

# THE NMSU SYSTEM ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

For more information regarding how withdrawals impact tuition refunds, please see the Tuition, Fees & Other Expenses (<http://catalogs.nmsu.edu/nmsu/tuition-fees-expenses/#newitemtext>) section of the catalog.

## Withdrawal from a Single Course

Any student wishing to formally withdraw from a single course, after the last day to drop has passed, can do so through their Academic Advisor or the University Student Records Office. All such withdrawals will be registered on the student's transcript with the "W" grade indication.

For students wishing to withdraw from all courses, please see the section on Withdrawal from NMSU.

## Leave of Absence from the Graduate School

Students who are working on advanced degrees and plan to have an interruption in studies, for a calendar year, should request for a leave of absence through their department head. The student must submit a formal letter through their department head to the Dean of the Graduate School, an email will not be accepted. The request should include the beginning date and the anticipated ending date for the period of absence.

A graduate student on leave of absence will be expected not to use university facilities and place no demands upon the university faculty and staff, and, therefore will pay no fees. Time spent in the "leave-of-absence" status will not be counted toward the advanced degree time limits.

A graduate student who fails to register for one calendar year without obtaining a leave of absence from the Graduate School will be considered withdrawn from the university, by the Graduate School. In order to resume their studies after such absences, the student must go through the formal readmission process.

## Administrative Withdrawals

If a student has stopped attending class without formally withdrawing, stopped using the online Learning Management System, or has a history of persistent unexcused absences or failures to complete assignments, the University reserves the right to remove the student from the class by means of an administrative withdrawal. An administrative withdrawal may be requested under the following circumstances, excluding absences excluded through University policy:

1. At the beginning of the semester, if a student misses the first two (2) class meetings or online activities.
2. At any point in the semester, if a student misses four (4) consecutive class meetings or online activities.
3. If over the course of the semester, the student persistently fails to attend class or fails to complete assignments.

In NO case is an administrative withdrawal used to avoid the assigning of D, F, U or RR grades for marginal or failing work. Administrative withdrawals are subject to the same refund rules as student initiated withdrawals (100% refund prior to census and no refund after census)/

To request consideration for an administrative withdrawal, the instructor must complete the Student Absence/Lack of Progress Report ([https://records.nmsu.edu/\\_files/sro-forms/Student%20Absence%20or%20Lack%20of%20Progress%20Report%20-%20Administrative%20Withdrawal.pdf](https://records.nmsu.edu/_files/sro-forms/Student%20Absence%20or%20Lack%20of%20Progress%20Report%20-%20Administrative%20Withdrawal.pdf)), found on the forms page of the University Student Records Office webpage, and route for approvals. The University Student Records Office is ultimately responsible for processing the administrative withdrawal.

Upon receipt of a fully approved Student Absence/Lack of Progress Report, from the Dean's Office, the Student Records staff will notify the student that they will be withdrawn from the class within 48 hours unless they appeal the action. This notification will be sent to the student's official NMSU email address. Students wishing to appeal the administrative withdrawal, should reply to the Student Records' notification email, with a valid reason for non-attendance / non-completion of coursework, within 48 hours of the email delivery time stamp.

If the appeal circumstances are determined reasonable and accepted, the student will not be withdrawn from the class and will be expected to actively participate in all future meetings and coursework. The Student Records Office will notify the instructor, Department Head and Associate Dean of the determination, via official NMSU email.

When an administrative withdrawal is initiated for a student who is representing the university at an official out-of-town event any administrative withdrawals will become effective upon the student's return from the event or five days after the drop slip fully approved form is submitted to the Student Records Office.

## Military Withdrawal

New Mexico State University understands that our military students may be called to active duty, specialized training, or disaster relief efforts with little notice. U.S. active duty military students wishing to withdraw from all their classes must present their orders and their request for full withdrawal, as indicated below. However, the below policy does not pertain to a student's basic and/or annual training. A student who has an order for training is encouraged to formally request, through the proper military chain of command, a postponement of their orders until the summer or the end of the semester they are currently enrolled in. If a student's request for postponement is denied, the student may then follow the steps below but must provide documentation that their postponement request was formally denied.

