

5.36 Readmission

A student who withdraws from the College of Law or is excluded for academic reasons can be readmitted only upon petition for readmission and favorable action thereon by the Academic Standards Committee. With the exception of students entering the spring semester, attendance at summer school is not required and failure to attend summer school is not considered a withdrawal.

In determining questions of readmission, the Committee will be governed by the applicable standards and guidelines of the American Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools. In addition, the consideration of the Committee will include, but not be limited to, the following factors: (1) the best interests of the educational institution, including but not limited to, the maintenance of high standards of academic excellence and professional responsibility among members of the student body; and (2) the best interests of the individual applicant for readmission, including but not limited to, consideration of the satisfactory progress of the student in the pursuit of legal studies at the College of Law. In considering the satisfactory progress of the student, the Committee will consider any evidence of correctable peculiarities or disabilities, or culturally-based disadvantages that may have contributed to the student's academic performance.

It is the policy of the Stetson University College of Law faculty not to have the faculty consider petitions for reconsideration or appeal from former students when a decision for readmittance had earlier been denied by the Committee on Academic Standards, except a petition in the nature of a request for "certiorari." Such a petition should be presented to the Chairperson of the Committee, addressed to the faculty. Copies of the petition will be given to the Dean and each faculty member entitled to vote on it. In response to a request for consideration, the Committee may circulate to the Faculty a memorandum setting out the basis for its decision. (If a faculty member is on leave, that member may elect to vote or not vote, but if he/she elects to not vote he/she shall not be counted for purposes of determining whether "certiorari" should be granted.) The Dean and faculty entitled to vote on the petition shall be allowed two weeks in which to vote whether the faculty should consider the petition for readmission. Ballots shall be turned in to the supervisor of the faculty secretaries. Failure to vote constitutes a "no" vote. At the end of the two weeks, the Chairperson shall tabulate the votes. If one-third of the Dean and faculty entitled to vote are in favor of "certiorari," the issue of readmission shall be placed on the agenda at the next practicable regularly-scheduled faculty meeting held during the fall or spring semester (not during the summer). At the meeting, the faculty may decide whether to hear the petitioner and/or witness or instead to decide the case merely on the basis of the petition and discussion by faculty. A decision on the petition for readmission shall be by majority vote.