

3344-23-01 Involuntary student leave of absence policy.

(A) Policy statement

Cleveland state university is committed to the safety, health and well-being of the campus community. The university recognizes that students may experience situations that significantly limit their ability to persist successfully or safely in their role as students and members of the campus community. In such circumstances, students should consider taking a leave of absence. A leave of absence permits students to take a break from the university and their studies so that they may address the issues that led to the need for the leave and return later to the university with an enhanced opportunity to achieve their educational goals. Students will be given the option to take a voluntary leave of absence before the university places them on an involuntary leave of absence.

(B) Purpose

Requiring a student to take a leave of absence is rare and only happens when current medical knowledge and/or the best available objective evidence indicates to the chief student affairs officer or their designee (“CSAO”) that the student’s continued enrollment creates a significant risk to the student’s health or safety or the health or safety of others, or the student’s behavior severely disrupts the university environment, and no reasonable accommodations adequately reduce that risk or disruption.

(C) Process

On rare occasion, a student’s needs may require a level of care that cannot be reasonably accommodated by the university and that makes the student unsafe to remain a community member. Before placing any student on an involuntary leave of absence, the CSAO will consult with the office for disability services (“ODS”) to determine if reasonable accommodations exist that would permit the student to continue to participate in the university community without taking a leave of absence. The CSAO will also seek out other additional sources of information including but not limited to, the student, the student’s academic advisor, residential life staff, faculty members, academic departments, center for international programs and services, and/or the community assessment response and evaluation or

high risk group teams. Following assessment of available and relevant information, and if deemed appropriate by the CSAO, the student will be placed on an involuntary leave of absence pursuant to the procedures which implement this policy.