



Academic Exclusion and Readmission

A. Academic Exclusion

1. **Exclusion for Minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average:** A J.D. student who
 - a. **has attempted at least 10 credit hours and has** failed to achieve a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 will be excluded from the College of Law, subject to readmission as described in section B. below.
 - b. **has attempted at least 30 credit hours and has** failed to achieve a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.30 will be excluded from the College of Law, subject to readmission as described in section B. below.
2. **Exclusion for X-Grades:** Regardless of a J.D. student's minimum cumulative grade point average, a J.D. student who receives an "X" grade in two consecutive semesters, or a consecutive semester and summer session, will be excluded from the College of Law, subject to readmission as described in section B.
3. **Exclusion for Failure to Comply with Probation Requirements.** A J.D. student may also be excluded under the terms of the Further Required Curriculum or the Academic Probation policies.

B. Procedure to Consider Readmission after Exclusion

1. **Petition:** A student may petition for readmission following exclusion by submitting a written petition for readmission to the Academic Standards Committee. In the petition, the student may include any information the student believes is relevant to the Committee's decision but must include (1) information relevant to the standard in subsection 3, below, and (2) a plan for academic improvement.
2. **Meeting:** A student may request a meeting with the Committee to discuss the readmission petition. Alternatively, the Committee may require a meeting. If a student fails to attend the scheduled meeting without prior notice to the Registrar that he or she cannot attend for a compelling reason, the student's written petition for readmission may be denied.
3. **Standard for Denying the Petition:** The Academic Standards Committee will deny the petition for readmission unless the evidence presented to the committee affirmatively shows that the exclusion does not indicate a lack of capacity to complete the program of legal education and be admitted to the bar.
4. **Attending Classes While Petition is Pending:** A student who (a) receives notice of an exclusion while enrolled in a class and (b) files a petition for readmission, may attend classes and participate in student activities while the petition for readmission is pending.



C. ABA and AALS Standards: Exclusion and readmission decisions will comply with applicable standards and guidelines of the American Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools.

D. Petition to Faculty for Certiorari Review of Academic Standards Committee Decision

1. Petition for Certiorari Review

- a. An Academic Review Committee decision to exclude a student may be considered by the Faculty only upon a petition in the nature of a request for “certiorari” review.
- b. The petition must include all information the student wants the faculty to consider; however, only information that was originally provided to the Academic Standards Committee under part B of this policy is appropriate for inclusion in the petition.
- c. The student must present the petition to the Academic Standards Committee Chair no later than one year from the date indicated on the notification of the Denial of the Petition for Readmission.

2. Process for Considering the Petition:

- a. **Distribution of the Petition** The Academic Standards Committee Chair will provide the student’s petition to faculty members eligible to vote under Article 3.1.1 of the Faculty Bylaws. The Academic Standards Committee may also provide to the faculty a memorandum setting out the basis for its decision to deny readmission.
- b. **Process to Determine if the Petition Will Be Heard**
 - i. Voting on the petition for certiorari is normally by email.
 - ii. Faculty entitled to vote under Article 3.1.1 of the Bylaws will have two weeks to vote on whether the faculty should consider the petition on its merits.
 - iii. Votes must be submitted electronically to the supervisor of Faculty Support Services before the announced deadline.
 - iv. A quorum of the faculty eligible to vote on the petition must participate in the electronic voting process. Otherwise, a vote on whether to hear the petition will be scheduled for the next regularly scheduled faculty fall or spring faculty meeting.
 - v. A petition for certiorari will be heard only if a majority of the faculty voting on the petition votes affirmatively to hear the petition according to the procedures in this section.

c. Meeting to Hear a Petition for Certiorari



- i. If the faculty votes to hear a petition, the petition will be placed on the agenda at the next practicable regularly scheduled fall or spring semester faculty meeting.
- ii. In its discretion, the faculty may hear the petitioner, witnesses, both or neither at the meeting to decide upon the petition. It may also decide the petition on the basis of discussion alone.
- iii. Article Six of the Faculty Bylaws will govern the voting procedures on whether to readmit the student.
- iv. A decision on the petition for readmission will be by majority vote.

Cross References

For readmission after withdrawal, see Leaves of Absence and Withdrawals from School policy.

Explanations and interpretations:

The Academic Exclusion policy applies to transfer students. Credit hours earned at another institution do count toward the total number of credit hours attempted but they are not included in the grade point average calculation.

Amended and approved by the faculty on October 15, 2008; revised November 18, 2009. Amended on May 1, 2018. This policy, as amended, is effective with all students matriculating at the College of Law in or after Fall 2018.