Columbia College Position Description

NOTE:	Clarification of Terms
Must; Shall; Will:	These words or phrases indicate actions or activities that are essential or mandatory.
Should:	This word implies that it is highly desirable to perform certain actions or activities, but not essential or mandatory.
May or Could; Can:	These words imply freedom or liberty to follow an alternative to the action or activity being presented in a document.

Position Title:	Administrative Assistant II
Program/Department Name:	Student Services
Reporting to:	Student Services Manager
Position Summary:	Under the supervision of the Student Services Manager and working closely with other staff members and departments, this professional will provide general administrative support.
Organizational Structure:	This professional will work under the daily supervision of the Student Services Manager.
Qualifications and Experience:	This professional will ideally have a high school diploma, a minimum of a post-secondary diploma or certificate in Office Administration, supplemented with 2-4 years working experience within an office environment. This individual will specialize in Microsoft Office Suite including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, electronic email/calendar systems, and experience with the Internet. Typing 45 wpm minimum. This individual will possess strong written and verbal communication skills, be personable, outgoing and customer service oriented. Excellent punctuation, spelling, English composition and grammatical usage are required. Excellent telephone technique and etiquette is essential. Knowledge of modern office practices and procedures is required. The ability to multi-task and effectively work with all employee groups, dealing with tact and diplomacy in all situations is an important component of this position. Must be motivated by challenge and the desire to provide exceptional service.
Roles and Responsibilities:	For Columbia College to become successful, each of its customers (including staff and students) must succeed. To achieve this requires a clear understanding of everyone's roles and responsibilities as well as a commitment to fulfilling said responsibilities. As will be noted in reviewing the list of roles and responsibilities below it consists of two distinct parts. First is a set of generic roles and responsibilities. This is followed by a list of specific roles and responsibilities. The generic roles and responsibilities are included in every position description at the College. The specific roles and responsibilities are specific to this position. All responsibilities listed below will be carried out under the general direction and supervision of the Student Services Manager. In consideration of this the individual will:

Professional Code of Conduct

Our success in the workplace is based on how proficient we are at utilizing our knowledge and skills and how effectively we conduct ourselves each day as professionals in satisfying the needs of our internal and external customers, and the goals of our organization. The following list describes many professional behaviours that can help us become more effective. The more skilled we become at applying each of these behaviours, regardless of our position in the organization, the more successful we will become.

1.0 **Professional Approach and Ethical Behaviour**

- 1.1 As a professional, demonstrates pride in their work and is honest, moral, ethical, honorable, trustworthy, and acts with integrity
- 1.2 Is pleasant, polite, punctual, positive, friendly, smiles, and asks how they may help others
- 1.3 Is reliable, responsible, accountable, loyal, engaged, and enthusiastic about their work
- 1.4 Is compassionate, caring, and finds meaning and fulfillment in their work
- 1.5 Tries to be constructive, pro-active, and acts as a protagonist
- 1.6 Contributes to a safe, secure, and environmentally-friendly workplace and world
- 1.7 Views adverse experiences as learning opportunities and recovers quickly from such experiences
- 1.8 Keeps personal bias out of the workplace, does not use profanity, and respects cultural differences
- 1.9 Dresses appropriately for the workplace in a neat, clean, and well-groomed
- 1.10 Contributes to the organization via volunteering, coaching, and mentoring others
- Is active in their professional association (where appropriate)

2.0 **Interpersonal Relations and Teamwork**

- 2.1 Treats all individuals in an equal, fair, and just manner (does not label, or discriminate against others)
- 2.2 Is a good role model and synergistic team member who is personable, sociable, cooperative, collaborative, has a sense of humor, and is well mannered
- 2.3 Is considerate and sensitive to others needs and uses tact and diplomacy when required
- 2.4 Is respectful, courteous, and sincere (does not belittle, intimidate, or insult others)
- 2.5 Views each client, patient, student, customer, and coworker as a valued customer whose needs must be satisfied before they or their organization can
- 2.6 Is available, approachable, and may develop close personal relations (avoids romantic situations)
- 2.7 Offers support, assistance, is flexible, and helps build a positively connected team and organization
- 2.8 Makes allowances for others mistakes by showing empathy, understanding, and forgiveness
- 2.9 Is open to constructive criticism, and takes responsibility for one's errors by apologizing, and correcting them
- 2.10 Avoids conflicts of interest and respects others' workspace and privacy (e.g.
- 2.11 Seeks help from others and offers help to others to become more efficient and effective

