

## **I. The Academic Program**

### **B. General Rules**

#### 9. Voluntary Withdrawal and Subsequent Readmission

##### a. Voluntary Withdrawal.

A law student who seeks to voluntarily withdraw from all coursework at the School of Law with the prospect of subsequent readmission must obtain the approval of the Assistant Dean for Student Life and complete the following required steps:

1. Submit to the Assistant Dean for Student Life a written request to withdraw setting forth the reason or reasons for withdrawal.
2. Speak with the Assistant Dean for Student Life to discuss the student's reason or reasons for seeking withdrawal. At the Assistant Dean's discretion, this step may require an in-person meeting.
3. Obtain the written approval of the Assistant Dean for Student Life.
4. Comply with all applicable University policies and procedures.

##### b. Readmission after Voluntary Withdrawal.

Students who withdraw from the School of Law are not automatically entitled to be readmitted and must petition to be readmitted in the academic program if no more than three (3) years have passed since withdrawal. Such students must submit a written petition, in a form determined by the School of Law, to the Assistant Dean of Student Life for consideration. The petition must address, in detail, the reason or reasons for the student's prior withdrawal, along with a statement explaining why the prior circumstances, as well as the period of separation, will not adversely affect the student's ability to successfully resume law study as well as law practice after graduation. Such students may also be required to submit additional materials and/or documentation in support of their application, at the discretion of the School of Law.

The Assistant Dean for Student Life will consider petitions submitted by students seeking to re-enroll in the School of Law J.D. program within twelve (12) months of their official date of withdrawal. For students petitioning to re-enroll in courses after twelve (12) months but no more than thirty-six (36) months after their official date of withdrawal, the School of Law Admissions and Probation Committee, in consultation with the Assistant Dean for Student Life, will consider those petitions. Student eligibility for re-enrollment at the School of Law following voluntary withdrawal may be subject to specified conditions determined by the Assistant Dean in consultation with the Admissions & Probation Committee.

c. Students Ineligible to Apply for Readmission.

Students who voluntarily withdraw from the School of Law are not eligible for re-enrollment under the following circumstances:

1. If the students seek to re-enroll after a period of more than thirty-six (36) months after the official date of withdrawal; and/or If the students failed to follow the procedures set forth in Paragraph A, above.
2. In either or both of these circumstances, students seeking to re-enroll in the School of Law must apply for admission as a new first-year student in accordance with the rules, regulations, and policies of the School of Law concerning new admissions.

d. Exception for Military Service.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph C, students in good standing required to withdraw from the School of Law because of mandatory military service obligations may petition to re-enroll even if the period of mandatory military service exceeds 36 months. Assuming the period of separation is within the pertinent ABA accreditation standards, such petitions shall be considered by the Admissions and Probation Committee, in consultation with the Assistant Dean for Student Life. If the Admissions and Probation Committee, in consultation with the Assistant Dean for Student Life, determines that the lengthier period of separation will not adversely affect the student's ability to successfully resume law study, as well as practice law after graduation, the petition for re-enrollment will be granted. In cases to the contrary, students must freshly apply for readmission to the School of Law as new first-year students in accordance with the rules, regulations, and policies of the School of Law concerning admissions.

e. Additional Considerations.

Students considering voluntary withdrawal from the School of Law with the possibility of subsequent readmission should be aware of the following:

1. Students may not ordinarily withdraw from the School of Law after the University's deadline for official withdrawal.
2. In accordance with current ABA Standard 304(c), the School of Law requires that the course of study for the J.D. degree be completed no later than 84 months after students commence study at the School of Law or another law school from which the School of Law has accepted transfer credit; withdrawal does not extend this period.
3. Tuition remission is available only according to the University's policies and schedule for tuition and fee refunds.
4. Withdrawal may have an impact on the student's financial obligations; students should consult with the UND Student Financial Aid Office and UND Student Account Services before making a decision to withdraw.

5. Withdrawal may have an impact on foreign students' visa status; students should consult with the UND Office of International Programs for further information.
6. Student withdrawal will be reflected on student transcripts according to the University's policies, including the appearance of a "W" indicating withdrawal from each course in which the student is enrolled after the first ten days of the semester.
7. Students who leave the School of Law without obtaining an official withdrawal in accordance with this policy may be given an "F" grade in all courses in which the students were otherwise enrolled at the time of withdrawal and may forfeit any tuition remission.