



Category: Students  
Policy: Policy 204 Plagiarism  
Approved date: January 2016  
Revised date:

# Plagiarism Policy

## PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY

Our expectation of ASCEND Online students is that they act with integrity and make every effort to present original and/or documented source work when submitting assignments. If a student has plagiarized, they have violated ASCEND expectations, as well as ethical and legal boundaries. The consequences are significant.

A definition of **plagiarize** from *Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language* is:

***“To steal or purloin and pass off as one’s own the ideas, words, artistic productions of another; to use without due credit the ideas, expressions, or productions of another.”***

Credit, in the form of a citation, must be given for any content in an assignment that is not original.



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## PLAGIARISM LEVELS

1. **Level 1** – Most of the student’s work is original but there may be phrases and/or a few lines that have not been cited correctly.
2. **Level 2** – Significant portions of the assignment are not the student’s own work. Multiple paragraphs and/or someone else’s ideas have been used without proper acknowledgement. This also includes repeated paraphrasing of someone else’s work.
3. **Level 3** – All, or the majority of the work has been copied from another source OR this is the second time the student has plagiarized at **Level 2**.
4. **Level 4** – The second time a student has plagiarized at **Level 3** OR the third time at **Level 2**.

## PLAGIARISM LEVELS

1. **Level 1** – The student mark will be reduced between 15 and 50%, depending on the amount of plagiarism that is found in the work.
2. **Level 2** – The student mark is 0% on that assignment. The student will be given one chance to redo the assignment and one additional assignment will be given. The student’s parents will be informed.
3. **Level 3** – The student mark is 0%. No chance to re-do or complete ‘make-up’ assignments will be given. The student’s parents and school administration will be informed. A note will be placed in the student’s file.
4. **Level 4** – The student will automatically fail the course.