

# Withdrawal from a Term



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™  
CENTER FOR ADVISING

Updated: 8/12/2026



## Policy Overview

- **AOP 12.02 Withdrawal from the University**
- **Deadline:** Last day to withdraw from the [Term] (see Academic Calendar for that term)
- **Student submits request** thru myState > Banner > Students > Registration > Withdrawal Request
  - **Freshmen (<30 hours)** → Center for Advising
  - **Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors** → Academic College's Dean's Office
- Will receive a **"W"** grade for each course scheduled
- **Impact:**
  - **"W" does not affect GPA** but **will appear** on the transcript
  - **"W" can impact** financial aid (SAP; >30 hours)
- *Can petition to **retroactive withdraw** from semester within one calendar year of that term*



## Logistics to cover

| Area               | Action students need to take                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Housing</b>     | \$\$ contract break fee + move out in 48 hours + check out with RA                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Finances</b>    | Confirm Finances with <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Financial Aid:</b> 662-325-2450</li><li>• <b>Account Services:</b> 662-325-2071</li><li>• <b>Scholarships:</b> 662-325-3076</li></ul> |
| <b>Meal Plan</b>   | Canceled within 48 hours                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Textbooks</b>   | Return rentals (incl. Bulldog Bundle)                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Post Office</b> | Change of address + return key                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Greek Life</b>  | Varies by chapter – consult <i>Fraternity &amp; Sorority Life</i>                                                                                                                                      |



## Discussion Points with Students

- **Academic & Enrollment Considerations**
  - What are their **current grades**?
  - How many **"Ws"** do they **already have**?
  - Will withdrawing *maintain* their **GPA**?
  - Will withdrawing *preserve* their **Academic Standing**?
  - Do they have **Academic Forgiveness** credits that could be used instead?
  - Are they enrolled in **multiple terms** (e.g., Full + Mini)?
  - Could **Bulldog Rebound** be an option if they stay?
- **Personal Context**
  - Would **staying on campus** be more stable for them?
  - Are they mentally/emotionally prepared for the change?
- **Financial Aid Implications**
  - May need to **repay aid** if withdrawing before 60% enrollment mark (*see refund calendar on Registrar's website*)
  - Work Study ends immediately
  - Unpaid balances = no transcripts + possible collections
  - Pell recipients must complete at least one academic activity to keep money
  - Scholarships may be lost; can appeal future semesters
- **Supportive Framing**
  - "Leave well so you can come back well"
  - Focus on future success, not current failure
  - Validate that withdrawal can be the **smart** and **strategic** choice
  - Ensure they **leave with a plan – or stay with a plan**
  - Can return without penalty
    - **If sitting out a Fall/Spring semester**, they must submit a Readmission Application (on Registrar's website)



## Advisor Actions

- Confirm withdrawal eligibility and timing
- Discuss readmission if student plans to sit out a semester (Fall/Spring)