



XAVIER UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA

Medical Emergency Withdrawal and Reentry Policy

Policy Title	Xavier University of Louisiana Medical Emergency Withdrawal and Reentry Policy
Date of Issuance	04/27/2020
Effective Date	04/27/2020
Responsible Officer	Vice President, Student Affairs
Scope	This policy applies to all students at Xavier University of LA

Policy Statement

Xavier University of Louisiana is committed to providing a safe environment and cares about the physical and mental health of our students. When health issues interfere with a student's ability to successfully meet the requirements of their course of study, it is the University's policy to allow the student to withdraw on a Medical Withdrawal so they may focus on matters requiring attention and taking steps toward recovery, even if the academic progress must be delayed. The University also reserves the right to initiate students' medical withdrawals when the welfare of the individual student and the University community may be impacted.

Compliance/Responsibilities

1. Xavier University of Louisiana Center of Health & Wellness Unit (Counseling Services, Student Health Services, Disability Services) and the Medical Withdrawal Health Advisory Committee under the leadership of the VP of Student Affairs is responsible for implementing and enforcing this university policy.
2. The Center of Health & Wellness subunits are also responsible for informing the Vice President of Student Affairs of concerns that may impact individual student's academic progress and have an impact on the campus community as a result of medical/ mental health issues.

Purpose

For the purpose of this Policy, a student is deemed to pose "clear and present danger" if:

- They demonstrate erratic physical and/or verbal behavior, i.e. violent, suicidal or assaultive threats, actions, or other behaviors, as determined by a clinical psychologist or qualified examiner.
- They communicate a serious threat of physical violence against an identifiable victim as determined by a clinical psychologist or qualified examiner.
- They pose a clear and imminent risk of serious physical injury to themselves or another person as determined by a clinical psychologist or qualified examiner.
- Their physical health is interfering with the student meeting the requirements of their academic progress.

Medical Withdrawal Health Advisory Committee

The medical withdrawal health advisory committee will consist of representatives from various departments. The committee may include representatives from the VP of Student Affairs Office, Counseling Services, Staff Clinical Psychologist, Counselors, and Health Services Medical Providers, University Housing, Dean of College of Arts & Science and/or Dean of College of Pharmacy and any other representatives can be added at the discretion of the Vice President of Student Affairs.

The medical withdrawal health advisory committee will participate in reviewing the assessment and recommendations made by the student's treating healthcare provider (**a qualified licensed mental health psychologist/psychiatrist, or MD/DO**) and will make recommendations to the VP of Student Affairs based on the student's evaluation results regarding the student's ability to return to the university and/or if on medical interim restriction recommendations regarding if the student should resume full academic class load and co-curricular demands of university life. These proceedings will be confidential.

Procedures

1. Medical Emergencies Withdrawals

Students who have medical/mental health issues that interfere with their academic progress and/or on-campus housing environment may require a Medical Emergency Withdrawal or a Medical Interim Restriction. All students on Medical Emergencies Withdrawals must complete the Reentry Clearance Process (see below) before they will be allowed to return to class or resume living in on-campus housing.

- **Emergency Interim Withdrawal**
- **Voluntary Withdrawal**
- **Involuntary Withdrawal**
- **Medical Interim Restriction**

➤ **Emergency Interim Medical Withdrawal**

Upon a student's medical or psychological hospitalization an interim withdrawal may be invoked. Students who are medically restricted for any health reason will not be allowed temporarily to participate in any University activities, attend classes, reside in or visit on-campus resident halls. The student will only be allowed to attend meetings or hearings related to their medical status. The interim period of a minimum of 6 weeks or as determined by the treating healthcare provider allows for the student to receive needed medical and/or psychological care and allow for an evaluation period to ensure the students readiness to return to the university and resume their academic studies.

➤ **Voluntary Medical Withdrawal**

Students may request a voluntary withdrawal when they believe their physical and/or mental health issues are interfering with their successful engagement and completion of their academic course work and/or when it interferes with their daily activities and the ability to adjust or deal with physical or mental health challenges in a responsible rational manner.

➤ **Involuntary Medical Withdrawal**

In rare cases, an involuntary medical withdrawal may need to be invoked. Examples of situations that might result in an involuntary medical withdrawal include the following:

- Evaluation by clinical psychologist or qualified examiner does not support the student's readiness to return.
- A student fails to complete the Reentry Clearance process.
- A student has a condition that has deteriorated (*i.e. Depression*) rendering the student incapable of functioning as a student.

