

Academic Governing Council
Decision Form

This form is to be used when the Academic Governing Council makes a decision on an issue. This form is sent to the Provost.

Medical/Hardship Withdrawal Policy

Decision

On February 9, 2016, the decision was made by the AGC membership to update the Medical Withdrawal Policy 8.23 to include other hardships that may cause students to be unable to complete a course or courses after the 70% withdrawal date. The Medical/Hardship Withdrawal Policy was approved as follows:

Grand Rapids Community College is committed to supporting students in achieving success in their intellectual and extracurricular endeavors. When documented illness, injury or hardship prevents a student from successfully meeting the requirements of his or her course of study, it is the College's policy to consider requests for withdrawal from their courses to enable the student to recover from his/her situation.

Rationale

The approved Grading Policy (7.10) makes reference to students having the option to withdraw due to hardship after the 70% date; however, there was no process or policy that considers hardships outside of health related issues. The approved proposal will expand the medical withdrawal process to include other types of significant hardships and align with Grading Policy 7.10.

Supporting Data

None

Implications for Action

The criteria for deciding what issues constitute a hardship will need to be determined and the process for approving hardship withdrawals will need to be developed or adapted from the medical withdrawal process. Further, the following website and associated forms will need to be updated:

<http://www.grcc.edu/counselingadvisingretentionservices/requestformedicalwithdrawal>.

In addition, faculty, staff, and students should be made aware of the new policy and process.

Date of Decision by AGC

February 9, 2016

Vote: 98% approved and 2% abstained

Section to be completed by the Provost.

Evaluation Plan

This policy will next be reviewed in AY 2018-19. The Associate Dean of Student Success and Retention will provide, by June 30, an annual report to the Provost of the number of requests made, the number of requests granted and denied, and the rationale for the decisions. Data will be disaggregated by age, gender, and ethnicity.

Response from the Provost

I support the AGC vote. The revised Medical / Hardship Withdrawal Policy will be in effect beginning Fall Semester 2016. Until that time, the existing policy will be in effect. The Associate Dean of Student Success and Retention will provide a progress report on implementation to the Deans' Council in July 2016.

Jamie Chesley

2-24-16