuss options with a student.
4. Provide guidance and referrals as he/she assists a student with choices of a major and career options.
5. Provide information about the requirements for the major program, curriculum options, and graduation.
6. Verify that each student is eligible to enroll and provide guidance in course selections, as it relates to a student's COMPASS placement scores and completion of prerequisites.
7. Approve and sign schedules for the upcoming semester/term.
8. Provide interpretation and clarification of college policies.
9. Act as a referral agent to other college support services.
10. Assist with job placement and follow-up.

#### COUNSELING SERVICES

The counseling staff provides professional guidance and counseling services. The guidance program is committed to the establishment of an environment where a student is provided the opportunity to become a responsible, self-directed learner and to maximize his/her potential for growth. A student is provided information and support in the achievement of realistic career and