



Name of Policy: Academic Forgiveness

Responsible Department: Office of the Registrar

Responsible Administrator: Vice President of Academic Affairs

Effective Date: August 1, 2017

POLICY

Elms College recognizes that, for reasons unrelated to their ability, students may sometimes not perform to their full potential. Because a low cumulative index earned at the beginning of an academic career can adversely affect a student's academic record for his or her entire stay at the college, students may apply for "academic forgiveness." Under this policy, a specified term or sequence of terms may be excluded from the calculation of the student's cumulative grade-point average.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for "forgiveness," students must:

1. Be a former Elms College student and have completed a minimum of 18 credits at the college
2. Return to the college after a minimum absence of five years
3. Be currently enrolled at Elms College
4. Have not been previously awarded Academic Forgiveness at Elms College
5. Submit their request for Academic Forgiveness within one year of re-admittance and after showing a term GPA of at least 2.0 GPA in at least 12 credits.

Academic Forgiveness may only be granted once during a student's academic career at the college. Prior to submitting the application for forgiveness to the Registrar's Office, students must meet with their academic advisor and obtain the advisor's signature on the form. Final approval must be obtained by the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

If forgiveness is granted, the following conditions will apply:

- a. The forgiveness period requested will be comprised of a sequence of semesters that are consecutive.
- b. A student may be forgiven up to 60 attempted credit hours.
- c. ALL courses within the designated time period will be excluded from the calculation of the cumulative grade point average. Therefore, grades of "C-" and higher, as well as

grades below "C-" will be excluded. However, excluded courses will remain on the student's academic record with the original grade received.

d. Although grades above "C-" are excluded from the index calculation, they may be applied to satisfy a curriculum requirement for graduation.

e. Students who receive academic forgiveness cannot qualify for any academic honors based on GPA.