3.11.6 Academic Forgiveness Provisions

Circumstances may justify a student being able to recover from academic

problems in ways which do not forever jeopardize the student’s academic

standing.

Academic forgiveness may be warranted for currently enrolled

undergraduate students in three specific circumstances:

A. For pedagogical reasons, a student will be allowed to repeat a

course and count only the second grade earned in the calculation

of the GPA under the prescribed circumstances listed below.

B. There may be extraordinary situations in which a student has

done poorly in up to two semesters due to extenuating

circumstances which, in the judgment of the appropriate

institutional officials, warrants excluding grades from those

semesters in calculating the student's GPA.

C. A student may be returning to college after an extended absence

and/or under circumstances that warrant a fresh academic start.

Students may seek academic forgiveness utilizing the following

institutional procedures. Students may receive no more than one

academic reprieve or renewal in the academic career, and only

one option (reprieve or renewal) can be used. The repeated

courses provision may be utilized independent of reprieve or

renewal within the limits prescribed below. All institutions will

conform to the repeated courses forgiveness provision.

Institutions may offer students academic reprieve or academic

renewal as detailed below. Institutions that grant academic

reprieve and/or academic renewal must submit an annual report

to the State Regents.

D. Repeated Courses

All State System institutions are required to offer the repeated

courses provision.

A student shall have the prerogative to repeat courses and have

only the second grade earned, even if it is lower than the first

grade, count in the calculation of the GPA, up to a maximum of

four courses, but not to exceed 18 hours, in the courses in which

the original grade earned was a "D" or "F." Both attempts shall

be recorded on the transcript with the earned grade for each

listed in the semester earned. The Explanation of Grades section

of the transcript will note that only the second grade earned is

used in the calculation of the GPA. If a student repeats an

individual course more than once, all grades earned, with the

exception of the first, are used to calculate the GPA. Students

repeating courses above the first four courses or 18 credit hours

of "Ds" or "Fs" repeated may do so with the initial grades and

repeat grades averaged.

E. Academic Reprieve

Offering academic reprieve for students is optional for all State

System institutions.

Academic reprieve is a provision allowing a student who has

experienced extraordinary circumstances to disregard up to two

semesters in the calculation of his or her GPA.

A student may request an academic reprieve from State System

institutions with academic reprieve policies consistent with these

guidelines:

1. At least three years must have elapsed between the

period in which the grades being requested reprieved

were earned and the reprieve request;

2. Prior to requesting academic reprieve, the student must

have earned a GPA of 2.0 or higher with no grade lower

than a “C” in all regularly graded course work (a

minimum of 12 hours) excluding activity or performance

courses;

3. The request may be for one semester or term of

enrollment or two consecutive semesters or terms of

enrollments. If the reprieve is awarded, all grades and

hours are included during the semester(s) for which a

reprieve has been requested. If the student's request is

for two consecutive semesters, the institution may

choose to reprieve only one semester;

4. The student must petition for consideration of academic

reprieve according to institutional policy; and

5. All courses remain on the student’s transcript, but are

not calculated in the student’s GPA. Course work with

a passing grade included in a reprieved semester may be

used to demonstrate competency in the subject matter.

However, the course work may not be used to fulfill

credit hour requirements.

F. Academic Renewal

Offering academic renewal for students is optional for all State

System institutions.

Academic renewal is a provision allowing a student who has had

academic trouble in the past and who has been out of higher

education for a number of years to recover without penalty and

have a fresh start. Under academic renewal, course work taken

prior to a date specified by the institution is not counted in the

student’s GPA.

A student may request academic renewal from State System

institutions with academic renewal policies consistent with these

guidelines:

1. At least five years must have elapsed between the last

semester being renewed and the renewal request;

2. Prior to requesting academic renewal, the student must

have earned a GPA of 2.0 or higher with no grade lower

than a “C” in all regularly graded course work (a

minimum of 12 hours) excluding activity or performance

courses;

3. The request will be for all courses completed before the

date specified in the request for renewal;

4. The student must petition for consideration of academic

renewal according to institutional policy; and

5. All courses remain on the student’s transcript, but are

not calculated in the student’s GPA. Neither the content

nor credit hours of renewed course work may be used to

fulfill any degree or graduation requirements.

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3.11.7 Reporting Academic Standing

A. Retention Standards and Requirements

Each student's transcript will list the student's current GPA and

may also include the CGPA and will denote each semester when

a student is placed on academic probation or is academically

suspended from the institution.

B. Transcription Notations

The student's academic transcript should be a full and accurate

reflection of student's academic career. Therefore, in situations

that warrant academic forgiveness, the transcript will reflect all

courses in which a student was enrolled and in which grades

were earned, with the academic forgiveness provisions reflected

in such matters as how the GPA is calculated. Specifically, for

those students who receive academic forgiveness by repeating

courses or through academic reprieve or renewal, the transcript

will reflect the GPA excluding forgiven courses/semesters. The

transcript may also note the CGPA which includes all attempted

regularly graded course work.

The Explanation of Grades section of the transcript will note the

courses and semester(s) reprieved or renewed. Institutions will

include a legend developed by the State Regents and consistent

with this policy which defines the grading symbols listed on the

student's transcript to the reader.