

## College-Initiated Leave of Absence

- A. The College of Law reserves the right to initiate a mandatory leave of absence when (1) a student presents an immediate danger to self or others by threatening and/or inflicting bodily harm to self or to others, or (2) when a student's behavior could result in bodily harm to self or others. In such cases, the Dean or Associate Dean of Academics will make the final decision after consulting with other appropriate campus officials.
- B. The student will be notified about the decision immediately and in writing, and will be given an opportunity to address concerns with the Dean or Associate Dean.
- C. A student who is placed on mandatory leave will not be permitted to attend classes or to be on College property without prior written permission from the Dean or Associate Dean.
- D. After the College initiates a mandatory leave, the student, within three days, may initiate an appeal in writing to the Associate Dean. Any appeal should include an evaluation by a licensed physician, psychiatrist, or mental health clinician. The Associate Dean and/or the Dean will review the appeal and determine whether the student should be permitted to return to classes.
- E. When the student has not appealed a decision to be placed on mandatory leave, or in cases when an appeal has been denied, a student who is ready to resume studies at the College of Law must notify the Associate Dean in writing of her or his intent to return for the next semester. Before being allowed to return, the student must submit a comprehensive written report from the treating professional that includes the professional's diagnosis, treatment (including duration and response), medication, recommendations for return to the College (including any restrictions), and necessary follow-up care. These materials must be submitted at least one month before the beginning of the semester in which the student wishes to return to campus. The Associate Dean will consult with the Associate Dean and/or Dean to determine whether the student may return. If the student's request is denied, the student may appeal to the Academic Standards Committee.
- F. A student who is placed on mandatory leave that will prevent him or her from completing a semester will be afforded a complete refund of tuition or fees for that semester, or, if the student so requests, the College will apply paid tuition and fees to the first semester in which the student is permitted to resume classes.
- G. A student who does not return to the College within two years of the mandatory leave risks losing all credits already earned and having to reapply for admission as a new student. The Academic Standards Committee has discretion to readmit a student who has been out of school for more than two years if good cause is demonstrated.
- H. This policy does not supersede or release a student from accountability to the Student Code of Professional Responsibility or the regulations of the College.

**Cross-references:** Student Code of Professional Responsibility; Requirements for Degree/Maximum time to Complete Degree.

Faculty policy enacted March 5, 2003.