



School of Medicine

Leave of Absence Policies

Official Record

All leaves of absence are a part of a student's official record. The leave type, start date and end date are entered in the Wayne State University School of Medicine information system, is displayed on the official transcript, is contained in the MSPE (Medical Student Performance Evaluation) when applying for a residency, and reported to the AAMC Student Record System.

Duration of a Leave

Once placed on a leave of absence, the student remains on leave until he/she is approved to return AND begin course work. A leave of absence does not retroactively nullify course failure. Students granted an LOA must resume the coursework at the same point in the academic year when the LOA started.

The duration of personal or medical leaves of absence (or any combination) is not to exceed one year. Students who do not return from a leave of absence will be withdrawn from medical school. Students who do not return from a leave of absence will be withdrawn from medical school at the point the leave was granted. Extended leaves of absence for educational purposes require approval on an annual basis and proof of satisfactory progress in the educational program.

Effect of a Leave on Progress toward Degree Requirements

Time on an approved leave of absence does not count toward the federal financial aid eligibility time limits for making progress toward completion of the M.D. degree. Time off for leaves, however, does count toward the School's 7-year limit for completion of all M.D. degree requirements. Students on a leave of absence exceeding 180 days will be considered withdrawn from course work and according to the Federal Student Aid requirements must be reported to the National Student Loan Data System as withdrawn. Repayment on most federal student loans begins after you leave college or drop below half-time enrollment.

Prohibition from Participation in School Activities

To ensure success, students who are on a leave of absence of any type are not permitted to participate as Senate or class officers, hold leadership roles in student organizations, sit on medical school committees, participate in school activities requiring registration, participate in extra-curricular international travel projects or programs, represent the school at any conferences or participate in co-curricular programs. It will be up to the various committees and Classes as to how they wish to re-assign the duties of the officer or committee after their absence. At the discretion of the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, students may be prohibited from participation in other activities not specified here. For students who are on a very brief (1 month or less) leave of absence, their continued participation on committees or as officers will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs.

Effect of the Leave on Tuition Assessments

Students on leaves of absence will have their tuition assessment adjusted based on completed and university tuition refund policies. Students approved for a leave of absence will not be assessed any additional tuition and fee charges resulting from the leave.

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