SUBJECT: Week two of remote learning: Thank you and hang in there!

Dear Students:

It has been a whirlwind few weeks as we moved quickly into a new learning environment. While we strongly encourage you to continue moving forward in obtaining your degree or certificate, we know that, for some of you, this new environment presents new challenges. We understand, and so we wanted to outline different options available for the remainder of the spring semester including withdrawing from classes and what that means for financial aid.

We want you to know that all of us at Bristol are here to support you during this transition to remote learning.

What category best describes your transition to remote learning?

I’m feeling good, but might need extra support...

- Bristol tutors are available through video appointments and video drop-in hours. Email OnlineLC@bristolcc.edu or click on "Learning Commons Tutoring" from your accessBCC account to view drop-in schedules and make an appointment.
- Other library support services are also being offered remotely. Click here for more information.
- Take advantage of faculty office hours, which are still taking place, just in a virtual format. If you don’t know when they are, ask your instructors and then meet with them online.
- We’re here to help! Click here for information on how to access FREE mental health and wellness services remotely. Click here for a list of community resources compiled by our Office of Student and Family Engagement.

I am starting to get worried...

- Keep the lines of communication open between you and your instructor! They want you to succeed.
- If you feel you have completed 60 percent of the coursework, consider asking for an "incomplete." This will allow you to the end of the fall 2020 semester to complete your coursework and earn credit for the course.
- You will be required to create a plan for completion with your faculty member, and then stick to that plan. We are going to create additional ways to support students who get an incomplete and you’ll hear more about those in a future email.
- There are no additional tuition or fees to pay if you choose an incomplete.
- Talk to your advisor to get suggestions of when you should finish your incomplete and how it might affect the courses you take next.

I think I might need to withdraw from one or all of my courses. What are some things to consider when thinking about this option? What is the difference between a withdrawal and receiving an incomplete?

- Completing the semester by earning grades or receiving incompletes is your best option to take advantage of the progress you have made so far this semester.
The deadline to withdraw has been extended to April 30th. All course withdrawals for the remainder of the spring semester will need to be processed through our Advising Office. Click here to complete a withdrawal request form.

Once you complete the form, an advisor will reach out to you to discuss your experiences and how the following potential implications of a course withdrawal might apply to you.

A course withdrawal will mean that a "W" will appear on your transcript for the course, and it will not impact your GPA. However, you will not receive any credit for the course, potentially impacting how long it will take you to complete your degree or certificate program.

If you have withdrawn before or are planning to withdraw from all your classes this semester, it could negatively impact your academic standing, resulting in probation or dismissal.

You will still be responsible for the cost of any course you withdraw from.

Students receiving Financial Aid or Veterans benefits may be impacted by a withdrawal and may be required to repay any/all tuition and fees.

- Your individual circumstances may have different implications so it’s important to speak with someone before making any changes. While the advisor who reaches out to you may have information on how these financial aid implications apply to you, please contact the Office of Financial Aid at financialaid@bristolcc.edu or 774.357.2515 with any specific questions you have.
- If you withdraw from the college completely, there is no change to your financial aid, but there may be additional steps that you need to complete if you have federal loans. Please contact the Office of Financial Aid for more information on this.
- Withdrawing from one or more courses may impact your long-term financial aid eligibility due to the federal regulations on academic standing and student completion rate or "SCR."

Stay on Track.

Registration for summer classes is still open. Fall registration begins on April 21, 2020. Make an appointment with your advisor to discuss the best classes to take next semester.

Be sure to check your Bristol email for important Bristol updates and communication from your instructors. Click here for more info on Bristol’s response to COVID-19 and how to access remote services during this time.

Again, we are here to support your education and are doing our best to provide you with the resources and information you need to complete your semester.