PCC Education and Child Development AI Policy

AI tools like Copilot, ChatGPT, and Grammarly can help you learn—but they should never do the work for you. Think of AI as a helpful assistant, not your author.

✅ What You *Can* Do With AI:

You may use AI to:

- **Get ideas before writing** *Example: "Give me topics about child development I could write about."*
- **Fix grammar or make your writing clearer** *Example: "Can you help me rewrite this sentence so it sounds better?"*
- **Look up background info or understand tricky concepts** *Example: "Explain what scaffolding means in teaching."*
- **Check your tone or organization** *Example: "Does this paragraph sound too formal?"*
- **Create outlines or suggestions that you change and make your own** *Example: "Suggest a structure for my essay on play-based learning."*

🚫 What You *Can't* Do With AI:

You may not use AI to:

- **Write your whole assignment or discussion post** *Example: Copying an AI-written essay and turning it in as your own.*
- **Submit AI content without changing or adding your own ideas** *Example: Asking AI to write a reflection and turning it in without editing.*
- **Use AI to take quizzes or tests for you** *Example: Typing quiz questions into AI and using its answers.*
- **Avoid thinking by letting AI do the hard parts** *Example: Asking AI to analyze a theory so you don't have to read it yourself.*

🧠 What This Means:

AI can help you learn, but it can't replace your effort. Your work should show your own thinking, voice, and understanding. If you use AI, you still need to revise, reflect, and make sure the final product is truly yours.

⚠️ Academic Integrity Reminder:

Using AI to do your work without real effort is cheating. If you're not sure whether your use of AI is okay, ask your instructor first.

🚨 **Consequences for Misuse:**

If you break this policy, it's considered academic dishonesty. That means you could face:

1st offense—A "0" (zero) on the assignment in question

2nd offense—withdrawal from the course

Students withdrawn from a course due to academic dishonesty will not be eligible for any reimbursement of tuition fees. You can read more about these rules in the Student Code of Conduct Policy Manual: https://pittcc.edu/academics/student-development-services/student-code-of-conduct/

9/03/25