

## ACADEMIC FORGIVENESS

### Policy

Occasionally, during a specific semester, students encounter personal, emotional or financial hardships so devastating that performing academically at a level approximating their usual record of academic achievement becomes impossible. Typically, these students realize their situations in time to take the advisable course of action and withdraw from the university. If that is not done, however, and the student's grades for the semester are decidedly below that student's normal record, the student can petition for academic forgiveness. All course work taken, even hours completed satisfactorily during the semester for which forgiveness is declared, will be disregarded in the cumulative grade point average and as hours earned toward graduation. Academic forgiveness may be granted one time and is applicable to undergraduate deficiency and graduate course work. *This policy was approved and became effective fall 2015 semester. Therefore, this policy applies only to those students whose initial enrollment in a graduate program occurred in fall 2015 semester and thereafter.*

### Procedure

Students may petition for academic forgiveness for only one semester (any fall, spring or summer term) already completed at the university. Graduate students have six years from the time of initial enrollment in the graduate program to apply for academic forgiveness. Forms and details of this policy are available in the Graduate Office and online at the graduate studies website, [www.jsu.edu/graduate](http://www.jsu.edu/graduate), under the student resources link. Graduate students must provide substantial documentation, including all items required for a complete review, to the Graduate Office located on the third floor of Bibb Graves Hall, Room #321. Once all documentation has been reviewed and approved by the department head and Graduate Dean/Associate Dean, the Registrar's Office will adjust the academic record and notify the student. Once granted, academic forgiveness cannot be reversed. Students should be aware that other graduate and professional schools may compute grade point average to include all hours attempted when considering applicants for admission. A petition will be not be considered if the student has received a degree subsequent to the semester in question. Undergraduate and graduate students may apply for a medical or compassionate withdrawal for the current semester or immediate preceding semester only. Students can determine if they are eligible for this type of withdrawal by contacting the office of the Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs located on the first floor of Bibb Graves Hall, Room #102, or online at [jsu.edu/studentaffairs/medicalwithdrawal.html](http://jsu.edu/studentaffairs/medicalwithdrawal.html).