3.0 **Self-Concept and Confidence**

- 3.1 Projects a positive self-concept and feels internally confident, yet does not dominate interactions
- 3.2 Functions well in ambiguous situations
- 3.3 May assume responsibility and leadership when required yet remains humble and gracious at all times
- Demonstrates self-efficiency by following through on commitments in order to 3.4 achieve outcomes
- 3.5 Considers themselves equal to others and demonstrates such in their interactions

4.0 Communication

- 4.1 Demonstrates effective listening, speaking, and writing skills
- 4.2 Helps to keep team members informed of changes in the department and/or organization
- 4.3 Develops more effective ways to improve verbal and non-verbal communication (e.g. tone of voice)
- Respects others privacy and confidentiality (does not engage in gossip) 4.4
- 4.5 Maintains emotional control and encourages others to do the same
- 4.6 Deals with difficult situations and sensitive issues in a professional manner
- 4.7 Avoids engaging in disagreements and arguments in public. Seeks assistance when necessary.
- 4.8 Follows the organization's technology use policy

5.0 **Life-Long Learning and Professional Development**

- 5.1 Continues to increase their knowledge and skills to become more competent (e.g. credit courses, workshops, seminars, conferences, professional books, journals)
- 5.2 Shares newly developed approaches based on leading edge research
- 5.3 Monitors changes and makes or recommends needed adjustments
- 5.4 Keeps informed about changes affecting their profession, department, organization, and industry
- 5.5 Acknowledges when they do not know something and seeks to increase their competence

6.0 **Problem Solving/Decision Making**

- 6.1 Either individually or within a team, identifies work-related and customer-based problems/challenges
- 6.2 Helps others to view problems and concerns as challenges and even opportunities
- 6.3 Seeks input from those affected by work-related or customer-based problems
- 6.4 Is more effective when they actually identify the problem as opposed to a symptom
- 6.5 Assesses and analyzes problems by using such techniques as brainstorming, nominal group technique, Delphi technique, reframing, and lateral thinking
- Objectively determines the most efficient and effective solution to each 6.6 problem/challenge

- 6.7 Tries to make fair and just decisions that contribute to the common good
- Effectively implements solutions in a timely manner 6.8
- Monitors and evaluates solutions and takes further corrective action as needed 6.9

7.0 **Creative Thinking and Innovation**

- 7.1 Is more creative by asking 'why' and more innovative by asking 'what if'
- 7.2 Takes calculated risks and is willing to recommend and/or initiate change

8.0 **Negotiating or Conflict Resolution**

- 8.1 Identifies customer or employee issues when a conflict first arises by listening to and determining their wants, needs, and concerns.
- 8.2 Effectively uses conflict resolution and problem solving techniques
- Effectively negotiates and helps others resolve issues in conflict by focusing on 8.3 facts and not emotions
- 8.4 Turns to qualified professionals to resolve situations involving harassment, bullying, or violence

9.0 **Organizational and Time Management Skills**

- 9.1 Practices one-touch policy by taking immediate action to solve simpler challenges (e.g. does not put paper, emails, etc. in piles) and develops a plan to take action on more complex challenges
- 9.2 Uses electronic calendar to plan regularly occurring daily, monthly, and yearly meetings and activities
- 9.3 Maintains an organized office, desk, files, documents, and working environment
- Is prepared in advance for appointments and meetings (meeting etiquette) 9.4
- 9.5 Sets SMART individual and/or team goals by completing assignments, reports, etc. in an accurate and timely manner (does not procrastinate)
- Lets others know if they are unable to meet a commitment, must change a 9.6 priority, or needs help

10.0 **Stress Management**

- 10.1 Maintains composure under pressure and draws on their internal strength to succeed during difficult times
- 10.2 Effectively deals with negative situations in a positive manner
- 10.3 Maintains a balance between personal and professional life
- 10.4 Maintains a positive, focused, and more productive environment by reducing negative stress

