
AR 13. Withdrawal From the University

d. Undergraduate Planned Educational Leave Program. The Undergraduate Planned Educational Leave Program (PELP) is a voluntary, temporary, planned interruption or pause in a student’s regular, full-time education. Its purpose is to enhance an undergraduate student’s prospect of successful completion of their academic program. The PELP provides one opportunity\(^1\) for a student to arrange a voluntary absence for as many as six consecutive regular academic terms (not including the summer terms). The PELP is designed to allow a student to pursue other activities that will assist them in clarifying their educational goals, such as job opportunities and experiences away from campus, military deployment, time to resolve personal or medical problems, or other similar pursuits.

The PELP allows an undergraduate student to temporarily suspend their academic work for a period of time (in accordance with AR 13a, 13b, and 13c above), and resume their studies with minimal procedural difficulties.

The PELP $25 non-refundable application fee allows an undergraduate student to maintain their official standing as a student at OSU and reserves the student’s right to keep their original academic catalog active during their absence. Beginning with the 2011-2012 academic year, all OSU undergraduate students\(^2\) are eligible to request leave through the PELP. The University reserves the right to consider a student’s current academic standing and any existing student conduct issues prior to approving the voluntary PELP leave request.

Students who withdraw from OSU prior to the 2011-2012 academic year, who are away from campus for four or more consecutive regular academic terms (not including summer terms) must re-enroll with OSU to re-establish their relationship as an OSU student and their academic catalog will be reset to the academic year they return to OSU.

**Transcript Notation**
A notation of the dates of any approved leave will be indicated on each student’s official transcript.

**Rationale:** The justification for this addition to AR 13 is to more effectively define a voluntary leave policy for OSU students who can plan to take a leave of absence from the University for sustainable reasons (military deployment, religious missions, medical/family emergencies, etc).

\(^1\) Military Deployments are an exception to this limitation. All military personnel who are deployed for military service may submit a voluntary leave request for each deployment.

\(^2\) The PELP begins with the 2011-2012 academic year (Summer 2011). Any former OSU students who attended OSU prior to the 2011-2012 academic year and have been absent for four or more consecutive regular academic terms will be held to OSU’s prior policy that resets the academic catalog to the catalog in effect at the time they return to OSU.
The election to take a voluntary leave will allow the student to keep their original catalog for a period of two years, for purposes of graduation.

- **Degrees with Distinction** – Reviewed the input from the Academic Advising Council & Cascades Campus staff. The following additional revisions to Degrees With Distinctions are now under review by the faculty committee members.

**Undergraduate Degrees With Distinction**

Grade point averages are computed on the basis of all work attempted at OSU. Graduates who have been in attendance at OSU for at least two years are graduates who have completed at least ninety credits at OSU or sixty upper division credits at OSU, and who have an OSU cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher, are awarded an OSU degree with distinction as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Distinction</th>
<th>OSU GPA Range</th>
<th>Graduation Honor Cord Color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cum Laude</td>
<td>3.50–3.69</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magna Cum Laude</td>
<td>3.70–3.84</td>
<td>Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summa Cum Laude</td>
<td>3.85–4.00</td>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These distinctions are noted on diplomas.