

HORRY-GEORGETOWN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

# PROCEDURE

Number:	8.6.3.2
Related Policy:	8.6.3
Title:	Military Withdrawal and Military Leave
Authority:	Title 59, Chapter 53, Section 810-860 of the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina, as Amended
Responsibility:	Registrar
Original Approval Date:	03-22-2018
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Last Revision:	06-26-2024

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Chairperson

## **Military Reservists Called to Active Duty**

Horry-Georgetown Technical College (HGTC) realizes students who are members of the military may be called to active duty, specialized training, or as part of disaster relief efforts with limited notice. While the following procedure does NOT pertain to initial active-duty training (i.e. basic training), this procedure is provided to minimize disruptions or inconveniences for students fulfilling their unanticipated military responsibilities during an academic term/session. Students called to active duty, specialized training, or as part of disaster relief efforts are given one of the options below once they provide a copy of their orders to the Registrar's Office. Along with written notification of their intent, a student:

- May withdraw from all courses and receive a 100% refund of tuition and fees;
- May receive a "carry forward" grade in some or all of the courses taken, with written permission of the instructor(s); or
- Could make arrangements to complete the remaining course online within the standard academic term, with written permission of the instructor(s).

Options for completing any remaining coursework vary depending on the student's individual situation, timing, and remaining requirements. Their first step would be to discuss their situation with their advisor.

If the student chooses to withdraw after the first week of classes, the grade of W will be assigned. Students receiving financial aid will be subject to the refund policies as provided by the agencies sponsoring the aid.

The request to withdraw needs to be made within one week of official notification by the military service (extension may be permitted on a case-by-case basis) and may be made by either the student or other responsible party who has the student's military information.

### **Tuition and Fees**

A student returning from military withdrawal will be charged the same tuition and fees rates as those in effect during the last academic year the student attended. However, if the veterans education benefits or other service member education benefits will pay the higher tuition and fee charges other students in the program are paying for the year, the school may assess those charges to the student as well. For subsequent academic years, the returning student will not be charged tuition and fees in excess of what other students in the program are charged.

### **Return from Military Duty**

When students return from active duty they must contact the Admission's Office at [admissions@hgtc.edu](mailto:admissions@hgtc.edu) or the Registrar's office at [registrar@hgtc.edu](mailto:registrar@hgtc.edu). If the student was on leave for over a year, they will need to reapply to update their student record. The application fee (if applicable) will be waived for students who were out due to active duty, specialized training, or part of disaster relief efforts. Once readmitted, they should meet with their academic advisor.

A returning servicemember will be permitted to reenroll in the next class(es) scheduled in the same academic program, unless the student requests a later date of reenrollment or agrees to a different program. A returning student will be readmitted into the same academic program the student was enrolled in prior to the military service obligation. If the exact program no longer exists, the student must be admitted to the program that is most similar, unless the student requests or agrees to admission to a different program. Returning students will be reenrolled with the same enrollment status, number of completed credit hours, and academic standing as the last academic year of attendance.

Once the student is registered for classes, they need to contact the Financial Aid Office, Veterans Affairs staff to request that their enrollment be reported to Veterans Affairs for benefits. The Financial Aid Office may need to forward a copy of the student's new DD 214 discharge documents to the VA for evaluation, which may change which program the student is eligible for or their tier of benefits.