A. Background and Definitions

Niagara College recognizes the importance of clear expectations as a framework for a positive learning environment. Students have a right to expect that their classes will be provided in accordance with scheduled timetables, that classes will start and end on time for the duration of the term, and that students will receive notification of cancelled classes as soon as possible.

B. Purpose

Occasionally, classes need to be cancelled or rescheduled to accommodate particular circumstances as described within this policy.

C. Policy Statements

1. Classes may be cancelled or rescheduled to accommodate circumstances such as:
   a) faculty access to sick leave or other leaves for unavoidable absences as determined under the collective agreement or college policy;
   b) emergency situations, classroom, facilities or equipment issues;
   c) approved program activities such as class field trips; or
   d) approved faculty absences.

2. The College will make every effort to advise students of a class cancellation with as much notice as the circumstances permit.

3. In addressing cancelled or rescheduled classes, the College’s obligation to students is to ensure that the course content is substantively delivered in accordance with the program curriculum. This does not mean that each class will be rescheduled.

4. Faculty are responsible for obtaining appropriate approval from their Associate Dean, for program activities and planned absences.

5. Faculty are responsible for notifying their Associate Dean of any unavoidable cancellation or rescheduling of classes.
6. This policy is not intended to circumvent any provision within the academic collective agreement e.g. regarding faculty leaves for sickness, bereavement, etc. or regarding workload management.

D. Related Documents

Policies:  
NC100 Severe Weather Closures  
NC800 Student Rights & Responsibilities

Procedure:  
NC800 Class Cancellations  
NC100 Severe Weather - Staff Attendance/Absence

Form:  
Class Cancellation Notice Template