Veteran’s Readmission Policy

As a foundation of The Religious Society of Friends (i.e., the Quakers), Haverford College’s leave of absence policy makes no distinctions that pertain to a student’s reasons for taking time off; those who leave the college to serve in the armed forces are treated just as those who leave to perform community service, to support their families, to regain their motivation to study, to travel for personal enrichment, or to achieve any number of objectives.

If a student has therefore taken a voluntary leave of absence (known in all cases as a “Dean’s Leave”) to serve in the American armed forces, either voluntarily or in response to government order, they may seek readmission or, in Haverford’s terminology, “permission to resume studies,” in the same fashion as any other student who has taken a similar leave for different reasons.

Specifically, a student must simply write to their dean expressing intention to return to college. Students who have been granted a Dean’s Leave do not need to justify their reasons for returning except in cases in which a student left when their academic status was in jeopardy or Honor Council charges were pending against him or her.

It would be administratively most convenient and most advantageous to the student if the student were to be in touch with their dean no later than November 10 if they intend to return in the spring semester or March 15 if they intend to return in the fall semester. Expressions of intent received after those dates and up to one week immediately preceding the resumption of classes will normally be approved, but the College may not in such cases be able to guarantee campus housing. Students giving late notice should also be aware that, due to limitations on the enrollment for some classes, if they express an intent to return after course lotteries are run, they may not be able to get into their first-preference classes.

Upon receipt of expressions of intent to return (which may be sent by way of email or regular mail), the student’s dean will dispatch notices to the relevant college offices, including the Registrar’s Office, which will change the student’s academic status as from “Dean’s Leave” to “active” in a timely fashion.

All such students are also well-advised, if they intend to seek financial aid, to contact the Office of Financial Aid as soon as possible to apprise the Office of their intention to return and to initiate a conversation regarding what they may need to do to ensure that their applications for assistance will be given full and fair consideration.

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