All NMSU students that have been called for active duty must take the following steps to withdraw from all their classes:

1. **Military and Veterans Programs (MVP):** TA/VA students ordered to Active Duty must provide a copy of orders to the MVP office, in Corbett Center Student Union, Room 244, or by email [mvp@nmsu.edu](mailto:mvp@nmsu.edu). To assist in reporting accurate information to their military service or the VA Regional Office, the student should also provide, in writing, the last day of class attendance.
2. **NMSU University Student Records:** All students presenting their orders to the University Student Records Office, (575) 646-3411, or [records@nmsu.edu](mailto:records@nmsu.edu), will receive a military withdrawal from classes and full tuition and fees refund for that semester.
3. **Bookstore:** Students who still have their receipts for textbooks purchased the semester in which they are called to active duty will be given a full refund for these textbook purchases when they present

their orders. Please contact the bookstore for assistance at (575) 646-4431 or [nmsu@bkstr.com](mailto:nmsu@bkstr.com).

## Student Medical Withdrawal

A student medical withdrawal applies to a student who becomes seriously ill, injured or hospitalized and is therefore unable to complete an academic term for which they are enrolled. This action applies to all courses a student is registered for in the affected semester(s). The student cannot select which courses they want to withdraw from and which they want to remain registered for when exercising this option. The students' attending physician must provide a letter, on official letterhead with an original signature, stating the date(s) within the semester that the student was under medical care and must withdraw because of that medical condition. This letter must be submitted within the semester or no later than one academic year after the end of the term for which the withdrawal is being requested.

Once the information is reviewed a final determination will be made if the student is eligible for the consideration of tuition or other refunds (students receiving funds awarded by the University Financial Aid and Scholarship Services should be aware of policies regarding withdrawal from the University). At the Las Cruces campus, medical withdrawal begins and ends at the University Student Records Office. At all other campuses, medical withdrawal begins at the Student Services Office but is ultimately finalized with the University Student Records Office on the Las Cruces campus.

## Medical Conditions of a Family Member Withdrawal

A student who is withdrawing because of a medical condition of an immediate family member must submit a letter from the family member's attending physician. This action applies to all courses a student is registered for in the affected semester(s). The student cannot select which courses they want to withdraw from and which they want to remain registered for when exercising this option. It must be on official letterhead with an original signature, stating the date(s) within the semester that the student's immediate family member was under medical care and that the student must withdraw to attend to the immediate family member's medical condition. This letter must be submitted within the semester or no later than one academic year at the end of the term for which the withdrawal is being requested.

Immediate family member, in this instance, includes a spouse; a domestic partner, as defined in the NMSU Policy Manual 7.04; a child, parent or legal guardian; a sister or brother and a grandparent or a grandchild. Familial relationships that are created by law are also included (i.e. mother/father in law; half or step siblings); any other relationships can be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Once the information is reviewed a final determination will be made if the student is eligible for consideration of tuition or other refunds (Students receiving funds awarded by the University Financial Aid and Scholarship Services should be aware of policies regarding withdrawal from the University.) At the Las Cruces campus, medical withdrawal begins at the University Student Records Office. At all other campuses, medical withdrawal begins at the Student Services Office.

## Withdrawal from NMSU

Withdrawal from any NMSU campus is an official procedure that must be:

1. Initiated by the student (using the Withdrawal form)
2. Have all necessary signatures (as indicated on the form)
3. Be approved and processed through the University Student Records Office

Students who withdraw from all courses for the semester should do through the University Student Records Office. However, students who are unable to come in person may submit an e-mail using their NMSU e-mail account to [records@nmsu.edu](mailto:records@nmsu.edu). Students who leave without following the official procedure are graded appropriately by the instructor.

Applicable dates for the last day to withdrawal are published on the approved university academic calendar or under important dates at: <http://registration.nmsu.edu> (<https://records.nmsu.edu/faculty-and-staff/academic-calendar.html>).

A student who withdraws from all classes for the semester will retain access to their NMSU account per current policy but will lose access to other services and privileges available to enrolled students.

Financial information concerning drops and withdrawals can be found at <https://uar.nmsu.edu/refunds/withdrawals.html>. Financial Aid Recipients should contact University Financial Aid and Scholarship Services before withdrawing. Students receiving funds awarded by the University Financial Aid and Scholarship Services should be aware of policies regarding withdrawal from the University.

The Federal Higher Education Act requires the University to calculate a Return of Federal Student Aid Funds for students who withdraw (officially or unofficially) from all classes on or before the 60 percent attendance point in the semester. Using a pro-rata schedule, the percentage of the semester attended is used to calculate the amount of the student's earned versus unearned Federal student aid funds. The unearned portion of Federal student aid funds will be returned to the appropriate aid program(s). Students withdrawing from classes are responsible for payment of any balance due after the required return of Federal student aid funds.