REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS

INTRODUCTION

The College maintains an open enrollment philosophy and welcomes people from all backgrounds to the campus. There are instances when the past conduct of an individual and their rights must be balanced with the College’s responsibility to maintain a safe and secure environment for all persons on the campus. The safety and security of all persons, especially those who have not yet reached the age of emancipation, is always at the forefront of the College’s actions, and specifically in this policy regarding a Registered Sex Offender (RSO) on the campus.

DEFINITIONS

Child/Children for purposes of this policy will include those under the age of 18 years.

The Illinois Sex Offender Registration Act will be as defined in 730 ILCS 150/.

Registered Sex Offender will be as defined in 730 ILCS 150/, and for purposes of this policy include the sexual predator as defined by Illinois statute.

Other visitor on the campus for purposes of this policy will be any person who is attending, scheduled to attend, or requesting to attend an official function on the campus which may not be part of an academic or continuing education program. This will include, but not be limited to events, conferences and meetings being held on the campus.

Student for purposes of this policy will refer to a student who is enrolled in an academic (full or part-time) or continuing education program (adult education, community education, customized training, challenger learning center or traffic safety school) at the College.

POLICY

All students, faculty, staff and other visitors on campus, who are RSOs are hereby required to report their status as a RSO in such a manner as prescribed by the College President to insure compliance with Illinois law and be consistent with this policy.
In keeping with past practice of the College, and Illinois law, RSOs who either attend classes, participate in other community or public programs on the campus, or work at Heartland Community College or any of its satellite facilities, is required to submit a written request to attend classes or participate in other functions on campus. The request must be submitted in a timely manner before the class, event, or employment is scheduled to begin and to allow adequate time for the College to review the request and make a determination on their ability to be on campus. The written request must be submitted for each semester or any time the RSO changes his/her classes or begins a new class or College program.

Faculty and staff who are RSOs are required to notify the College of their status in such a manner as prescribed by the College President. Employees are required to register yearly or other time period as required under law.

The College maintains an open enrollment philosophy which is similarly applied to RSO and consistent with the Mission of the College. However, in the case where it appears a RSO may continue to pose a risk of inappropriate or illegal activity the RSO will not be allowed to attend classes, employment, or other events on campus.

The burden will be on the RSO to insure he/she is compliant with the Illinois Sex Offender Registration Act including, but not limited to, the requirements for registering with the designated College official as well at local law enforcement. In addition, the RSO is responsible for complying with all statutory limits and other statutory requirements placed upon him/her because of the status as a RSO.

Any violation of the Illinois Sex Offender Registration Act while the RSO is attending classes at any College facility, or while employed will result in disciplinary action up to an including dismissal from the College.

The College President will establish such rules and procedures as necessary so to be able to register and monitor compliance with this policy and state statute. The College President or designee shall be responsible for all final decisions regarding the granting or denial of permission for someone to attend classes at the College.