

## GRADUATE ACADEMIC DISMISSAL POLICY

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set the minimum standards for programs leading to master's or doctoral-level degrees and certificates at Ferris State University. Specific programs may set standards based on curricular, accreditation requirements, or professional standards.

### ACADEMIC DISMISSAL

If a graduate student meets any one of the following conditions, programs may consider academic dismissal:

1. The student receives failing grades in 2 or more courses in the program and is unable to make satisfactory improvement.
2. The student submits work in the program that is confirmed to be plagiarized.
3. The student's graduate level GPA falls below program standards and is unable to make satisfactory progress toward the program's required GPA.
4. The student commits consistent unethical behaviors in completing academic work, working with peers, or working with program faculty.

Select graduate programs may have standards that exceed these requirements.

When a student is dismissed for academic reasons, the program must inform the student of this decision in writing via email and/or registered mail.

### APPEAL

Graduate students who are dismissed from a program or University for academic reasons but believe there are extenuating circumstances that warrant consideration may appeal the dismissal.

1. If the student wishes to appeal a dismissal decision by a Ferris State graduate program, the student must first process a formal written appeal within fourteen (14) working days of the dismissal decision.
2. If the program upholds the dismissal decision, the student has fourteen (14) working days to initiate their appeal to the program's college dean through a letter requesting reconsideration.
3. After the college dean has rendered a decision, if the dismissal is upheld, the student has fourteen (14) working days to initiate an appeal to the Office of Graduate Studies through a letter requesting reconsideration.
4. The decision regarding dismissal will be based on the individual merits of each case and applicable professional standards. The decision will be presented to the applicant, in writing, within fourteen (14) working days of the date of receipt of the appeal, whenever possible.
5. Decisions by the dean of the Office of Graduate Studies, in consultation with the provost's office, regarding dismissal are final. There is no higher level the student can submit an appeal to.

### READMISSION

Graduate students dismissed for academic reasons may not be eligible for readmission to that program. They may be eligible to apply for admission to another program within the University. Select programs may allow readmission to the same program after a set time, if the student meets certain requirements as defined by the program.

### DISMISSAL FOR REASONS OTHER THAN ACADEMIC

Graduate students are held to the Ferris State University *Code of Student Community Standards* available at <https://www.ferris.edu/studentcode>. Individual graduate programs may have additional policies in place to address behavioral misconduct.

Cross References:

Board Policy, Subpart 3-7, Academic Probation, Dismissal, and Readmission After Academic Dismissal

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