

"Withdrawal following the 2/3 completion of a course will only be permitted as a student-initiated action through the VP for Academic Affairs office when the student has documented special circumstances."

Rationale: This would provide students the ability to withdraw from a single class in extenuating circumstances via a student-initiated process to the VPAA. This would allow for a student to just withdraw from 1 class, instead of all (as they would have to do in the case of a Medical Withdrawal). It would also allow for late-semester withdrawals that are not medical in nature, but are still extenuating (ex: moving, military, or other family emergencies). Please note, that the faculty retains the right to assign an INC in the case of these situations as well. This resolved was modeled after SUNY Ulster's policy, which is summarized here: [W policies - CC research.pdf](#)

Thread: Example of why a single course W after 2/3 completion should be allowed
Posted Date: October 2, 2019 2:28 PM
Status: Published

Post:
Example of why a single course W after 2/3 completion should be allowed

Author:  **Bridget Dart**

What would be an extenuating circumstance that would be a valid reason why a student would withdraw from a single class and not all? The examples given, "moving, military, family emergencies" seem to be reasons for withdrawing from all classes.

(Post is Read)

Thread: Example of why a single course W after 2/3 completion should be allowed
Posted Date: October 2, 2019 2:30 PM
Status: Published

Post:
RE: Example of why a single course W after 2/3 completion should be allowed

Author:  **Bridget Dart**

Point of clarification- I am asking for an example to justify this portion of the policy.

(Post is Read)

Thread: Example of why a single course W after 2/3 completion should be allowed
Posted Date: October 2, 2019 3:56 PM
Status: Published

Post:
RE: Example of why a single course W after 2/3 completion should be allowed

Author:  **Christine Davidson**

One example might be if a student moves and they were taking some face-to-face classes and some online courses. There is a strong possibility they could complete the material required for the online courses and not the face-to-face ones.

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Thread:

Example of why a single course W after 2/3 completion should be allowed

Posted Date:

October 9, 2019 11:29 AM

Status:

Published

Post:

RE: Example of why a single course W after 2/3 completion should be allowed

Author:



Jill Malik

I believe Christine provided a good example, but there are others that may be relevant as well:

A student is taking 5 classes, is passing 4 with a C or better, but borderline failing 1 (with the possibility to pass if s/he passes the final exam). Student is hospitalized with 2 weeks left in the semester and is not certain if/when s/he will return to SCCC. In the first 4 classes, it is possible that the way some professors grade or deliver content that even with failure to attend the last 2 weeks of class or complete the remaining assignments that student would still pass.

As of now, perhaps the student wants to withdrawal from the failing class, but not the others where s/he is already passing. Under this draft policy, the student could petition a W in this single class due to being unable to take the final under such circumstances. Currently, if the student were to initiate a medical withdrawal (which on some campuses cannot even be initiated with 2 weeks left in the semester), this student would have with withdraw from ALL classes, even though they could mathematically pass the other 4. Of course the student could also ask for an INC in this scenario (both currently, and in concordance with this draft policy).

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Thread:

Why remove the faculty from this decision point?

Posted Date:

October 14, 2019 2:05 PM

Status:

Published

Post:

Why remove the faculty from this decision point?

Author:



Lynn Liebert Marx

It seems to me that one concern expressed by faculty is about the loss of control over the student's final outcome. Of course, I share the deep concern about faculty submitting a "change of enrollment status" rather than a final grade via the final grade roster. I believe this issue could be just as well addressed by providing a physical form to request a *late withdrawal* that is available to students and requires the signatures and dates of *both* the requesting student and the faculty member. This form could result in the assignment of a w, or a late withdrawal, (or other designation as appropriate). This would ensure that the process was student initiated, but does not remove the faculty member's discretion in the outcome. I would recommend appealing to higher authorities (deans, etc.) only when all other remedies have failed; for example in cases such as hospitalization, accidents, etc.

where the student is unable to pursue the ordinary process and a dean might deem it appropriate to retroactively apply this status.

(Post is Read)

Thread:

Why remove the faculty from this decision point?

Posted Date:

October 21, 2019 8:49 AM

Status:

Published

Post:

RE: Why remove the faculty from this decision point?

Author:



Kerry Carlson

I agree. This is the part of the resolution that I have concerns about. In the event of a trauma or other unfortunate circumstance, it would be less daunting for a student to go to the faculty member than the VPAA. I agree with taking the W out as a grading option, but would require that the student seek the instructor's signature on the late withdrawal form. If the faculty member is not willing to sign it, then the student can go to the VPAA

(Post is Read)

Thread:

Why remove the faculty from this decision point?

Posted Date:

October 22, 2019 9:25 PM

Status:

Published

Post:

RE: Why remove the faculty from this decision point?

Author:



Barbara Fox

I think that allowing professors to sign withdrawal forms just puts us right back where we started, though. I don't think faculty should be involved in the process, other than to counsel students to go through the appropriate administrative withdrawal procedure due to extenuating circumstances. I have always been concerned that if faculty are really weighing the evidence presented to them and deciding that some students deserve a W but some do not, it opens the door to bias and favoritism, and often rewards students who are simply pushier or more persuasive or more confident. Making it the administrative procedure that it really is and not involving faculty seems more appropriate. Under our current policy I think it's difficult to find a good rationale to deny signing a form. I don't see this as "freedom" on my part, I actually feel more coerced to sign when I don't really want the decision to be mine. Providing an administrative process for a later withdrawal due to special circumstances (documented) seems most fair to me.

(Post is Read)

Thread:

Different but same

Posted Date:

October 22, 2019 4:14 PM

Post:

Different but same

Status:

Published

Author:



Theodore Koukounas

I think a lot of professor that assign W's at the end of the semester also sign the W slips without question.

I support this resolution but would recommend a consideration of having the W request after the deadline, with the same criteria, be presented to the campus level first.

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← OK