❖ Any student placed on involuntary medical withdrawal, or re-entry request is denied may appeal. (see **Appeal Process** below)

➤ **Medical Interim Restriction**

Students who are on a medical interim restriction for any health reason are temporarily not allowed to participate in any University activities and may be required to reduce their academic class load for a specific period time; depending on recommendations from their healthcare provider. The student's healthcare provider must provide an assessment of current functioning of the student and

provide written recommendations regarding the student's readiness to resume full academic class load and co-curricular demands of university life.

Re-entry Clearance Process

Note: All providers must be unrelated to the student and must have specialty credentials appropriate for the condition of concern:

- **Mental Health** - healthcare provider must be a **licensed psychologist or psychiatrist**
- **Medical** – healthcare provider must be a **licensed medical physician (MD/DO)**

A completed re-entry clearance form must be submitted to the VP of Student Affairs along with required medical/clinical documentation submitted to the VP of Student Affairs from the licensed healthcare provider. This documentation **must** be submitted directly from the licensed healthcare provider office to the VP of Student Affairs Office.

This process is to ensure that the medical emergency no longer exists, the student has received necessary treatment and a treatment plan for continuing good health and safety is in place.

- The student must submit a **request in writing** to the VP of Student Affairs Office requesting re-admission.
- The student's healthcare provider must submit the **re-entry clearance form along with required medical/clinical documentation of treatment and recommendations** regarding the student's readiness to return to university life. This information will be taken into consideration in the final decision for approving clearance for re-entry.
- The student will sign a **consent to release information** permitting two-way communication between the healthcare provider and the University Medical Withdrawal Health Advisory Committee representatives and allowing all relevant information to be provided to the University Medical Withdrawal Health Advisory Committee representatives who are involved in the decision-making and review process including the VP of Student Affairs.
- The healthcare provider must provide an assessment (conducted within 30 days of application for reentry) of current functioning of the student and provide written recommendations regarding:
 - The student's readiness to return to the academic and co-curricular demands of university life
 - The student's readiness to live in the on-campus residential community, if the student lives on campus.
 - Ongoing treatment needs
 - Any conditions or restrictions that the University should impose
 - If an athlete, the student's readiness to return to competitive sports.
- ❖ **Note:** The University team physician and/or Athletic Director in consultation with the University Medical Withdrawal Health Advisory Committee will ultimately make the decision regarding resuming athletic participation but will take into consideration the recommendation of the student's healthcare provider.
- Once the University Medical Withdrawal Health Advisory Committee has received the student's medical/clinical documentation and recommendations of the treating healthcare provider, the student must meet with University Counseling Services staff clinical psychologist or the Student Health Center medical provider. The evaluation and the student's own perception regarding readiness to return, needs, and plans for continued treatment will be discussed with the student.
- The University Medical Withdrawal Health Advisory Committee will meet and consider the treating healthcare provider recommendations, the results of the student's meeting with Counseling Services psychologist or Student Health Services medical provider to make its re-entry decision. Students will receive written notification of the committee's final decision which will include required terms the student must comply with.

- When a student is cleared, the Office of Student Affairs will begin the process of notifying the dean of the appropriate division, housing (if on-campus), registrar, etc.

Notes:

❖ **The University Medical Withdrawal Health Advisory Committee reserves the right:**

- To require the student to comply with all recommendations by the treating healthcare provider and/or Xavier University of Louisiana Counseling Services and/or Student Health Services as a condition of returning to, or remaining in, the campus community.
- To assign a committee representative to review and/or monitor the student's compliance with the required treatment plan.
- If a student was living on-campus prior to the medical withdrawal, approval for return to the University usually includes approval to return to housing. However, a student's on-campus housing status may be restricted if the student's behavior poses a health or safety threat to themselves or others.
- If a student was required to complete specific treatment (off-campus and/or on-campus) the student must provide supporting clinical documentation regarding the completion of this requirement.
- To invoke an involuntary medical withdrawal if the student does not comply with the conditions of the re-entry clearance.

Appeal Process

Students must submit an appeal in writing within five (5) days of receiving their notification of being placed on involuntary medical withdrawal or re-entry clearance is denied. Decisions on appeals will be communicated to the student in writing within 10 days of the original date of the appeal.

Appeals will be considered only when: There is relevant new information that was not reasonably available at the time of the original clearance deadline which may have impacted the original decision.