

13.99.99 Military Leave and Service for Students

Approved March 27, 2024
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Regulation Summary

Texas A&M University System (A&M System) seeks to accommodate the needs of students whose call to military service prevents them from starting or continuing to attend school. This regulation provides additional guidance for compliance with federal and state law regarding students' educational rights when called for military service.

Definitions

Click to view [Definitions](#).

Regulation

The A&M System provides military leave from and, in the case of withdrawals, readmission to the universities (academic institutions) to eligible students in accordance with state and federal law.

1. Administrative

1.1 Federal law protects the readmission rights of students who withdraw from or were admitted to but did not begin attendance at a member institution because of the service in the uniformed services. Texas state law extends readmission protections to those called to active military service and requires excused absences for students who are called to required military service for a reasonably brief duration.

1.1.1 The A&M System grants readmission to eligible students who withdraw due to service in the uniformed services or active military service and allows excused absences for students who are absent solely because of required military service.

1.1.2 A student must give advanced written notice of an absence.

1.1.3 One or more offices shall be designated for a student service member to contact to provide the notices in section 1.1.2.

2. State and Federal Military Service

2.1 Excused Absence Rights for Required Military Service

- 2.1.1 Students who must be absent for a reasonably brief duration (as defined in section 2.1.3) because of required military service and do not withdraw, will be excused for those absences.
- 2.1.2 The member institution will require documentation of the fact and duration of the required military service, such as orders or a letter from the unit command.
- 2.1.3 The maximum period a student may receive excused absences is no more than 25% of the total number of class meetings or the contact hour equivalent (not including the final examination period) for the specific course or course in which the student is currently enrolled at the beginning of the period of required military service.
- 2.1.4 Excused absences for required military service are not available when a student withdraws from the member institution to perform required military service.
- 2.1.5 System academic institutions must develop a rule that complies with state law giving servicemembers excused absence rights for required military service.

2.2 Readmission Rights for Military Service

- 2.2.1 A student who withdraws from or is unable to be in attendance at the member institution because of service in the uniformed services or required military service has a right to prompt readmission without payment of a reapplication fee at the member institution.
- 2.2.2 In most cases, a student is, as applicable, readmitted to the member institution with the same academic standing as at the time of withdrawal.
- 2.2.3 To qualify for readmission after military duty, pursuant to section 2.2, a student must be withdrawn for a cumulative total of no more than five (5) years and provide evidence of discharge or release under honorable conditions.
- 2.2.4 The student must submit a notice of intent to return by the application deadline to the office designated by the member institution.
- 2.2.5 A student may be denied readmission if the member institution, after reasonable efforts to assist the student, determines the student is not prepared or unable to resume the program at the point where the student left.
- 2.2.6 System academic institutions must develop a rule that complies with state and federal law giving servicemembers readmission rights for military service.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[20 U.S. Code section 1091c, Readmission Requirements for Servicemembers](#)

[34 C.F.R. Pt. 668.18, Regulations under Readmission Requirements for Servicemembers](#)
[Tex. Educ. Code §51.844, Readmission of Certain Military Personnel to Graduate and Professional Programs](#)
[Tex. Educ. Code §51.9111, Excused Absence for Required Military Service](#)

[Tex. Educ. Code §51.9242, Readmission of Student Who Withdraws to Perform Active Military Service](#)

[Tex. Educ. Code §54.006, Refund or Adjustment of Tuition and Mandatory Fees for Dropped Courses and Student Withdrawals](#)

[Tex. Gov't Code, §437.001\(1\), State Military Forces and Veterans, Definitions](#)

[19 Tex. Admin. Code §4.8, Excused Absence for a Person Called to Required Military Service](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is required to supplement this regulation (see Sections 2.1.5 and 2.2.6)

Contact Office

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