

Academic Suspension and the Appeal Process

WESTERN STATE COLLEGE OF **COLORADO**

WSC Suspension Policy

- Students who fail to maintain the appropriate GPA while on Academic Probation are suspended. (See “Academic Suspension” in *Catalog* and *Student Handbook*)
- The suspension period is for one calendar year.
- Students who believe that exceptional circumstances contributed to their academic performance may appeal the suspension.

Prior to the Appeal

- Students should contact Academic Affairs at 970-943-3045 (Taylor 221) to schedule a meeting or phone appointment with the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs prior to considering submitting an appeal.
- Appeals are submitted to the Registrar – 201 Taylor Hall (Fax 970-943-2212)

Appealing a Suspension

- Appeals are reviewed by the faculty Academic Appeals Committee. Students may appear in person before the committee.
- Appeal deadlines are in your suspension letter. If you miss a deadline, you may have to wait until the following semester to appeal.
- Appeal forms are at http://western.edu/academics/registration-services/pdf/academic_appeal.pdf or in the Registration Services Office in 201 Taylor Hall

The Appeals Process

- Students submit a written appeal with supporting documentation.
- Supporting documentation includes copies of progress reports or transcripts from colleges you may have attended while on suspension. You should also enclose any other documentation you feel supports your appeal (e.g. medical records, learning disability information etc.).

Some Questions to Ask Yourself

Prior to the appeal consider the following:

- Have I solved the problem or issue I was having which caused the suspension?
- Can I maintain a semester GPA of 2.0?
- Can I raise my cumulative grade point average to 2.0 (the minimum GPA needed to graduate from WSC) or to the level required by my major?
- Am I in the correct major? Have I balanced by work life and my academic work load?

Other Options

- If you decide not to appeal your suspension, you may wish to take time to consider other options.
- These options might include:
 - Joining the workforce. If financial concerns affected your success, this may be a way to help you prepare fiscally to return in the future.
 - Improving your academic preparation through attending a community college

Is it in Your Best Interest to Return to Western?

- Students who successfully appeal a suspension and have an academic standing of “Probation after Suspension” will be dismissed without appeal from the college if their semester GPA falls below a 2.0.
- It may be in your best interest to consider attending a community college to improve your academic preparation prior to returning to Western. Please contact Registration Services (970-943-7003) if you are considering taking courses at another institution during your suspension.

Your Success

- The faculty and staff at Western State College of Colorado want you to succeed. Our policies are created to foster your academic success.