

Leave of Absence

Student Services Center
Tresidder Memorial Union, 2nd Floor
Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
<http://helpsu.stanford.edu/?pcat=ssc>



Office of the University Registrar
630 Serra Street, Suite 120
Stanford, CA 94305-6032
Fax: (650) 725-7248

A leave of absence is required for any term of the Academic Year (Summer terms excluded) for which a student does not wish to enroll in classes. For students with multiple degree programs or majors, note that leaves of absence are only granted for all programs and majors. Leaves will not be granted for more than one year at a time. A leave of absence from your program may not exceed a cumulative total of two years. See the *Stanford Bulletin* for additional information.

Undergraduates who take a leave, and who are not subject to academic standing provisions, may enroll in the University for a subsequent quarter with the privileges of a returning student. Graduate students are subject to special registration requirements; see "Leave of Absence" in the "Graduate Degrees" section of the *Stanford Bulletin*.

DEADLINES: The deadlines below correspond to the last day to submit a leave of absence and receive a partial refund. *Note:* A leave of absence submitted after the deadline is granted only for approved health and emergency reasons.

Autumn Quarter: November 9, 2009

Winter Quarter: February 18, 2010

Spring Quarter: May 12, 2010

REFUND POLICY: *Leaves of Absence Before the First Day of Classes*—Students who take a leave from the University voluntarily on or before the first day of classes will receive a full tuition refund. Such students are not included in University records as registered for the term.

Leave of Absence After the First Day of Classes—An active student in good standing who voluntarily takes a leave from the University after the first day of instruction, but before the end of the first 60 percent of the term (quarter or semester), will receive a pro rata refund. There is no refund after the first 60 percent of the term. Courses in which the student was enrolled after the drop deadline will appear on the student's record and will show the grade of 'W' (withdrew).

STUDENT STATUS WHILE ON LEAVE: *Academic Status*—Students on an approved leave of absence retain their admitted student status; however, they are not registered and therefore do not have the rights and privileges of registered students. Students on leave may complete course work for which an 'Incomplete' grade was reported in a prior term and are expected to comply with the one-year maximum time limit for resolving incompletes. Students on leave may file requests to change a major or degree level.

Graduate Students Only—Degree programs and candidacy must be valid in the term of reenrollment. Leaves do not delay candidacy or master's program expiration dates. Failure to return as scheduled or to secure an extension of a prior leave will result in cancellation of registration privileges and a substantial reinstatement fee. Official department or University requirements (e.g., qualification examinations) cannot be fulfilled during the leave period.

REQUIRED SIGNATURES: Students are required to sign the leave of absence request. Undergraduates must obtain a signature from their Residence Dean; off-campus students need the signature of the Off-campus Residence Dean. All undergraduates must obtain a signature from Undergraduate Advising. Graduate students require a signature from one of their major department chair, director of graduate studies, or school dean. International students (F-1 & J-1 visa holders) need to obtain a signature from a Bechtel International Center adviser. Students receiving Veteran's Benefits need to obtain the Veteran's Benefits Officer signature from the Registrar's Office.

SUBMITTING THIS FORM: Undergraduates and coterminal students should obtain all the necessary signatures before submitting the completed form to UAR. UAR will then forward the fully endorsed form to the Student Services Center for review and processing. Graduate students submit the form to the Student Services Center in person, or by mail to the Office of the Registrar at the address above, or by fax to 650-725-7248.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: Nonimmigrant students and their dependents must maintain an appropriate visa status at all times. An absence from the U.S. of 5 or more months will result in termination of F-1 or J-1 status. If a student remains outside the U.S. for 5 or more months, a new I-20 or DS-2019 is necessary for re-entry. For further information contact the I-Center.

FINANCIAL AID: Students should notify the Financial Aid Office of their intent to leave the University if they are receiving any type of aid, particularly to protect eligibility for certain programs and funds such as Cal Grants while on leave. A portion of any refund is returned to the sources of aid. Students should clear all outstanding bills with Student Financial Services before returning to campus. Undergraduate financial aid applications are due in mid-April in the year before an undergraduate plans to return. Graduate students may apply for loans four weeks before the first day of classes in the quarter in which they plan to return. See <http://financialaid.stanford.edu> for detailed application requirements.

LOANS: Students must notify all lenders of their intent to leave the University and request exit information before leaving campus (Stafford and private loans through the Financial Aid Office; Perkins and Institutional loans through Student Financial Services). Students are cautioned to consider carefully the effect of leaves on their loan status; lenders may count the leave period as part of the total grace period. Stanford will provide enrollment status to the National Student Loan Clearing House. Students who receive loan disbursements directly may be required to repay portions of their loans.

UNIVERSITY HOUSING: University housing is generally not available to students on leave. Students with questions about room-and-board refunds should contact the Stanford Housing Assignment Services or the central office of the University Dining Services (for board refunds). Students with medical disabilities that require University medical services and women students on pregnancy or maternity leave may petition to remain in campus housing for one term while on leave. Approval requires good academic standing, department recommendation, and no outstanding financial obligations to the University. Address questions to Housing Assignment Services.

HEALTH INSURANCE: A leave of absence processed by the Student Services Center before the first day of instruction will automatically cancel health insurance coverage. There is no cancellation of health insurance fees for leaves processed beginning the first day of classes. Contact Vaden Health Service for additional information.

LIBRARY PRIVILEGES: Contact the Privileges Division, Green Library, to determine whether you may retain access and/or borrowing privileges while you are on leave.

