

Title: Academic Forgiveness (Graduate)

Category: Academic Affairs

Responsible Cabinet Member: Provost

Purpose

Graduate Academic Forgiveness is to assist readmitted University of Kentucky graduate students whose cumulative graduate grade point average (GPA) at UK is below a 3.0 to re-enroll in a graduate program without having to overcome the burden of previous unsatisfactory academic performance.

Scope

Both part-time and full-time graduate students may exercise the Graduate Academic Forgiveness option after readmission to the same degree program or when admitted to a different degree program. Students must be enrolled for at least one semester and complete at least 6 credit hours with a 3.0 cumulative GPA to be eligible for Graduate Academic Forgiveness.

Process: Graduate students who have left the university and have not been in an active student status at the University for two or more consecutive years, or who are admitted to a different degree program, may choose to have none of their previous University course work at the graduate level counted toward graduation and in the computation of their GPAs.

Once academic forgiveness is granted, courses taken prior to the start of the forgiveness cannot be revalidated or counted toward the completion of a graduate degree. Forgiven courses remain visible on the transcript but do not count toward GPA or toward program requirements. Students may only exercise the Graduate Academic Forgiveness option once. The forgiveness option only applies to previous graduate coursework.

Petitions for Graduate Academic Forgiveness will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Interested students should submit a written petition to the Office of the Provost. There are four required elements:

- 1) A letter from the student that explains the factors that resulted in the student's previous academic record.
- 2) A letter that explains how circumstances have changed and a plan to address areas that contributed to the academic challenges.
- 3) A letter from the Director of Graduate Studies for their current program that indicates support for academic forgiveness and recommends readmission or admission to the new program.
- 4) Identification of which semester(s) are being petitioned for removal from the record (along with all prior semesters of graduate work at the University of Kentucky).