11.0 **Leadership Style**

- 11.1 Effectively contributes to the organization's vision, mission, directions, goals, and Code of Conduct
- 11.2 Encourages others to adopt a positive leadership style (does not use threats or punishment)
- 11.3 Stimulates interest and enthusiasm on the part of others and contributes to positive employee morale
- 11.4 Coaches, advises, mentors, and counsels others where appropriate

- 11.5 Motivates others to achieve their intrinsic and extrinsic rewards through recognition, praise, and where possible through empowerment
- Brings out the best in others which helps them channel their energy and 11.6 experience greater satisfaction
- 11.7 Seeks new opportunities or approaches that will increase customer satisfaction, respect, and loyalty
- 11.8 Networks with others outside the organization and builds relationships that will benefit the organization
- 11.9 Bases leadership practice on collective vision, beliefs, as well as professional attitude and values
- 11.10 Builds a sense of shared values that bind others to a common cause and/or direction
- 11.11 Encourages and promotes a culture based on trust and respect

12.0 **Performance**

- 12.1 Continually seeks new ways to more efficiently and effectively perform their duties and responsibilities which contributes to the financial success of the organization, and as a result, also increases job security
- 12.2 Is committed to continuous improvement in the quality of goods/services their customer/patient/client/student experience
- 12.3 Contributes to the long-term growth and success of the organization by providing such outstanding customer service that current customers refer new customers on an ongoing basis
- 12.4 Firmly believes that only when each internal and external customers succeed, will they succeed

Specific Roles and Responsibilities

13.0 Survey

- 13.1 Generate surveys as needed for all programs.
- 13.2 Collect and process surveys for all programs.
- 13.3 Ensures results of surveys are sent to the Registrar's Office in a timely manner.
- Keep records on the survey process and the completion of survey tasks. 13.4

14.0 **Attendance**

- 14.1 Collect all Excused Absence Request Forms from students.
- Process the Excused Absence Request and Exceptional Absence Request forms 14.2 to determine eligibility for excused request.
- 14.3 Update absence statuses in Moodle.
- 14.4 Issue warning letters as needed to those students who require them.
- 14.5 Meet with students to discuss attendance issues.
- 14.6 Support the Office of Registrar in the issuing and monitoring of probation activities.

15.0 **Administrative Assistant Responsibilities**

- 15.1 Responds quickly, efficiently and positively to changing priorities.
- 15.2 Ensures that all requests for administrative support are produced within deadlines in a professional, accurate manner.
- 15.3 Operates Columbia College telephone system as follows: Directs, redirects and screens incoming calls, responds to client inquiries, greets, assists and directs clients
- 15.4 Provides front line services for walk-ins.
- 15.5 Distribute incoming mail, email, and faxes as necessary.
- 15.6 Provide initial support for the copiers as well as participating as the liaison between the College and the copier provider.
- 15.7 Contacts students to provide, request or confirm information regarding such matters as registration, attendance, orientation, convocation, etc.
- 15.8 Books appointments for Admissions Advisors and other stakeholders as required.
- 15.9 Distributes cheques and other correspondence to staff and students as required.
- 15.10 Responds to employee and student general requests for assistance as required.
- 15.11 Types documents, correspondence, facsimiles, and any other special typing requests for other personnel as approved by the Student Services Manager.
- 15.12 Provides pre-semester and end-of-semester support as assigned.
- 15.13 Maintains an organized, efficient, up-to-date filing system of program documents.
- 15.14 Orders and keeps track of office supplies as required.
- 15.15 Maintains realistic inventory of forms in support of the Admission Process.
- 15.16 Liaises with internal and external stakeholders and agencies in a courteous and pleasant manner.
- 15.17 Maintains and organizes an efficient and pleasant reception environment.
- 15.18 Prepares information packages.
- 15.19 Researches information and provides reports as required.
- 15.20 Match invoices and packing slips for courier and supply companies for Accounting to process.
- 15.21 Program and Department material printing as requested.
- 15.22 Process payments as needed.

16.0 **Event Planning**

- 16.1 Provide backup event planning/managing support to the Student Services Manager.
- 16.2 This would include all college activities including: Convocation, Chili Cook-Off, International Day, and Social Committee activities.
- 16.3 Attend meetings as necessary leading up to events.

17.0 Other

17.1 Other duties as assigned by the Student Services Manager.