

Mental Health Leave of Absence

To view the Board policies associated with this section, go to <https://pol.tasb.org/PolicyOnline/PolicyDetails?key=304&code=FFA>.

Purpose

Collin College may permit a temporary leave of absence for a student due to a mental health condition.

Deadlines for Requesting a Leave of Absence

The leave of absence will be at the request of the student and must be submitted by the following deadlines:

1. Fall Semester: First Monday in December
2. Spring Semester: First Monday in May
3. Summer I Term: Last Friday in June
4. Summer II and III Terms: Last Friday in July
5. Maymester and Wintermester Terms: Last Class Day Before Final Exams

Mental Health Leave Review Committee

The Mental Health Leave Review Committee (hereafter referred to as the "Committee") will consider a request for a student's temporary leave of absence due to a mental health condition. The Committee will be composed of the associate dean of counseling and ACCESS or designee, the district dean of students or designee, the registrar or designee, the chair of the SOBI Care Team or designee, and the chair of the Disciplinary Appeals Committee (DAC) or designee.

Voluntary Leave of Absence

A student who wishes to take a temporary leave of absence from Collin College due to a mental health condition will contact the associate dean of counseling and ACCESS to request the appropriate form. The student will complete and return the form to the associate dean of counseling and ACCESS within three (3) academic calendar days of receiving the form.

The Committee will approve a student's request for a voluntary leave of absence due to a mental health condition in accordance with the following:

1. The student's explanation for the requested temporary leave of absence; or
2. The student's submission of appropriate documentation from a licensed medical or mental health care provider stating that it is in the best interest of the student to take a temporary leave of absence from Collin College for a specified period of time.

Refunds

Determination of tuition payment refunds will be made on a case-by-case basis at the sole discretion of the vice president of student enrollment services.

Re-Entry Provisions

Collin College will require a student with a mental health condition who has taken a voluntary leave of absence to demonstrate their fitness to return to Collin College. A student will contact the associate dean of counseling and ACCESS one (1) semester prior to the date of the end of the leave period. Decisions regarding whether to allow a student to return to Collin College will be determined by the Committee as follows:

1. The Committee will require documentation from a licensed medical or mental health care provider stating that the student is able to return with or without accommodations.
2. The Committee may seek a second opinion from an independent licensed medical or mental health care provider not affiliated with Collin College.
3. The Committee will consider whether reasonable accommodations will allow the student to meet academic standards and remain safely in school.
4. The Committee may deny a student's request to return if it is determined the student will be unable, upon return, to safely remain at Collin College, even with reasonable accommodations.
5. Pursuant to Collin College policy, if the leave of absence lasts longer than two (2) full semesters (i.e., fall and spring), the student will be required to reapply for admittance since the leave of absence will no longer be considered temporary.

Appeals

The student may appeal the denial of re-entry to the vice president of student enrollment services.

Contact Information

For more information, contact the associate dean of counseling and ACCESS at the Plano Campus in Room D-134 or call 972.881.5126.